



Your Eminence Metropolitan Tikhon, beloved brother and concelebrant in the Holy Spirit: Grace be unto you and peace from God.

Χριστός ανέστη! Christ is risen!

It is with sentiments of deep sorrow that we address this Patriarchal letter of condolence to you upon learning of the falling asleep of the ever-memorable Archbishop Paul (Gassios). We hasten to join you in spirit from our Queen of Cities during this time of physical separation, and we personally express our fraternal sympathies, as well as the collective prayers of the Ecumenical Patriarchate, to you and your flock.

As you remember the legacy of this venerable spiritual pastor, bright theologian and minister, we extend to you our wholehearted commiserations and solidarity and pray that your loss may be tempered by the hope of the Resurrection. May you and your flock find solace in the many delightful memories and achievements of the late Bishop.

We entreat our Heavenly and Immortal King to number the soul of His servant among the saints, and to grant him everlasting repose in the dwelling place of the righteous. May his memory be eternal, and may you live out the rest of your days in peace and harmony, rightly remembering and celebrating both him and his ministry.

At the Ecumenical Patriarchate, the 4th of May, 2022

Fraternally yours in the Risen Lord,

A handwritten signature in Greek script, which is a cursive representation of the name of the Archbishop of Constantinople, Bartholomew.

† BARTHOLOMEW

*Archbishop of Constantinople-New Rome
and Ecumenical Patriarch*