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# Ecumenical Patriarchal encyclical for Holy and Great Easter



In a Patriarchal Encyclical on Holy Pascha, the Ecumenical Patriarch of Constantinople, His All Holiness Bartholomew I, noted that the serious coronavirus pandemic has demonstrated how fragile man is, emphasizing that faith in Christ gives man strength, patience and resilience.

His All Holiness stressed that "… It is difficult to remain human without the hope of eternity. This hope lives in the hearts of all doctors, nurses, volunteers, donors and all those generously supporting their suffering brothers and sisters in a spirit of sacrifice, offering and love. In this tremendous crisis, they radiate resurrection and hope…"

Elsewhere, the Archbishop of Tirana and All Albania, His Beatitude Anastasios, warned that fear is a dangerous counsel for man, one that affects our reasoning and volition, reducing our tolerance and creativity. He said people are afraid of various causes: war conflicts, natural disasters, epidemic diseases, such as the COVID-19 pandemic, which has shocked humanity as a whole.

His Beatitude underlined, in his Easter message, that "… This year we will not be able to transmit the Holy Fire from each other's candle. Let us impart, though, the light of hope and fearlessness in Christ, from one heart to another. Christ is Risen."