



Metropolitan Archbishop of Izmir

Dear brothers and sisters,

We find ourselves once again experiencing the joy of Easter, a light that ignites and makes shine in us the hope that our life, like all creation, has profound meaning; for God created us for eternal life. Christ's victory over death confirms this truth for us; therefore, the Resurrection is the center and foundation of our hope, the essential event of our life and faith.

Through Baptism we have been placed in the womb of the Church to be reborn to eternal life. May I wish us all a strong faith and deep conviction, to firmly believe that our earthly life is the womb of eternal life, just as Jesus' tomb was the womb of the Resurrection.

May the experience of the Risen One comfort us, make us steadfast in the hope of living forever and unwavering in fidelity to the proclamation of the good news. May his word of Jesus make us strong: "I am with you always, until the end of the world" (Mt 18:20).

Let us confirm one another in this certainty: Christ is risen, he is truly risen!  
Blessed Easter!

Izmir April 8, 2023

*+ Martin Kmetec*

+ Martin Kmetec OFMconv  
Archbishop of Izmir