

My Beloved Ones,

I write to you from Macedonia, in the midst of a great many wonderful activities that show the fullness of our Orthodox faith.

This Tuesday, I left the Phanar in Constantinople after a series of very productive meetings. I consider it a great blessing to have been asked by His All-Holiness, our Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew to be his official representative in the city of Veroia, where a 12th century church, which had formerly lain in ruins, is to be re-consecrated this coming Sunday.

This church, which resembles the great church of St. Demetrios in nearby Thessaloniki, is truly a marvelous testament to the timelessness of our Orthodox Christian faith; it existed then, and it will soon exist for countless future generations.

Equally special, the consecration is to take place on a day which also commemorates the Apostle Paul passing through and preaching to the citizens of Ancient Veroia.

I consider it a great blessing to be able to represent you, my beloved brothers and sisters of this Holy and God-Protected Metropolis of Atlanta. In this way, I hope you are pleased to know that you too are taking part in these uplifting events, and that your prayers for all the fellow Orthodox are being lifted up to our Heavenly Father.

ΧΡΙΣΤΟΣ ΑΝΕΣΤΗ! Christ is Risen!

+ALEXIOS

Metropolitan of Atlanta

