

A pandemic of good

A pandemic of good

A year of pandemic has passed. A year in which sickness and repose in the Lord increased day by day. But, as it sprang from the Cross and from the martyrs' blood, the Church flourishes with every tribulation that seems to tear it down.

In parallel with the breaking news about the pandemic in the media, Basilica.ro reported daily the spread of the pandemic of good in the Romanian Orthodox Church, in its units worldwide. At the beginning of March 2020, people from Italy were already quarantined in monasteries. Waves of Church collections for medical equipment followed, support for isolated persons, days of prayer in remote communion, and processions with saints' relics on the deserted streets.

Illness, isolation, and restrictions brought much suffering to the Church. But the fear, denial, and revolt of Christians with deep roots in their faith have gradually turned into community-level responsibility.

Not coincidentally, the state of national emergency coincided with the Lenten period. Lacking the sacred things, we valued them more, isolated from our loved ones, we became more loving, we had time to reflect, a thing we neglected many times when we went to our spiritual father. Anyone who looks earnestly sees that the pandemic has been an engine of the spiritual life. It has generated an experience thousands of times more important than the 38 million euros that the Romanian Church, through its people, has invested in the good of society.

The tragedy is that as the disease decreases and we return to "normality", so quickly, the pandemic of good disappears with everything we learned last year.

"It is good for spirituality to be embodied, to materialize in deeds of merciful love for people in society who need support, not only morally, but also materially."

"Of course, on the other hand, there is a great risk, as seen in the West: when the Church deals only with the social and is reduced to a philanthropic, charitable agency, it forgets its spiritual, liturgical, sacramental vocation."

- Patriarch Daniel of Romania

"The name of Christ, the Divine Liturgy, the Eucharist, the hymnography and the iconography came out of the sacred space of the churches and entered where the enemy of God least expected, in the virtual space, on the Internet, where the Church of Christ received the most blows and injuries. The enemy would not have expected that."

