

Patriarch Daniel: Basilica Media Centre a gift from God to Church and Romanian people



His Beatitude Patriarch Daniel, on Monday of the Holy Spirit, marked the patronal feast of the Basilica Media Centre by praising its role in communicating the life of the Church and promoting Orthodox values in contemporary society.

In a message addressed to the staff of the Romanian Patriarchate's media institutions, the Patriarch described the Basilica Media Centre as "a gift from God for the Church and the Romanian people," highlighting the contribution of its journalists, editors, broadcasters and technical personnel to the Church's missionary work through modern means of communication.

Reflecting on the challenges of an age marked by an overwhelming flow of information, Patriarch Daniel said Church media helps cultivate discernment, balance and hope, while providing a Christian perspective on religious, cultural and social developments in Romania and abroad.

The Patriarch also linked the anniversary to the Romanian Orthodox Church's observance of 2026 as the Solemn Year of the Pastoral Care of the Christian Family and the Commemorative Year of Holy Women, stressing the responsibility of Church media to promote family values, highlight models of Christian holiness and communicate the Gospel of Christ's love in today's world.

Please find below Patriarch Daniel's full message.

The Basilica Media Centre of the Romanian Patriarchate: A Gift from God for the Church and the Romanian People

Since its establishment, the BASILICA Media Centre has been a gift from God to the Romanian Orthodox Church and to the right-believing Romanian people through its essential contribution to promoting the values of the Orthodox faith, providing accurate and balanced information, and helping to shape a Christian conscience in a rapidly changing world.

Its diverse structure—Radio TRINITAS, TRINITAS TV, Lumina Newspaper, the BASILICA News Agency, and the Press Office—demonstrates the extent to which

the Church employs modern means of communication, not in order to compete with the media world, but to transfigure and sanctify the contemporary information space through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ.

In an age marked by fleeting news and an overwhelming flow of information of every kind, the mission of the Church requires discernment, clarity, balance, and hope. It is precisely here that the work of the Romanian Patriarchate's "media missionaries" reveals its value: through the written word, the spoken word, and the illuminating image, communicators of the true faith become witnesses and servants of Christ and His Church.

Through the information it provides daily, through reports, documentaries, interviews, religious and cultural discussions, press releases, and features, the BASILICA Media Centre participates in the Church's mission of forming responsible consciences capable of distinguishing good from evil and enduring values from passing trends.

TRINITAS Radio and Television are means through which prayer, the beauty of the Divine Liturgy, and the moral beauty proposed by Orthodoxy are heard and seen everywhere.

For the elderly, the sick, or Romanians living abroad, they become open windows to the living Church, to the voice that brings comfort and reminds them that they are not alone. Through its journalistic balance and sobriety of language, Lumina Newspaper remains a point of reference for normality and Christian culture, offering readers religious news, articles on culture and spirituality, and spiritual nourishment through its biblical, liturgical, patristic, and Philokalic sections.

The BASILICA News Agency and the Press Office of the Romanian Patriarchate connect the work of the Romanian Orthodox Church with the national and international public sphere, demonstrating professionally that the Orthodox witness of faith can be at once timeless and modern, rigorous and responsible.

Through all its components, the BASILICA Media Centre bears witness to what we may call "media catechesis"—a new way of speaking about God not only through preaching from the pulpit, but also through images, news reports, and documentaries. Information thus becomes an opportunity for evangelisation and spiritual culture.

Behind every spotlight, every microphone, and every photograph capturing piety or joy lies the presence of a long-standing missionary endeavour in which journalists, technicians, and servants of the Word work for the same ideal: to make the

crucified, risen, and glorified Christ visible in the life of the Church and for the salvation of the world.

The anniversary of the BASILICA Media Centre comes in a special spiritual context: the year 2026 has been proclaimed by the Holy Synod of the Romanian Orthodox Church as the Solemn Year of the Pastoral Care of the Christian Family and the Commemorative Year of the Holy Women of the Church Calendar—Myrrh-bearing Women, Martyrs, Nuns, Wives, and Mothers.

These spiritual themes also provide a profound framework for reflection on the Romanian Orthodox Church's media ministry. In the Solemn Year of the Pastoral Care of the Christian Family, the contribution of the BASILICA Media Centre is essential in promoting a media culture that supports the family composed of husband, wife, and children.

Through dedicated programmes, articles, and campaigns, Church media can become the voice that reaffirms the beauty of love between husband and wife, parents and children, grandparents and grandchildren, and brothers and sisters, as well as the importance of children's spiritual education.

Although secularised society often promotes individualism and moral relativism, the devout and charitable Christian family remains the living icon of the Holy Trinity's love for humanity. In this sense, the pastoral care of the Christian family is also a ministry of communication, because humble, sincere, and generous love is cultivated through kind words, gestures of respect, and mutual support.

Likewise, in the context of the Commemorative Year dedicated to the holy women of the Church calendar, the activity of the BASILICA Media Centre has a special mission: to bring before the public consciousness the radiant image of the Christian woman as a bearer of life and faith.

Whether we speak of the Holy Myrrh-bearing Women, courageous witnesses of Christ's Resurrection; of the martyrs who sacrificed their lives for Christ the Lord; of the nuns who dedicated themselves to prayer and stillness; or of mothers and wives who kept the lamp of faith and love burning in their homes—all are models of self-sacrifice, gentleness, and spiritual life.

In this regard, Church media is called to present these examples as sources of light, highlighting the dignified and noble image of the Christian woman.

There is a profound connection between communication within the Christian family and communication within the Church: just as the family is the place where we first

learn what love is through the affectionate gestures and words of our parents, so in the Church we experience sanctifying love through the Holy Mysteries, through the icons of the saints, and through the spiritual formation and information offered by Church media. Thus, in the family we learn the alphabet of love, and in the Church we unite it with the One Holy God.

In this sense, every newsroom, every studio, and every information space within the BASILICA Media Centre becomes a small “spiritual family” in which prayer, trust, obedience, and missionary cooperation are cultivated.

We especially appreciate the effort and cultivated talent of the media communicators working within the BASILICA Media Centre: journalists, editors, producers, directors, camera operators, technicians, presenters, and volunteers.

Each of them contributes, through his or her talent and effort, to conveying the same message: that the joy of believing and living in Christ can be shared with every person through any means of communication when it is transmitted with the grace of Christ’s love. Often, the work of media missionaries reflects the Divine Liturgy itself, accomplished through word and image and through discreet, selfless service.

We thank the Most Holy Trinity for all the help granted to those who have laboured within the BASILICA Media Centre throughout these years. Through its fidelity to the truth of the Orthodox faith and its promotion of a culture of merciful love and responsibility, this media ministry has become a living testimony that the Church can be present in the media without losing its missionary zeal, but rather strengthening and sanctifying it.

On the occasion of this anniversary, we extend our paternal blessing and love to all the missionaries of the BASILICA Media Centre and pray to the Holy Trinity to abundantly pour out His grace upon all those who work to communicate the Gospel of Christ’s love in today’s world.

† Daniel
Patriarch of the Romanian Orthodox Church

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