



## Synod of the Patriarchate of Antioch called for increased prayers for the Ukrainian Orthodox Church



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The Holy Synod of the Patriarchate of Antioch asks its faithful "to offer even more fervent prayers for the fullness of the Orthodox Church and its unity, as well as for the Ukrainian Orthodox Church – the Church Confessor". The members of the Synod made such a statement in a communiqué issued following the meeting held on the 14<sup>th</sup> of March 2024 at the Balamand Patriarchal Monastery of the Dormition of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Lebanon.

The archpastors also noted that the Ukrainian Orthodox Church "is under threat of destruction due to unjust laws aimed at closing its parishes and transferring its churches to other religious groups."

With the ongoing military conflict in Palestine, the Antiochian Church continues to pray "for peace in the world and for the inhabitants of Gaza, who suffer from the scourge of war and the injustice of those responsible for decision-making in the international community." The members of the Synod also make "a fervent request to all people to make every possible effort to

prevent the negative effects of the war on the region, especially Lebanon," the document said.

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