

# **A GROUP OF YOUNG PEOPLE FROM OUR CONGREGATION EXPRESSES THEIR SUPPORT TO THE PATRIARCH**

On Saturday morning, December 31, 2017, January 13, 2018, a group of young people, members of our congregation from areas of the Palestinian Territories and Israel visited the Patriarchate.

The group was received by H.H.B. our Father and Patriarch of Jerusalem Theophilos and Hagiotaphite Fathers.

These young people expressed their Christmas wishes and their respect to His Beatitude and the Patriarchate, as well as their opposition to the episode created by a small group of Palestinians during His Beatitude's visit in Bethlehem on Christmas Eve.

His Beatitude thanked the young people for their support and explained to them some managing issues of the Patriarchate, which are dealt with by the decisions of the Holy and Sacred Synod, according to the very old institution of the Patriarchate. His Beatitude added that all decisions are taken for the benefit and the progress of the congregation, and episodes like that of Bethlehem are detrimental to all the Christians of the Holy Land. However, as Christians, we forgive the people by our Christian love.

The aforementioned young people received blessings from Jerusalem by His Beatitude within a spirit of mutual thanksgiving.

**From Secretariat-General**

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