24/03/2020

$707,208.91 was raised by the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of Australia for the Fire Appeal



The Holy Archdiocese of Australia wants to express its gratitude and appreciation to whoever communicated with the Archbishop, to express support and help for the leaders, the clergy and the people of our local Church during the Fire crisis.

Especially, and with deep gratitude we want to thank his All-Holiness Patriarch Bartholomew for the telephone communication he kept with our Archbishop Makarios immediately from the moment news was released about the destructive fires. He maintained a deep and paternal concern throughout the whole period of crisis. We also want to express the gratitude of our leaders, our clergy and the people of Australia towards his All Holiness our Patriarch for his letters of support and solidarity which we had announced to the public on his behalf.

Our Archdiocese also expresses it gratitude to the All Holy Patriarchs Theodoros of Alexandria, and Theophilos of Jerusalem, the Archbishops Christophoros of Cyprus,

Ieronimos of Athens and Anastasios of Albania, as well as the Metropolitan Stephanos of Tallinn who all communicated with our Archbishop and expressed their love and support for the suffering that the Australian people bore as well as the loss that the land incurred.

In the same spirit of gratitude and love we express our thanks to the Archbishop Elpidoforos of America, who together with his constant telephone communication also contributed by donating $75,000.00 American dollars towards the appeal that our Archdiocese made for the fire victims. We also thank H.E., the Metropolitans Nicholaos of Mesogeia and Lavroatiki, and Nathanael of Chicago who together with their prayerful support donated 50,000.00 Australian dollars and 20,000.00 American dollars respectively. For the brotherly and philanthropic gesture made by Metropolitan Nicholaos of Mesogeia our people were especially touched because we know that his locality had recently suffered the same tribulation.

Gratefully and sincerely we feel the need to remember our most respected Hierarchs, for their written or oral communication with our Archbishop. They showed their love and support during the trying times we had faced. Especially we thank The Archbishops, Eirineos of Crete, Sotirios of Canada, Nikita of Theiatiron and Great Britain; the Metropolitans: Apostolos of Derka, Apostolos of Militos, Meliton of Philadelphia, Seraphim of Sevastia, Sotirios of Pisidia, Chrysostomos of Myra, Emmanuel of France, Theoliptos of Iconion, Ephraim of Hydra, Spetses and Aegina, Nikandros of Irinopolis, Andrew of Arkalohorio, Kastellio and Vianno, Ierotheos of Zihni and Neurokopion, Athinagoroas of Belgium, Chrysostomos of Patra, Eugenios of Rethymnon and Avlopotamos, Seraphim of Kithyra and Antikithyra, Ambrosios of Korea, Dasmaskinos of Kidonia and Apokoronas, Arsenios of Austria, Athinagoras of Kydonies, Amphiloheos of Adrianoupolis, Chysostomos of Mani, Maximus of Switzerland, as well as the Bishops Paisios of Amathia and Eirinaios of Evmenia. We also thank all our brother and sisters, clergy and laity, Greeks and non-Greeks, Orthodox and non-Orthodox, who supported us morally or materially in our struggle and in our anxiety.

We bring it to your attention that the amount that was gathered in the appeal raised by the Archdiocese for the Fires was: $707,208.91

This money will be given to:

$325,000 to Bega Valley Shire Council in NSW
$200,000 to Country Fire Authority (CFA) VIC
$125,000 to South Australian Country Fire Service (CFS)
$57,208.91 to Port Macquarie Koala Hospital in NSW

The list of names as well as the amount donated by everyone is already up on the webpage of the Holy Archdiocese of Australia.

List of Donors

The Holy Archdiocese of Australia and His Eminence Makarios thank you again for responding to your fellow citizens and for the sensitivity which you have shown, and they wish all benefactors the grace and blessings of our Lord Jesus Christ.