

# THE FEAST OF THE SYNAXIS OF THEOTOKOS AT THE PATRIARCHATE

On Friday, 26 December 2020/ 8 January 2021, the Patriarchate celebrated the Feast of the Synaxis of our Most Holy Lady Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary.

As 'synaxis' we mean the gathering of the faithful in order to honour especially the Mother of God, for her contribution to our salvation, which is the conception through the Holy Spirit, the incarnation and the nativity in the flesh of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

This feast was celebrated at the monastic Church of Saints Constantine and Helen, with the Divine Liturgy by the ministering Priest Archimandrite Stephen, with the Patriarchal participation in prayer, at the chanting of the Byzantine choir leader Archimandrite Eusevios on the right and of the Typikon keeper Archimandrite Alexios on the left. Present at the service were the Hagiotaphite Fathers, the Consul General of Greece in Jerusalem Mr Evangelos Vlioras, representatives of the Patriarchate of Moscow and of the Patriarchate of Romania, but not any faithful due to the covid-19 restrictive measures.

A reception at the Patriarchate Hall followed the Divine Liturgy, where the Zion School students sang the Christmas carols.

**From Secretariat-General**