

Easter message by Patriarch of Jerusalem Theophilos III



The venerable Patriarchate of the Holy City of Jerusalem is at the forefront of devotional services for Orthodox Christians around the world this Holy & Great Holy Week, but also in the wake of recent instances of violence directed at Christian places of worship and monuments, especially an attack against the Holy Shrine of the Mother of God in Gethsemane.

Those instances have generated heightened concern in international public opinion.

On the occasion of Holy Week, the Patriarch of Jerusalem, His Beatitude Theophilos III, issued an Easter message, underlining, among others, that “...As the body of Christ, the Church is the steward of His sanctifying and redeeming mission on earth. It performs the redeeming sacraments and preaches to the world, as He did, peace, reconciliation, and love to all, even the enemies.”

His Beatitude also expressed his wish and expectations that all believers will be able to exercise their natural God-given right to reach the Church of the Holy

Sepulcher, especially on the Saturday of the Holy Light, in order to worship freely and safely without restrictions, as was the case for the past 2000 years.

Finally, on the occasion of Holy Week, His Beatitude prayed for Orthodox communities around the earth.