## H. E. Metropolitan Gerasimos of San Francisco issues message about devastating fires in California



H. E. Metropolitan Gerasimos of San Francisco has issued a message regarding the recent devastating fires in California. Read the full text below:

Beloved in the Lord,

"In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials, that the genuineness of your faith,

being much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire,

may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ..."

## I Peter 1:6 - 7

It has been a devastating year once again for fires in California. This has led to extensive evacuations, loss of homes and businesses, as well as the beautiful landscape of thousands of acres which are being ravaged through fires fueled by fierce winds. Power outages have been implemented to protect threatened areas, which have impacted countless people, as well as our parishes and parishioners in several regions of the state.

We pray for those who are risking their lives to fight these fires, that God may protect them and give them strength to fulfill their duties. We also call to mind all those who are suffering, that the Lord may grant them comfort until they can return safely to their homes and jobs.

The Metropolis has received numerous inquiries of concern for which we are very appreciative. Please continue to pray for the calming of the winds and the protection of God's creation. As we receive updated information, we will share additional details of how we can best assist in this time of great need.

Beseeching the Lord's grace and mercy during these challenging days, I remain,

With Love in Christ.

+ GERASIMOS

Metropolitan of San Francisco