

زيارة الكنائس والطوائف المسيحية في القدس لأخوية القبر المقدس بمناسبة عيد الميلاد المجيد

قامت الطوائف المسيحية يوم الأربعاء 9 كانون ثاني 2019 بزيارة
البطيركية أأورشليمية لمعايدة أخوية القبر المقدس بعيد الميلاد
المجيد, وتمت الزيارات حسب البرنامج التالي:

1- الساعة 9.15 صباحاً زار البطيركية وفد من أخوية الفرنسيسكان
مع الرئيس الروحي للأخوية أأب فرنسيس باتون وهناً غبطة البطيرك
وأخوية القبر المقدس بالأعياد المجيدة, بدوره شكر غبطة البطيرك
أخوية الفرنسيسكان على هذه الزيارة لأخوية والقى كلمة شكرٍ
باللغة أأنجليزية:

„Your Paternity, dear Father Francesco“

,Your Eminences

,Your Graces

,Beloved Members of our Respective Brotherhoods

,Dear Fathers

We rejoice with you, dear Father Francesco, and we thank you
warmly for your greetings for the feast of the Nativity of our
Lord Jesus Christ, the Incarnate Logos. As we sing in our
Liturgy

Today the Virgin gives birth to Him who is above all being,
and earth offers a cave to him whom no one can approach.
Angels with shepherds give glory, and Magi journey with a
.star. For unto us is born a young child, the pre-eternal God

(Kontakion of the Feast)

It is right that we pause for a moment together to recognise the extraordinary mystery of the Incarnation, when the Creator of all became a part of his own creation. And God did not become man for his own sake or benefit, but out of love for us, to restore humanity to our original vocation

This great mystery of the meeting of heaven and earth is not simply a theological ideal; it is an event in our sacred history that happened here in this land, the land of the divine-human encounter. As Saint Athanasius the Great has said, "God became man, so that man might become divine

And so we hold in special reverence the Church of the Nativity, where over the last few days both our communities have celebrated this great feast. Like all the Holy Places, the Church of the Nativity has been entrusted to us by Divine Providence to guard and sustain, and we give thanks for our fraternal partnership that enables us to pay attention to the restoration of the Grotto

It is of course, fundamental that the Church of the Nativity remains a place of worship, prayer, and pilgrimage that is open to all freely and without distinction. The Holy Places are not museums or national monuments, but "springs of ([spiritual] water gushing up to eternal life (cf. John 4:14

Our brotherly co-operation has enabled us also during this last year to provide a united front against proposed legislation that would impinge severely on our rights and freedom with respect to our properties. We cannot rest in our vigilance against those radical elements in the society that seek to change the fundamental multi-cultural, multi-ethnic, multi-religious identity of the Holy Land, and who are undermining the Christian character of this Holy City as well. Our continuing steadfastness together is our proper defence, and it is a sign of hope and encouragement to all those who

.look to the Holy Land in hope during this holy season

We take this opportunity to thank you, dear Father Francesco, and your community, for your ongoing solidarity, along with the other Heads of Churches, and we re-commit ourselves to doing all that may be necessary to ensure that the Integrity of the Holy Places and our beloved Holy Land is maintained and .respected by all

MAY Christ our God, who by His Incarnation has gathered into unity all things in heaven and on earth, through the intercession of the Mother of God, the Theotokos, bless you, your brotherhood, and all the members of your communities, and .MAY we wish you a happy and peaceful New Year

."Thank you

2- الساعة 10.00 صباحاً زارت باقي الطوائف المسيحية مع رؤسائها البطريركية, وفد من البطريركية اللاتينية على رأسه غبطة البطريرك بيار باتيستا بيزابيللا, الكنيسة الأنجليكانية, الكنيسة اللوثرية, الكنيسة القبطية, والكنيسة الأثيوبية, والقى غبطة البطريرك ثيوفيلوس الثالث كلمة شكرٍ باللغة الانجليزية:

,Beloved Fellow Heads of the Churches“

,Your Excellences

,Your Eminences

,Your Graces

,Dear Fathers

We welcome you all to our Patriarchate as we celebrate the Feast of the Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ, and we thank you warmly for the greetings that you have expressed to us. This is a joyous time, in which our welcoming of each other is a sign of our welcoming of the Good News of the Incarnate Logos. As we sing during the Royal Hours in preparation for the Christmas Feast, let us listen to Saint Sophronios,

multi-cultural, multi-ethnic, and multi-religious nature of this Holy City and our region. We realise that this is a constant threat against which there must be constant .vigilance

Please allow us to take this opportunity to express our gratitude once again to His Grace Archbishop Suheil for all that he has done to enable us to work with His Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury, who has given our cause invaluable help and support. We cannot but mention the support the we have received from His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales in his recent gathering in London of Church Leaders from stricken areas of our beloved Middle East. We also thank His Excellency Archbishop Pizzaballa for facilitating and supporting our ongoing and fruitful relationship with the Holy See. It is just such international support as this, from Church leaders as well as governmental authorities, that has contributed so much to our success so far. We must not allow our alliances to .be undermined in any way

In support of this united front, please allow us to announce to you that we have encouraged the establishment of the International Community of the Holy Sepulchre, with a base in London. This Trust exists to benefit the Christian presence in the Middle East in general and in the Holy Land in particular, and it is an intentionally ecumenical and international organization. The concept of ICoHS, as it is popularly called, has flowed directly out of the work that we have been doing around the world to keep the situation of the Christian community here before the world community. We invite your participation and support in this venture. We have come to see that we have many supporters around the world who care deeply about the Holy Land, and who are prepared to act on our .behalf. ICoHS is one way to be effective in this work

Finally, let us acknowledge with gratitude His Majesty, King Abdullah II, who hosted the gathering of the Heads of Churches and Christian Communities in Amman last month in celebration

of Christmas, and which took place in the presence of His
.Excellency President Mahmoud Abbas

At this season, when we welcome so many pilgrims who come
longing for the spiritual refreshment of the Holy Places, and
who long for the coming of our Lord into the cave of their
hearts, MAY we who live and minister here also make ready our
minds and souls, so that the incarnate Logos by the
intercession of the Mother of God, the Theotokos, MAY shine in
us and strengthen us to carry on the mission that the Divine
.Providence has entrusted to us

MAY God bless you and your communities during this blessed
Christmas season, and MAY God bless all the peoples of our
beloved Holy Land. We wish you all a happy and peaceful New
.Year

."Thank you

3- الساعة 11.30 زار البطريركية القاصد الرسولي في القدس ممثل
الفاثيكان ونقل تهنئة قداسة البابا فرنسيس لغبطته ولأخوية القبر
المقدس.

4- نيابة عن غبطة البطريرك قام سيادة رئيس أساقفة بيلا كيريسوس
فيلومينوس مع وفد من أخوية القبر المقدس بزيارة البطريركية
القبطية, السريانية والأثيوبية للمعايدة

مكتب السكرتارية العام