

# PRIEST'S ORDINATION AT THE PATRIARCHATE

On Sunday of the Last Judgment (also called Meatfare Sunday) January 29/February 11, 2018, Fr. Ilias Zorab was ordained a Priest at the Holy Church of the Nativity of Theotokos in Beit Jalla. Fr. Ilias is to serve as a ministering Priest in the Greek Orthodox Arab-speaking Community of this town.

The ordained Priest was honoured by the presence of the Hegoumen of Beit Jalla Hagiotaphite Archimandrite Narkissos, Fr. Paul, Fr. George Awad, Fr. Joseph and Fr. George from Beit Sahour, the Hagiotaphite Archimandrites Sergios and Ananias – Hegoumen of the H. Church of St. George, and the Vestry-men of the Community, the Mayor and the Presidents of the Orthodox Communities – Jamaiye, Il-hsan, who sang in the choir along with Ibrahim and Nidal. Present were also the Priest's parents, his wife, relatives and many faithful.

Before the ordination, the officiating Most Reverend Archbishop Aristarchos of Constantina, admonished the new Priest in Arabic (see video). The newly ordained Priest replied to His Eminence in Arabic (as per the video).

The large congregation approved of the newly ordained Priest and hailed "Axios" in reply to the Archbishop's words. After dismissal, the new Priest accepted the congratulating wishes of those who honoured him at the reception hall next to the Church. At noon he offered a meal to the Episcopal entourage and all Priests, as well as to many of the guests.

**From Secretariat-General**

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