

Greek Citizen Protection Min.: “The city of Patras will honor its patron Saint Andrew with the same reverence as every year, but each at his own home”



The city of Patras will honor its patron Saint Andrew “with the same reverence as every year, but each at his own home, without visits or get-togethers,” Citizen Protection Minister Michalis Chrysochoidis on Saturday, after a meeting with regional leaders ahead of Monday’s celebrations at the city that traditionally attract crowds.

He ruled out the attendance of liturgies at churches in the area and said “we will not negotiate public health and human lives.”

The minister’s visit highlighted an outbreak this week in Achaia and neighboring prefectures that have raised the alarm in the government, as new coronavirus cases appear to be on a gradual decrease elsewhere.

Chrysochoidis called on all Achaeans to observe health measures and avoid getting

sick or infection others, by wearing a mask and staying home. The system is under pressure, he said, “and our resources are not endless, especially now that available ICU beds are limited.”

Western Greece Regional Director Nektarios Farmakis said that “there cannot be any mistakes because mistakes can take us back.”

Patras Mayor Kostas Peletidis noted however that “we will observe measures, but we must also have what we need – fast tracking of contacts at work places, free tests, prevention and a public health system that can provide what we need.”

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