



بَطْرِيَركِيَّة أنطاكيَّة وَسَائِر المَشْرِق لِلرُّوم الأرثوذكس
Patriarcat Grec-Orthodoxe d'Antioche et de tout l'Orient

No: 43/2020

**Rev. Archimandrite Melchizedek,
Abbot of the Holy Monastery of Putna, together with Your fraternity,**

Christ is Risen,

Peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with You and the Romania believers, and the Joy of Resurrection may fill Your hearts with strength and patience.

Our Church is passing through difficult circumstances, while we are facing serious challenges regarding the new epidemic, which is spreading worldwide, forcing us to take crucial decisions without giving up our faith that we inherited from our Holy fathers and Holy Church. And we have been informed that this epidemic infected Your fraternity, and you personally, and we are glad to hear that you are back home healthy and safe.

With great sorrow we received the news of the falling asleep in the Lord of our beloved brother in Christ, His Eminence Pimen, Archbishop of Suceava and Rădăuți, caused by the new epidemic. May He rest in peace and may His memory be eternal with the righteous and saints.

We ask God, Almighty, to shorten these days so we can restore the spirit of peace, and to give us wisdom facing the strong winds that beset our Church, so we pass together with our believers to safety guided by the Light of the Resurrection of Our Savior Jesus Christ.

Damascus, 22 May 2020.

✠ JOHN X

Patriarch of Antioch and all the East