

Covid-19 vaccination campaign commences in EU; Metropolitan of Nafpaktos Ierotheos among the first to receive vaccine in Greece



Sunday, December 27 was a historic day in Greece and other EU countries, as the first inoculations of the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine against the Covid-19 commenced. One of the first individuals vaccinated in Greece was the Metropolitan of Nafpaktos and Aghios Vlasios, His Eminence Ierotheos, who is the spokesman of the Autocephalous Orthodox Church of Greece.

The Metropolitan's vaccination shows the Church's symbolic support for the Covid-19 vaccination campaign, with other hierarchs also expressing their approval over the recent period.

In a statement after his vaccination at the Evangelismos hospital in central Athens,

Metropolitan Ierotheos noted that every pandemic is a war, one which is faced with medicines, vaccinations and medical care.

He added “...all must serve the protection of one’s health, which isn’t a purpose unto itself, but a means of cultivating an individual to fulfill his purpose, and primarily, his union with God”.

The nursing supervisor of the Evangelismos hospital’s intensive care ward was the first person in Greece to be vaccinated with the specific vaccine, followed by the country’s top political leaders.



On Cyprus, the island republic’s president, Nicos Anastasiades, was also among the first citizens to be vaccinated on the inaugural day of the EU-wide campaign, where he referred to the immune-producing substance a “gift of life”.

