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## **Message by Archbishop of Australia on occasion of Int'l Day Against Drugs**



The Archbishop of Australia, His Eminence Makarios, issued a message on the occasion of today's International Day Against Drugs.

His Eminence said the day is an opportunity to reflect on the extent to which this modern scourge has plagued humanity, and especially young people.

Makarios noted that "...with the opportunity of this day, we must not forget that the duty for all of us, following the requirements of Christian teaching, is to stand by the side of people who are experiencing the devastating effects of drug use...today's International Day challenges us to go beyond, to unreservedly extend our hand to our neighbor who is being tried and to break down the walls of prejudice and social exclusion."

The Archdiocese of Australia has already announced that it will establish another two detoxification centers, one in Melbourne and the other in Sydney.