

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

On Sunday, December 9/22, 2019, the Patriarchate celebrated the commemoration of St. Anna's conception of the Most Holy Theotokos.

On this day the Church commemorates that righteous Joachim and Anna, living at the last years of the Old Testament and being childless, were heard of by God, and Anna conceived from her husband Joachim a child, Mary, from Whom Christ was born by the Holy Spirit when the right time came.

This event was celebrated at the Holy Monastery of the Ancestors of God Joachim and Anna, which lies at Joachim's house, on the interior side of Lion's Gate, where according to St. John Damascene, Theotokos was born.

The Feast was celebrated with a Night Vigil, officiated by the Most Reverend Metropolitan Joachim of Helenoupolis, with co-celebrants; Archimandrite Bartholomew, Fr. Nectarios and Archdeacon Mark, at the chanting of Archimandrite Demetrios, with the help of Monks Nikolaos and Raphael, and the participation of noble pilgrims.

After the Divine Liturgy, Archimandrite Meletios offered a reception at the Hegoumeneion.

**From Secretariat-General**