THE FEAST OF THE NATIVITY OF THEOTOKOS AT THE PATRIARCHATE

On Monday, September 8/21, 2020, the Patriarchate celebrated the Feast of the Nativity of our Most Holy Lady Theotokos.

On this Feast the Church as a whole, and especially the Church of Jerusalem commemorates the fact that God gave Mary to the former barren parents of Hers, Joachim and Anna, who were also in advanced age, granting their request and preparing Her to be a chosen vessel, in order to bear by the power of the Holy Spirit the Incarnate and Only-begotten Son and Word of God, our Lord, and Saviour Jesus Christ.

- 1. This Feast was celebrated in Gethsemane, at the Tomb of Theotokos, with the Divine Liturgy which was officiated by His Eminence Archbishop Theophanes of Gerassa, with the co-celebration of the ministering Priests of the Holy Shrine, Archimandrites Meletios, and Dionysios, the Priests George Hader Baramki and Nectarios, Archdeacon Mark and Hierodeacon Eulogios. The chanting was delivered by the Secretary of the Holy and Sacred Synod Hierodeacon Simeon and all the Fathers were hosted by the Hegoumen Most Reverend Archbishop Dorotheos of Avela.
- 2. At the Holy Church dedicated to the Nativity of Theotokos in Beit Jala, with the Divine Liturgy which was led by the Hegoumen Archimandrite Ignatios, and the co-celebration of the ministering Priests Paul, Joseph, and Elias. The Beit Jala Community choir delivered the chanting and many faithful attended the Service despite the spreading of the COVID-19.
- 3. At the Holy Monastery of Hozeva. The Divine Liturgy was held by the Hegoumen Archimandrite Constantinos.

From Secretariat-General