

## **THE FEAST OF THE ANNUNCIATION IN ALEXANDRIA**

**On the evening of 24th March 2019, His Beatitude Theodoros II, Pope and Patriarch of Alexandria and All Africa,** officiated at the Service of the Festive Vespers at the celebrating historic Community Church of the Annunciation of the Theotokos in Alexandria.

On the next day, 25th March, His Beatitude officiated during Orthros and served the Divine Liturgy, concelebrating with His Eminence Narcissus of Accra, Patriarchal Vicar of Alexandria and Clergy of the Patriarchate.

Present at the service was the Consul General of Greece in Alexandria Mr. Athanasios Kotsionis, the Chairman of the Hellenic Community of Alexandria Mr. Edmondos Kasimatis, the Chairlady of the Cypriot Brotherhood in Egypt Mrs. Mary Formoze, the Chairman of the Hellenic Chamber of Commerce of Alexandria Mr. Byron Vafeiades, the Chairlady of the Lyceum of Greek Women of Alexandria Mrs. Aliko Antoniou, the Chairlady of the Association of Hellenic Scientists of Alexandria "Ptolemy I" Mrs. Lilika Flibitou, representatives of institutions and associations of Alexandria, teachers and pupils of the Greek schools of the Great City, scouts, a multitude of faithful Christians from the Greek and Arabic speaking Communities, as well as the Lyceum of Greek Women from Florina.

Before the end of the Patriarchal Divine Liturgy, a Doxology for the National Anniversary too place in the church, as well as the appointed memorial prayers for those who fought and died in the Nation's struggles and a wreath laying ceremony at the two memorials which are in the Courtyard of the church.

The Alexandrian Primate who noted the religious and national meaning of the National Anniversary of 25th March, expressed his joy due to the presence of the Lyceum of Greek Women from Florina, emotionally welcoming them to the Land of the Nile and to the See of the ancient and Apostolic Greek Orthodox Patriarchate of Alexandria and All Africa.

His Beatitude then awarded the Chairlady of the Lyceum Mrs. Christina Golna, expressing his gratitude for the enormous support which the Lyceum of Greek Women of Florina contribute to the Greeks abroad, over many years as well as to the missionary efforts of the Patriarchate of Alexandria and All Africa.