

The Christmas Message of the Ecumenical Patriarch

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Prot. No. 1237

BARTHOLOMEW

By God's Grace

Archbishop of Constantinople-New Rome

and Ecumenical Patriarch

To the Plenitude of the Church

Grace, peace and mercy from the Savior Christ

Born in Bethlehem

Beloved concelebrants and blessed children in the Lord,

Heaven and earth have united

Through the birth of Christ.

Today, God has appeared on earth,

And man has ascended to heaven.

(Christmas Hymn)

The distance and separation between God and humanity resulting from sin has been abolished with the assumption of the entire human nature by the Only-Begotten Son and Pre-eternal Word of God. It was God's good will - that is to say, His initiative and will - that the incarnation of His Son should abolish all such distance uniting heaven and earth, as well as creation with its Creator.

[\(περισσότερα...\)](#)