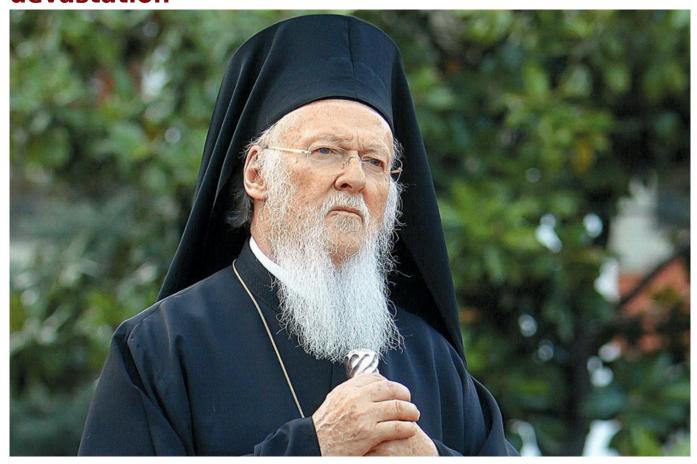
Ecumenical Patriarch expresses deep sorrow, solidarity with French people over Notre Dame devastation



The Ecumenical Patriarch of Constantinople, His All Holiness Bartholomew I, expressed his deep sorrow over the devastating fire that erupted at the iconic Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris on Monday.

The Ecumenical Patriarch expressed his solidarity to the Roman Catholic faithful in the French capital and to the people of France, in general, in letters addressed to the President of France, Emmanuel Macron, and to Roman Catholic Archbishop of Paris Michel Aupetit.

His All Holiness Bartholomew emphasized that the Cathedral was not only a very visible convergence of Christian faith with human creativity, but a symbol of common ideals for all of humanity, and thunderous call for peace and love in the

world.

"The world today is hurt, it is experiencing a particular mourning, collectively, and beyond religious and denominational commitment," the Ecumenical Patriarch said, while expressing his prayer for a speeding restoration of the historic Cathedral.