

HOLY PASCHA IN ALEXANDRIA

In all the Holy Churches of Alexandria and Cairo, the services of Holy Week were celebrated with religious piety. The beautiful churches, the priests and the chanters added to the arrival of many faithful visitors wanting to celebrate the holy days with the Orthodox Christians of Egypt. Everyday there were visitors to the ancient Patriarchate of Alexandria. All were welcomed by His Beatitude Theodoros II, Pope and Patriarchate of Alexandria and All Africa and received his Patriarchal blessing.

In Alexandria the Venerable Primate of the Patriarchal Throne of St Mark officiated at the holy services, visiting all the Parish Communities of the great City. One of the most magnificent Services was the Epitaphios at the Holy Cathedral of the Annunciation of the Theotokos and the Epitaphios procession around it, conducted by His Beatitude and accompanied by His Grace Gabriel, Bishop of Mareotis, Patriarchal Vicar of Alexandria and His Grace Bishop Gennadios of Nilopolis Chief Secretary of the Holy Synod, the Pilharmonic Band, the Scouts and in the presence of the Honourable Consul General of Greece Mr George Diakofotakis, the Chairman of S.A.E. Mr Stephanos Tambakis and leaders of the Hellenic Community.

On the same day His Beatitude visited all the churches and venerated at them and later in the day he received at the Patriarchal Mansion the members of the Athens Society of Greeks from Egypt who had arrived in the Great City to celebrate Pasca.

The Divine Liturgy of the Resurrection was conducted by his Beatitude at the Holy Church of the Annunciation in Alexandria together with the two above named Bishops. He had earlier received the Holy Flame from the Most Holy Tomb, brought from Athens to the Patriarchal See by Olympic Airways.

On Pascha Sunday he conducted the Vespers of Love at the Holy Patriarchal Church of St Savvas the Sanctified in Alexandria. He then went on to visit the elderly patients at the Kaniskerion Old Age Home and attended the celebratory lunch hosted by the Hellenic Community for all the Community.