Abbot Ephraim of Vatopedi, New Testament translators, receive patriarchal order of St John Chrysostom



The Patriarch of Romania participated on Monday evening at the launch of a bilingual Greek-Romanian New Testament edited at the Vatoped Monastery. His Beatitude awarded patriarchal distinctions to Abbot Ephraim of Vatopedi and the whole team of translators, coordinated by Professor Rev. Constantin Coman.

The awards were given for "exceptional action in the defence and service of the genuine faith, in promoting Romanian culture and spirituality, and in encouraging Christian philanthropy."

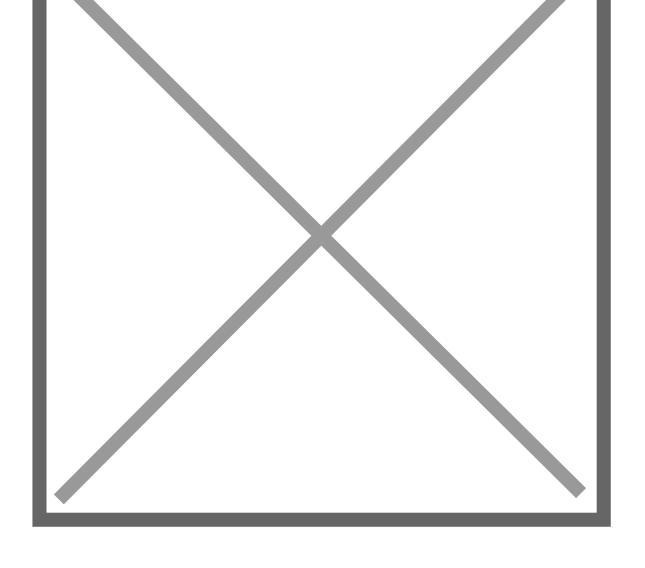
The following people received the patriarchal order of Saint John Chrysostom: Archimandrite Ephraim, Abbot of Vatopedi Monastery, Rev. Professor Constantin Coman, Hierodeacon Silouan of Vatopedi, Monk Daniel of Vatopedi, Monk Ermolaos of Vatopedi, Deacon Alexandru Mihăilă, Dr Sabin Preda and Dr Octavian Gordon.

Patriarch Daniel praised everyone for their contributions to the New Testament editing project. Abbot Ephraim, who provided copies of the New Testament to everyone in attendance at the launch in the Aula Magna of the Palace of the Patriarchate, received particular thanks from His Beatitude.

The Romanian Patriarch made reference to the role of the translator of a sacred text in his speech and emphasised that "not uniqueness, but fidelity to the sacred text must be the foremost concern of the one who translates, of the one who interprets, of the one who preaches."

The event was broadcast live by Trinitas TV. It was part of the program of the International Theological Symposium, "The importance of prayer in the ecclesial and personal life of believers."













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