



Patriarchate of



The Old Catholic Church

PATRIARCHAL MESSAGE OF ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS 2025

**In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, the Triune God,
uncreated Light and true Life. Amen.**

Beloved children in Christ,

In this sacred season of Advent, the Holy Church fixes her gaze anew on the mystery that is the foundation of all hope: the eternal God who bends down to humanity and becomes a Child; the beginningless Word that clothes our flesh to dwell among us (Jn 1:14). In the manger begins the restoration of all creation and the revelation of love that knows no borders.

Advent is the silent threshold of mystery. It is the season of vigilance, where the soul learns to wait without despair, to trust without seeing, to receive without possessing. It is the time of humble preparation, where the Church, as an attentive mother, cleanses her heart, tidies her house and lights the lamp that announces: the Light is coming, Emmanuel is coming, and God has not forgotten His people.

"The people who walked in darkness saw a great light." (Is 9:2)



That light is not an idea, nor a symbol, nor a memory: it is Christ, the incarnate God; God made Child to elevate man; God made brother to walk with us; God made hope so that no one is lost.

May this Advent and this Christmas be for all our families a conscious and humble return to the manger, that throne of poverty where the Most High wanted to be born, that silent altar where human weakness became a divine embrace, that sacred place where our faith is always reborn.

There we discover that true greatness is hidden in smallness, that true strength is clothed in tenderness, and that the true Kingdom begins in the silence of a cave.

Let us ask that the Holy Spirit prepare in each one of us a vigilant heart, open to God's surprise; a humble spirit, which does not glory in itself but in the Lord; a firm faith, capable of recognizing the visit of the Messiah who comes not only to save us, but to transform us.

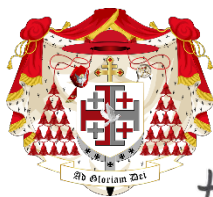
May the grace of the incarnate God descend upon our bishops, priests, and deacons; on their wives and children, and on all the faithful who pilgrimage with us in this Holy Old Catholic Church.

May this holy season find us united, strengthened, comforted, and ablaze with hope, for, as Scripture says, *"He who is to come will come, and will not tarry."* (Heb 10:37)

With all the Church of East and West we proclaim, "Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His people on earth!" (Lk 2:14)

And with the saints, the angels, and the righteous of all times we beseech, *"Come, Lord Jesus; come and renew the world."* (Rev 22:20)

With my patriarchal blessing in this holy season of Advent and Christmas:



+++ Mar Andrew Mathew I
Patriarcha