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Greek gov’t spokesman: Authorities to conduct sample checks for Covid-related certificates of faithful entering places of worship



A Greek government spokesman on Wednesday reiterated that state services will conduct sample checks on people entering houses of worship, days after new and stricter measures to avoid the spread of the coronavirus in Greece came into effect. The spokesman also said the Greek government has not changed its position on the matter, following an announcement by the Holy Synod of the Church of Greece, which underlined that parishes have neither the personnel or mechanism to monitor who enters churches and chapels.

Based on the new measures, faithful entering houses of worship must possess documentation showing recent negative lab results for the Covid-19 virus.

In a related development, the spokesman for the Association of Orthodox Clerics of Greece, Fr. Georgios Konstantinou, on Wednesday underlined that the Church is not a business, but a place of worship.

Fr. Georgios added that “…all are in the direction of accepting science and the usefulness of the vaccine; as well as accepting measures for public health and the

attempt to persuade people to follow these. Law enforcement, however, is the only authority that can conduct checks, and the only one that has the right.”