

Church of Cyprus launches nationwide fundraiser for persecuted Christians in Syria



In a heartfelt show of solidarity with the suffering Christians of Syria, the Holy Synod of the Church of Cyprus has announced a nationwide fundraiser to be held on the Fifth Sunday of Lent, 6 April 2025, in all parishes across Cyprus.

In its official encyclical, the Synod emphasises the urgency of the situation: “In these days, we are all witnesses to the mourning, pain, and tragedy of our fellow Orthodox Christians in Syria.”

The statement highlights the dire conditions faced by the ancient Patriarchate of Antioch, whose faithful have been dramatically reduced due to prolonged conflict and persecution.

Drawing from its own history of suffering—especially the ongoing occupation of 37% of its homeland—the Church of Cyprus affirms its unwavering support for the Church of Antioch and all Christians in the region, pledging to stand “with all its strength” by their side.

The Holy Synod calls upon the faithful of Cyprus to participate actively and generously in this initiative: “We make a heartfelt appeal to your philanthropic sentiments to give generously,” the encyclical states, noting that contributions are “an expression of our love and solidarity toward our fellow human beings who are

currently being so harshly and mercilessly tested.”

The encyclical concludes with a prayer: “May God send down His abundant blessings upon you all and strengthen and comfort the Christians of Syria in the extremely difficult circumstances they now face.”

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