

# **THE FEAST OF ST. ANNA'S CONCEPTION OF THE MOST HOLY THEOTOKOS AT THE PATRIARCHATE**

On Saturday, December 9/22, 2018, the Feast of St. Anna was celebrated at her Monastery which is adjacent to the Old City of Jerusalem Wall, at St. Stephen's Gate which leads to Gethsemane.

On this Feast the Church commemorates the fact that God granted to the righteous Ancestors of God Joachim and Anna, who were barren, the fruit of their conjugal affinity, namely Theotokos Maria, from whom Christ our Saviour became incarnate by the power of the Holy Spirit.

For this Feast the Divine Liturgy was celebrated in the morning, led by the Most Reverend Archbishop Philoumenos of Pella, with co-celebrants the Archimandrites Makarios and Stephen, while the chanting was delivered by the Choir Leader of the Church of Saints Constantine and Helen, Archimandrite Eusevios, with the attendance of a congregation of monks, nuns and pilgrims.

After the Divine Liturgy the Hegoumen Archimandrite Meletios offered a reception to the congregation at the Hegoumeneion.

**From Secretariat-General**