

TIMETABLE FOR THE HOLY WEEK AT THE MONASTIC CHURCH OF SAINTS CONSTANTINE & HELEN

From April 8 to April 17, 2023

Palm Sunday;

Matins and Divine Liturgy of St Chrysostom at 5.00

Vespers at 15:30

Service of the Bridegroom at 18:15

Holy and Great Monday;

The Hours and the Pre-sanctified Liturgy at 06.30

Great Compline at 15:30

Service of the Bridegroom at 18:15

Holy and Great Tuesday;

The Hours and the Pre-sanctified Liturgy at 06.30

Great Compline at 15:30

Service of the Bridegroom at 18:15

Holy and Great Wednesday;

The Hours and the Pre-sanctified Liturgy at 06.30

Small Compline – Holy Unction at 17:00

Holy and Great Thursday;

Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great at 04:30

Service of the Passion at 18:15

Holy and Great Friday;

Royal Hours at 08.00

Service of the Epitaph at 18:30

Holy and Great Saturday;

The Hours and the Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great at 08:00

Holy Pascha;

Matins & D. Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom at 0:40 am – after midnight

Monday, after the Day of Pascha;

Divine Liturgy at 08:00

The Typikon Keeper of the Monastic Church

Archimandrite Alexios

TIMETABLE OF SERVICES AT THE

CHURCH OF THE HOLY SEPULCHRE ON THE HOLY WEEK

From April 8, to April 16, 2023

Lazarus Saturday

Patriarchal Vespers: 15:00

Palm Sunday

Patriarchal Divine Liturgy: 08:00

Service of the Bridegroom: 18:15

Holy and Great Monday

Pre-sanctified Liturgy at the Horrendous Golgotha: 09:00

Service of the Bridegroom: 18:15

Holy and Great Tuesday

Pre-sanctified Liturgy at the Horrendous Golgotha: 09:00

Service of the Bridegroom: 18:15

Holy and Great Wednesday

Pre-sanctified Liturgy at the Horrendous Golgotha: 09:00

Holy and Great Thursday

Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great at St. James Cathedral:
06:30

The Service of the Sacred Washing of the Disciples' feet at
the Holy Courtyard: 09:00

The Service of the Passion 18.15

Holy and Great Friday

The Royal Hours at the Horrendous Golgotha: 10:00 am

Patriarchal Vespers: 15:00

The Epitaph Service: 21:00

Holy and Great Saturday

The Service of the Holy Light: 13:00

The Service of the Resurrection: 12:00 midnight

Easter Sunday

The Service of the Second Resurrection: 13:00

The Master of Ceremonies of the Patriarchate

Archimandrite Bartholomew

THE FORMER PATRIARCH OF JERUSALEM EIRINAIOS HAS SLEPT IN THE LORD

The Hagiotaphite Brotherhood announces, after sorrow, not the Lord's sorrow, the departure into heaven of its member and former Patriarch of Jerusalem, blessed Mr Irenaios.

The departed to the Lord breathed his last after a long illness in the "Errikos Dunan" Hospital in Athens on the morning of December 28, 2022 / January 10, 2023.

For the repose of his soul in the land of the living, a Trisayon was held on the morning at the Horrendous Golgotha and the memorial services established for its members will be held by the Brotherhood

May his remembrance be ever-lasting.

From Secretariat-General

THE PATRIARCHATE OF JERUSALEM CONDEMNS THE ISRAELI POLICE AGGRESSION ON HOLY FIRE SATURDAY

23.04.2022

The Orthodox Patriarchate of Jerusalem condemned the practices of the Israeli police in the Old City of Jerusalem during the Holy Fire Saturday celebrations.

The Patriarchate said in a statement that the police, deprived thousands of Christians of their natural right to worship freely, through military checkpoints it had deployed in the vicinity of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre in the form of security cordons, all the way from the gates of the old city leading to the church. These barriers prevented worshipers and those celebrating the feast from reaching the church of the Holy Sepulcher.

The Patriarchate also affirmed its complete rejection of the violence practiced by the police against worshipers and the unethical behavior conducted by Police personnel at the

checkpoints, especially those located in the vicinity of the Patriarchate headquarters and the Church of the Holy Sepulcher.