- Bishop Justin of Maramures



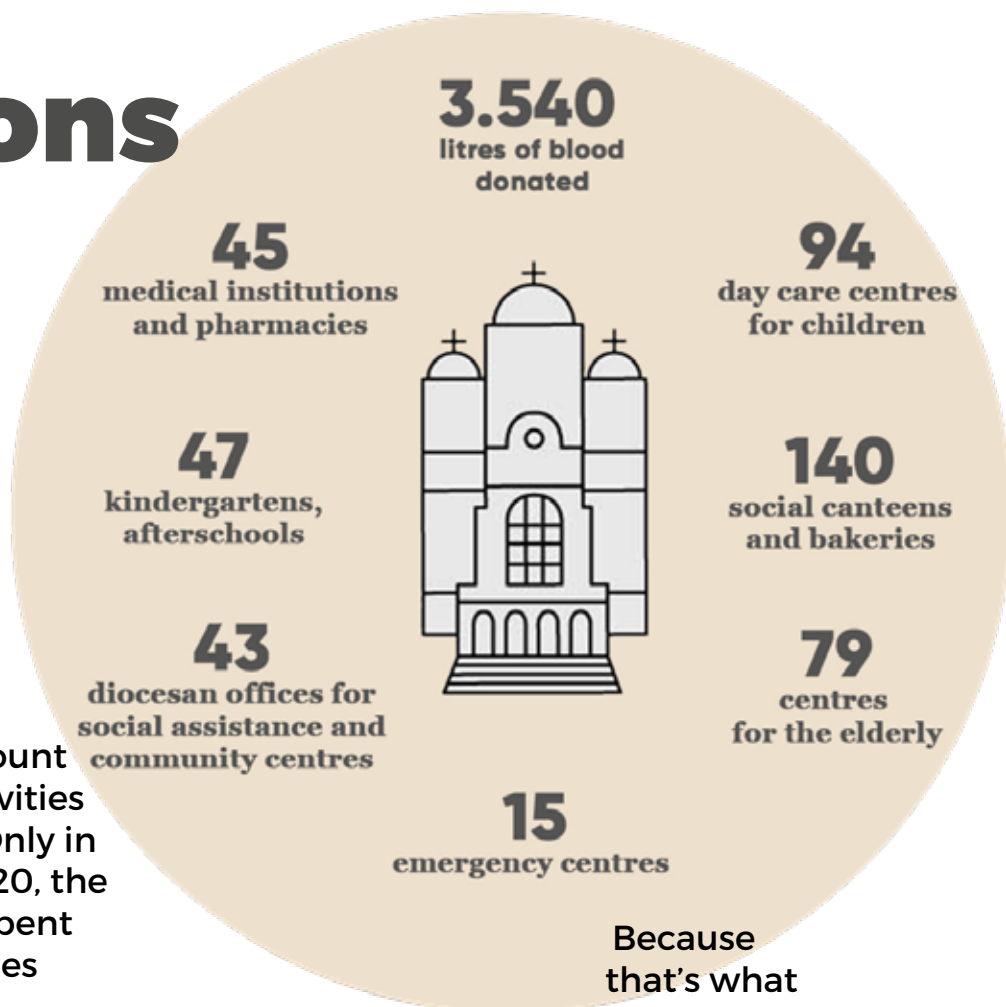
3 questions

How much **good** is the Church doing?

The Romanian Orthodox Church did not aim to become the greatest philanthropist. This happened because it observed its responsibility and tradition of doing **good**. EUR 250 million was the amount invested in philanthropic activities reported from 2007 to date. Only in the year of the pandemic - 2020, the Romanian Orthodox Church spent 185,599,815 lei on social activities (= 38,074,881.02 euros - NBR exchange rate on 22.02.2021). These figures include the expenditure on numerous charitable activities of parishes and monasteries for the sick, the elderly, children and the poor, which were not financially quantified and, as such, not systematically reported to diocesan centres.

Why does the Church say what it does?

To provide models. To show examples of good practice and their fruit in society. Thus it incentivises all to do good. It completes the media landscape, where the good is often ignored: philanthropic initiatives, good deeds, Christian gestures rarely become news. The Church does not boast about itself. It appreciates and makes known the **good** deeds of its members. We all are the Church.



Why is the Church doing **good** ?

Because that's what it teaches: To follow the One Who is Good. "If a beautiful sermon is not accompanied by a philanthropic or cultural or artistic-church action, it is not credible or incomplete," says Patriarch Daniel. The Church has mobilised considerable efforts in building and renovating places of worship, in religious books, in theological schools, formation, education and catechesis. All this is visible, but the spiritual life, unseen, unquantifiable, is the engine that sets in motion and constantly maintains all these initiatives for the glory of God and the profit of others.

2020 analysis:

Excerpt from the report presented on Wednesday, February 24, 2021, at the National Church Assembly's annual meeting. The report presents a synthesis of the activities of the Romanian Orthodox Church in 2020. The figures show that in the year of the pandemic, the amount invested by the Church in philanthropy increased by **17.6%** (5.7 million euros) compared to 2019.

At the level of dioceses and NGOs of the Romanian Patriarchate, 16,721 people were involved. The activities took place in 804 social institutions and services.

Considering the continuous diversification of the offered services, as well as the extension and accreditation of the centres, an integrated reorganization of the activities on competence criteria was started. In this sense, the report approved by the National Church Assembly presents the diagram of social-philanthropic settlements as follows:

- **140 social canteens and bakeries**
- **45 institutions providing medical services and pharmacies**
- **94 day centres for children**
- **29 day centres for the elderly**
- **50 elderly residential centres**
- **43 social assistance offices and community centres**
- **55 family-type centres**
- **47 social kindergartens and afterschool**
- **11 sheltered housing**
- **84 information, counselling and resource centres**
- **3 adult education institutions**
- **15 emergency centres (for homeless people, for victims of domestic violence, for victims of human trafficking)**
- **18 camp locations**
- **41 educational centres**
- **another 129 institutions/services with different specifics.**

Within the Romanian Patriarchate's dioceses, there are 492 social projects and programs in progress: 39 with external financing, 46 with public funding, 359 financed from own funds and 48 with mixed funding.

In the establishments of the Romanian Orthodox Church, 137,679 beneficiaries received assistance, as follows: 50,529 children from the social establishments of the Church, but especially from poor and maintenance-free families, or with parents working in other countries; 8,115 people with disabilities, speech, vision and hearing impairments, drug users or different types of addictions, people infected with HIV / AIDS; 53,170 older people from church social protection establishments, from social centres of transit and night shelters, elderly alone, immovable, abandoned by their families and who presented severe health problems; 25,676 unemployed, adults in difficulty, victims of human trafficking, victims of domestic violence, released detainees, victims of natural disasters.

