

## **Suceava assistant bishop calls for prayer for 90-year-old Archbishop Pimen after positive result**



**The assistant bishop to the Archdiocese of Suceava and Radauti urged the clergy and believers to join prayers for the recovery of the 90-year-old Archbishop Pimen who is hospitalized at Matei Bals Hospital in Bucharest after testing positive for coronavirus.**

‘We have this spiritual duty to His Eminence Archbishop Pimen, as one who also carried us in prayer, blessed us, forgave us, guided us with love, being for so many decades for us all a true spiritual father,’ wrote bishop Damaschin of Dorna in a letter addressed to priests, monastics and laypeople.

Bishop Damaschin urged everyone ‘wholeheartedly’ to multiply prayer for the recovery of Suceava’s Archbishop so that he may return ‘with renewed powers’ in the midst of the community of Bukovina.

The assistant bishop concluded his letter dated April 21 by expressing his ‘unwavering faith in God’s providence’ and ‘the hope in His healing and comforting power.’

At the age of 90, Archbishop Pimen of Suceava and Radauti was confirmed with the new coronavirus and was brought, on Monday, April 20, to the “Matei Bals” Infectious Diseases Institute in Bucharest, by helicopter.

The spokesperson of the Romanian Patriarchate, Vasile Banescu, referring to the archbishop's health state said that 'it is fragile, given his venerable age,' but it improves progressively.

'Beyond the apparent frail appearance, I believe that a hardened man is hiding in the ascetic and prayer zone,' Banescu noted on Sunday.

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