The Patriarchate reiterated its complete rejection of the restrictions that the Israeli police is attempting to impose through courts or negotiations, as the Patriarchate stressed that it will not succumb to pressure from the police or any other party regarding the number of worshipers in the Church of the Holy Sepulcher and its vicinity. Furthermore, the Patriarchate expressed its refusal to surrender to a numerical limit to worshipers allowed into the church because this constitutes complicity in regards to the crime of depriving worshipers from access to their places of worship.

STATEMENT BY THE JERUSALEM PATRIARCHATE REJECTING THE PROPOSED RESTRICTIONS ON THE HOLY FIRE CEREMONIES

2022.04.21

The Orthodox Patriarchate of Jerusalem officially informed the Israeli police yesterday through a letter addressed to its District Commander its rejection of any restrictions on the number of celebrants on Holy Fire Saturday inside the Church of the Holy Sepulcher, its courtyard, its surroundings, its

roof, or the entrances leading to it. The letter was signed by the Secretary General of the Patriarchate, Archbishop Aristarchus, in which he refuted the police's arguments for placing restrictions on the number of worshipers and limiting them to 1,700. The Patriarchate rejected this offer on principled grounds that it doesn't accept any infringement to the right to freedom of worship.

The letter stated that the number of worshippers in the Church of the Holy Sepulcher annually on Holy Fire Saturday ranges between ten thousand and eleven thousand people, which is the normal capacity of the church. The letter argued that over the past years there has not been any incident that endangered the safety of worshipers, so the police's argument that restricting the number of worshippers due to "public safety" concerns lacks any logical basis. The Patriarchate asked in its letter: If the pretext of public safety is a reason for reducing the number of worshipers inside the Church of the Holy Sepulcher, then why are there restrictions on in its courtyard, rooftop, adjacent neighborhoods, or even the entrances to the Old City? Especially at the main entrances to the Church of the Holy Sepulcher and the Christian Quarter.

The patriarch made it clear that it will proceed as usual with its normal procedures related to Holy Fire Saturday and that it will issue invitations as it deems appropriate and without any limits. It also confirmed that all priests will in the Patriarch's procession will not carry any badges, as the patriarchate affirmed the right of all worshipers to access The Church of the sepulcher, especially the participants in the morning prayer at the adjacent Church of St. Jacob, without any obstacles.

In the letter, the Patriarchate demanded the police not to put up barriers in the alleys of the Old City, as they impede the access of worshipers and priests from different monasteries to the Church of the Holy Sepulcher. Furthermore the Patriarchate demanded the police facilitation to freely transfer the Holy

Light to the airport in order to transport it to different parts of the world, as is the custom on this important holiday, which is at the heart of the Christian faith.

TIMETABLE FOR THE HOLY WEEK AT THE MONASTIC CHURCH OF SAINTS CONSTANTINE & HELEN

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Service of the Bridegroom at 18:15

Holy and Great Monday;

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The Master of Ceremonies of the Patriarchate

Archimandrite Bartholomew

STATEMENT BY THE ORTHODOX PATRIARCHATE OF JERUSALEM FOR EASTER 2022

Jerusalem 4.11.2022

The Orthodox Patriarchate of Jerusalem congratulates its congregations and all the people of the Holy Land on both sides of the Jordan River for the occasion of Easter and Saturday of the Holy Light, and at the same time we affirm our strong and renewed commitment to our natural right to celebrate our holidays along with our communities, families and to participate together in prayers at our churches in the Old City of Jerusalem, including the basic right of all our communities to access the Church of Holy Sepulchre and its vicinity during Easter festivities including Holy Light Saturday. Our communities have been exercising this divine right freely throughout the ages and different rulers, regardless of the circumstances that the Holy City went through in history.

For many years, participating in prayers and even having access to churches in the Old City, especially during Easter holidays, has become very difficult for our congregations and our people in general, due to police unilaterally enforced restrictions and its violence against believers who insist on exercising their natural divine right to worship. Previously, we had cooperated with different Christian bodies and leaders to bring our case to the international, domestic and judicial levels, and we also coordinated with the police themselves, with the aim of preventing the police from continuing their unacceptable practices, but unfortunately the promises were great and what actually took place on the ground was not even remotely close to those promises.

