

Η ΥΠΟΔΟΧΗ ΤΗΣ ΠΡΟΕΔΡΟΥ ΤΗΣ ΟΥΓΓΑΡΙΑΣ ΥΠΟ ΤΩΝ ΑΡΧΗΓΩΝ ΤΩΝ ΤΟΠΙΚΩΝ ΕΚΚΛΗΣΙΩΝ ΙΕΡΟΣΟΛΥΜΩΝ

Τήν μεσημβρίαν τῆς Πέμπτης, 4^{ης}/17^{ης} Νοεμβρίου 2022, οἱ Ἀρχηγοί τῶν Τοπικῶν Ἐκκλησιῶν τῶν Ἱεροσολύμων ἐδέχθησαν εἰς δεξίωσιν καί γεῦμα εἰς ξενῶνα τῆς Ἀγγλικανικῆς Ἐκκλησίας εἰς Ἱεροσόλυμα, τῆς ὁποίας ἡγεῖται ὁ Σεβασμιώτατος Χασάμ Ναούμ τήν Πρόεδρον τῆς Οὐγγαρίας ἐξοχωτάτην κ. Katalin Novák, συνοδευομένην ὑπό τοῦ Ὑπουργοῦ Ἐξωτερικῶν, τοῦ Ὑπουργοῦ Ἀμύνης καί τοῦ Πρέσβευς τῆς Οὐγγαρίας εἰς Ραμάλλαν κ. Csaba Rada.

Εἰς τήν δεξίωσιν ταύτην προσεφώνησεν ἐξ ὀνόματος τῶν Ἀρχηγῶν τῶν Ἐκκλησιῶν ἡ Α.Θ.Μ. ὁ Πατήρ ἡμῶν καί Πατριάρχης Ἱεροσολύμων κ.κ. Θεόφιλος διά τῆς κάτωθι προσφωνήσεως Αὐτοῦ ἀγγλιστί:

Madame President,

Mr Ambassador,

Your Eminences,

Your Graces,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

We welcome you warmly to the Holy City of Jerusalem and to our Patriarchate, and we wish to express our appreciation for your visit. Your presence here is a powerful and important sign of your recognition of and interest in the challenges that the Christian presence and the Churches are facing here.

We are thankful for the long-standing and good relationship between the Government of Hungary and our Patriarchate. We are especially grateful for the significant contribution that the Government of Hungary made to the restoration of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, and we are also aware of the further help that the Government has made to another project under the sponsorship of the Franciscans in Cana of Galilee.

We are also appreciative of the ongoing concern that the Government of Hungary has for the well-being of the Christian presence in the Holy Land and in the broader region of the Middle East. All this practical and moral support means so much to the Christian community and to the leaders of the Churches, and we cannot emphasise too much the value that we place on this relationship between the Government and the people of Hungary and the Holy Land.

Our role as the Churches and Christian communities of the Holy Land is to serve and protect the Holy Places, among them the principal sites of the Church of the Nativity, which contains within it the site of the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the Church of the Resurrection, where the sites of the

crucifixion and the resurrection are venerated. Our mission in the service of the Holy Places is to ensure the integrity of the religious character of the Holy Land in general, and the Christian character of this region in particular.

Recent years and recent events have seen a new and deeper unity of purpose as the Heads of the Churches have worked together. We are united in this common mission. In this regard, it is significant that we are meeting today here at Saint George's, the home of the Anglican Archbishop, and we would like to take this opportunity to thank our brother, Archbishop Hosam, both for his hospitality and for his leadership.

As Heads of the Churches, we are doing our best at every level to help Christians remain in the Holy Land, and we are also making every effort to welcome pilgrims, who are once again flocking to the Holy Land in increasing numbers as we move into a post-pandemic world. Both those who live here as well as those who come here on pilgrimage, are close to our hearts, and as Church leaders we never forget the importance of this pastoral and spiritual mission.

We wish you success in your mission here, and we welcome you as a pilgrim. MAY God bless you as you move about the Holy Land, and as you carry out the duties of your high office on behalf of the people of Hungary.

As a token of our deep appreciation for the commitment of the Government of Hungary to the Holy Land and for all that you are doing here, on behalf of our colleagues and brothers, we wish to invest you with the Cross of the Holy Sepulchre.

Thank you.

Ἐπί τῇ ἐπισκέψει ταύτῃ ὁ Μακαριώτατος ἐπέδωσε τῇ Προέδρῳ ἐπιστήθιον σταυρόν καί οἱ λοιποὶ Ἀρχιεροὶ ὁμοίως ἐπέδωσαν τὰ δῶρα αὐτῶν.

Ἡ ἐξοχώτατος Πρόεδρος ηὐχαρίστησεν ἐπὶ τῇ γενομένῃ αὐτῇ τιμῇ καί ὑπεσχέθη ὅτι τό ἐνδιαφέρον τῆς χώρας τῆς διὰ τοὺς Χριστιανοὺς τῆς Ἀγίας Γῆς θά συνεχίση νά ἐκδηλώνηται.

Τόν Πανάγιον Τάφον θά ἐπισκεφθῇ ἡ Πρόεδρος τό Σάββατον 6^{ον}/19^{ον} Νοεμβρίου 2022 εἰς ἰδιωτικὴν ἐπίσκεψιν αὐτῆς.

Ἐκ τῆς Ἀρχιγραμματείας