501 priests provide religious assistance in military units, prisons, hospitals and social protection establishments: 18 in units of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, 81 in military units, 29 in the penitentiary system and 373 in hospitals, social protection establishments, educational units etc. In these units (military, prisons, hospitals and social protection establishments), there are currently 423 churches and consecrated chapels, and another 75 are in various stages of construction.

In the context of the pandemic

In the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Romanian Patriarchate and with the Filantropia Federation developed an online platform www.ajutacubucurie.ro and opened a national hotline (Green line), to support people in need, but also those who wanted to help as volunteers at a national level, during this period.

Through the online platform and the Green line, during the state of national emergency, over 600 vulnerable people and over 120 isolated people affected by the new coronavirus were supported with material aid, facilitating the involvement of approximately 600 volunteers nationwide.

Since the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Volunteers of the Chapel of the Romanian People's Salvation Cathedral have carried out 2 social-philanthropic programs: "Get involved! Together we succeed more! ", Extension of the "Caravan of Joy" campaign, to prevent social exclusion, and the "Help for students" program, destined to reduce school dropout.

During the state of national emergency and alert, the volunteers of the Chapel of Romanian People's Salvation Cathedral travelled to 147 villages in 22 counties of Romania, helping 4,531 families and distributing 4,531 packages in the amount of 73,578 Euro (362,480 lei), containing food strictly necessary, hygiene products, clothing items, footwear, appliances, disinfectants, sanitary masks, as well as prayer books. The beneficiaries were vulnerable people, people with disabilities, lonely seniors and low-income families with many children, and families affected by severe floods (June 2020). In 11 counties, the activity was carried out in collaboration with the Romanian Gendarmerie.

Between March and December 2020, the

National Cathedral's Chapel volunteers distributed logistical support (medical equipment, medical furniture, hygiene products and food products) to several hospitals, including Matei Balș, Marius Nasta, Victor Babeș, Grigore Alexandrescu, Elias and the Emergency Hospital from Bucharest. At the same time, Bucharest Oncological Institute, Fundeni Clinical Institute and Urlați City Hospital received medical equipment from the National Cathedral's Chapel volunteers.

Within the Medical Caravan "Health for the villages", in 2020, due to the pandemic's sanitary restrictions, the volunteers of the Chapel of the Romanian People's Salvation Cathedral made only two trips, with 550 beneficiaries.

The collaboration with the Oncological Institute Prof. Dr. Alexandru Trestioreanu in Bucharest, within the "Campaign for the prevention and diagnosis of cervical cancer", was reduced, carrying out a single action, with 51 beneficiaries.

The campaign "Donate blood! Save a life!" continued in 2020, with 8,086 donors registering 3,540.52 litres of blood.

The value of the goods donated in 2020, through the "Meal of Joy" Program, is 632,895 euros. The "Meal of Joy" program, which takes place nationwide in partnership with Selgros Cash & Carry and Carrefour Romania SA, consists of the weekly donation of food and hygiene goods for social centres. Through the Romanian Orthodox Church's philanthropic programs, direct financial aids amounting to 16,951,162 lei and material aids amounting to 61,566,427 lei were granted.

To support the entire activity of social and philanthropic assistance and support the victims, in 2020, the Romanian Patriarchate invested 185,599,815 lei (= 38,074,881.02 euros, NBR exchange rate on 22.02.2021).





A year of philanthropy in a pandemic, ten years since I have nourished my soul by helping people

‘I am an ordinary man who comes from a large family. We are five brothers who had a beautiful childhood, spent mostly with our grandparents. And I, in turn, have a large family. I have five children, and I give glory to God for everything He has given me in this life,’ says Dănuț-Viorel Prună, the volunteer coordinator at National Cathedral’s Chapel.

‘From a professional perspective, I am an officer in the Air Force Staff at the Ministry of National Defense. At one point, I went through a difficult life trial. This made me ask for the help of the Church,’ told the volunteer to Basilica.ro.

I met Father Ciprian Grădinaru, he became my spiritual father, and from that moment, my life changed, says Dănuț Viorel Prună.