Instead of reversing its habitual unacceptable practices on Easter and Holy Fire Saturday, the police have recently informed the Patriarchate of additional new unilateral measures that increase restrictions on Holy Fire Saturday, to the effect that the police will only allow one thousand people to enter the Church of the Holy Sepulchre on this great day, although it is customary to many thousands of worshippers to enter the church in celebration on that day. Furthermore, the police said that they will allow only five hundred people to enter the Old City and reach the Patriarchate yards and the overlooking roof of the Holy Sepulchre Church. The Patriarchate believes that there is no justification for these additional unjust restrictions, and affirms its explicit, clear and complete rejection of all restrictions. The Patriarchate is fed up with police restrictions on freedom to worship and with its unacceptable methods of dealing with the God given rights of Christians to practice rituals and have to access their holy sites in the Old City of Jerusalem.

Accordingly, the orthodox Patriarchate of Jerusalem has decided, by the power of the Lord, that it will not compromise its right to provide spiritual services in all churches and squares. It also announces that prayers will be held as usual by the Patriarchate and its priests, hoping that believers are able to participate. This position of the Patriarchate stems from the basis of divine right, heritage and history. The police must stop imposing restrictions and violence that, unfortunately, have become part of our sacred ceremonies. We also urge our congregations to uphold our historical heritage through participating in the rituals and celebrations of Easter and Holy Fire Saturday this year in the Church of Holy Sepulchre and its vicinity.

**AN APPEAL FOR PRAYER BY THE
PATRIARCH OF JERUSALEM HIS
BEATITUDE THEOPHILOS III**

Appeal for prayer



Jerusalem, Monday 17th April 2022

AN APPEAL FOR PRAYER BY THE PATRIARCH OF JERUSALEM HIS BEATITUDE THEOPHILUS III

From the heart of the Holy City of Jerusalem, the place of Jesus Christ's Passion, Death and Resurrection, the Pope and I beseech all Christian people throughout the world to join us sending us prayer. Praying 23 hours a day, beseeching the Lord for His gift of peace. As we approach the great feast of Pascha/Easter, let us pray together for peace and reconciliation, between nations, in our homes and in our hearts. As we reflect upon the glorious resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ, let us pray to God our Good Shepherd to lead us world into peace.

As we listen to St. Paul:

"I beseech therefore, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men... that we may live in quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty"

[1 Timothy 2:1-2]

STATEMENT BY THE PATRIARCHS AND HEADS OF LOCAL CHURCHES OF JERUSALEM ON THE ILLEGAL SEIZURE OF THE LITTLE PETRA HOTEL

PDF file: Statement of the Patriarchs and Heads of Churches of
Jerusalem on the Illegal Seizure of the Little Petra Hotel



PATRIARCHS AND HEADS OF LOCAL CHURCHES OF JERUSALEM

Statement by the Patriarchs and Heads of Local Churches of Jerusalem on the Illegal Seizure of the Little Petra Hotel

April 1, 2022

"Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: May they prosper who love you, Peace be within your walls, and security within your towers." (Psalm 122:6-7)

The seizure of the Little Petra Hotel by the radical extremist group Al-Bath Al-Islami is a threat to the continued existence of a Christian Quarter in Jerusalem, and ultimately to peaceful coexistence of the communities of this city. The Heads of Churches have repeatedly warned of the illegitimate actions of extremists, who have followed a pattern of intimidation and violence.

In occupying the Greek Orthodox Church's property, the Little Petra Hotel, Al-Bath Al-Islami has committed criminal acts of break-in and trespass. They act as if they are above the law, with no fear of consequences.

This issue is not about the individual properties, but about the whole character of Jerusalem, including the Christian Quarter. The Little Petra Hotel stands on the pilgrim route for the millions of Christians who visit Jerusalem each year. It represents Christian heritage, and speaks of our very presence in this place.

Such radical extremist groups like Al-Bath Al-Islami are already targeting and hijacking our beloved Old City of Jerusalem and imposing their illegitimate and dangerous agenda on all sides. We believe this and we say: this will lead to instability and tension at the very moment all are trying to demilitarize and build trust, to build towards justice and peace. Acts of coercion and violence cannot lead to peace.

— The Patriarchs and Heads of Local Churches in Jerusalem