



Church of the **G**enuine **O**rthodox **C**hristians of **G**reece
Holy **S**ynod

Synodal Exhortation to Prayer

The Holy Synod of the Church of the Genuine Orthodox Christians of Greece, under His Beatitude, Archbishop Kallinikos of Athens, sharing in the distress arising from the grievous consequences for the life of our flock and, in general, of all mankind on account of the epidemic that is plaguing the world, issues the following exhortation:

The Holy Synod calls all of its God-loving flock, clergy and laity, to a concerted act of prayer on **Wednesday, March 25/April 7, 2021**, the Annunciation of our Lady, the Theotokos, at 7:00 p.m., in order to seek Divine mercy and succor and consolation from on high. The clergy are bidden, after Vespers on the day of the Feast, to serve a Paraklesis to the Most Holy Theotokos, and the laity, wherever they may be, to fall down on their knees in repentance, compunction, and lamentation before our All-Good God, so as to elicit Divine Grace upon each and every one of us, for the averting of further woes and the elimination of existing ones.

True and heartfelt prayer, according to the Divine Chrysostomos, as a supreme good, is converse and union with God and provides healing and tranquillity of soul, protects from every infirmity, and opens the gates of the virtues. Thus, let us, lowly and great, young and old, and even innocent children, fall down before our All-Compassionate Lord and God that He might be gracious to us and bring an end to the tribulation through which we are passing.

May Christ, in His love for mankind, through the entreaties of His All-Holy Mother, be swayed by the supplications of His servants and send down upon all of us, in our country and in general upon mankind, the healing blessing, bounty, and refreshment of His inexpressible Divine compassion!

*From the Chancery of the Holy Synod
Athens, March 11/24, 2021*