



Patriarch Kirill's Paschal message to heads of non-Orthodox Churches

His Holiness Kirill, Patriarch of Moscow and All Russia, has sent Paschal messages to heads of non-Orthodox Churches, among them Patriarch Tawadros II of the Coptic Church, the Pope of Alexandria and Patriarch of the See of St. Mark; Pope Francis of Rome; Patriarch Ignatius Aphrem II of Antioch and All the East (Syriac Jacobite Church); Supreme Patriarch and Catholicos Karekin II of all Armenians; Catholicos Aram I of Cilicia; Catholicos-Patriarch Mar Gewargis III Sliwa of the Assyrian Church of the East; Maronite Patriarch Bechara Boutros Cardinal al-Rahi of Antioch and All the East; Malankara Metropolitan and Catholicos of the East Baselios Mar Thoma Paulose II; and Patriarch Abune Mathias I of Ethiopia.

The message of greetings states in particular,

'On the great day of the glorious resurrection of Christ Who has opened to people the way to eternal blissful life, I address myself to you with the joyful Paschal greeting:

CHRIST IS RISEN!

The Saviour's sacrifice on the cross is a testimony to God's boundless love for His creation and His rising from the grave has marked the beginning of a new era in human history; *for Christ is risen, and life reigns! Christ is risen, and not one dead remains in a tomb!* (Paschal Homily).

In these radiant festive days I wish that you and your flock may praise the Master of Life and Conqueror of Death in joy and peace. May *God and Father of our Lord Who in His great mercy has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead* (1 Pet. 1:3) grant you strength and generous help in your lofty and important service.

With love in the Lord and our Saviour,

+ Kirill

Patriarch of Moscow and All Russia

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