



Metropolitan Archbishop of Izmir

Izmir July 13, 2024

**INVITATION TO THE FAITHFUL FOR THE FEAST
OF THE ASSUMPTION OF THE VIRGIN MARY MOTHER OF GOD**

Dear brothers and sisters,
dear priests, religious and consecrated women;

I hope this message finds you well, in the joy of life and in hope; which is always inspired by the Assumption of the Virgin Mary, Mother of God, our mother, mother of humanity. By now we are approaching the Feast of the Assumption.

This Marian solemnity will be celebrated at the Shrine of Meryem Ana, the place where each of us can find her being Mother. To honor the Virgin Mary and ask for her intercession, the following events will take place at the Shrine:

- **Aug. 14, Wednesday: Vigil of the Assumption**

+ 6:00 p.m.: *The recitation of the Holy Rosary* (broadcast online) will take place at the National Shrine, The House of Virgin Mary, which will be followed by the celebration of the evening Mass on the eve.

- **Aug. 15, Thursday: Solemnity of the Assumption**

+ 10:00 a.m.: *Blessing of bread and first fruits.*

+ 10:30 a.m.: **Solemn concelebration of the Eucharist** presided over by **Mgr Éric de Moulins-Beaufort**, archbishop of Reims, president of the Conference of French Bishops.

+ 6:00 p.m.: *Recitation of the Holy Rosary*, broadcast online.

I invite all the faithful, to contact your priests and parish priests, regarding transportation.

Invoking the protection and intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary on each of you, I greet you with my heartfelt greetings.

+ *Mart Kmetec*

+ Martin Kmetec OFMConv
Archbishop of Izmir