‘From a person who needed help, I became a person who helps people. This is how ten years have passed since I have nourished my soul by helping people in difficulty. All this time, I felt that as I helped people, I, in turn, received more gifts from God.’

Basilica.ro: It has been a year since the pandemic broke out in Romania. How did you feel in those moments, and how did you think you could help?

Dănuț Prună: It was not very difficult to mobilize when the pandemic broke out

because, at the National Cathedral’s Chapel, a community of people dedicated to helping each other was formed, pastored by Achim. Ciprian Grădinaru.

However, it was a very difficult year due to the authorities’ restrictions and because not much was known about this virus. I can’t say we weren’t afraid. We had families at home, and we exposed them to this risk. In the end, we still got this virus, but with God’s help, we all overcame it well.

All I can tell you is that nothing wrong can happen to you when you have God in your soul. I have always felt God’s help throughout this time.

When the pandemic started, we had to stop all the campaigns that were going on to reschedule all the activities. We mobilized to collect donations and help those most affected by the pandemic. We focused on that part of the most affected population, namely the sick,

the elderly, and families with many children.

‘People were scared. They did not know anything about this virus, they did not know what would happen next, what awaited, and the hardest thing for them was the separation from the Church.’

For many, the Church and meeting God also represent meeting and communicating with other fellow villagers.

‘Priests from all the communities we visited were the only ones who knew the situation of vulnerable people, who provided them with the necessary medicines or daily food. I was delighted to notice that the Church has a very well developed infrastructure. This matters a lot in the event of any unforeseen situation.’

‘In one of the localities, I met an older woman who, although she had 16 children, had been brought and forgotten by them in a locality where she did not know anyone. Another older woman only helped this woman.’

Another situation that impressed me a lot is related to a locality in Constanța.

‘To get there, we walked for miles on a dirt road in the field. Once there, I saw a lonely image—a village with many abandoned houses, where only a few dozen families lived. I asked a local if they had a doctor’s office, and I was told they didn’t even have a store. He was the only one in the village who had a car. In the morning, he went to every house, made a list of what to buy and drove tens of kilometres to the first supermarket.’

‘Another thing that impressed me a lot is how the children of a rural school learned when schools were closed. They had no signal on

the phone, no internet, no online education. The teacher brought the homework to the village store, from there they were taken by the children, the children did their homework, and brought them back to the store.’

‘Since February last year, more than 5,000 families have been supported through the campaign titled “Get Involved! Together we succeed more!”

In the 227 social-philanthropic actions carried out in 187 localities, the National Cathedral’s Chapel volunteers offered material aids worth approximately 450,000 RON.’

Volunteers, be consistent!

‘It is essential that all those who help are consistent and to have continuity’, urges Dănuț Prună those interested in volunteering.

People in difficulty need constant, ongoing support. We don’t have to wait for a particular holiday or a specific time of year to help them’, told the volunteer.

‘On the other hand, volunteering helps anyone of any age, from children to the elderly. It is educational and also influences the well-being of man.’

‘I confess that I have been several times with my 4-year-old son in volunteer campaigns, and he is eager to continue. He liked it very much.’

‘And my 66-year-old father sometimes accompanies me and is happy because he feels useful and returns home happy and joyful in the evening.’



For fasting. . .

from Saint John Cassian

1. The Church doesn't tell you how much to eat

Holy Fathers have not given us only a single rule for fasting or a single standard and measure for eating, because not everyone has the same strength; age, illness or delicacy of body create differences. But they have given us all a single goal: to avoid over-eating and the filling of our bellies.

2. Balance in fasting

Someone who fasts for too long, they say, often ends up by eating too much food. The result is that at times the body becomes enervated through undue lack of food and sluggish over its spiritual exercises, while at other times, weighed down by the mass of food it has eaten, it makes the soul listless and slack. They also found that the eating of greens or pulse did not agree with everyone, and that not everyone could live on dry bread. One man, they said, could eat two pounds of dry bread and still be hungry, while another might eat a pound, or only six ounces, and be satisfied.

3. Any excess inebriates the mind

Whatever the kind of food with which it is filled, the belly engenders the seed of profligacy. It is not only too much wine that besots our mind: too much water or too much of anything makes it drowsy and stupefied. The Sodomites were destroyed not because of too much wine or too much of other foods, but because of a surfeit of bread, as the Prophet tells us. Bodily illness is not an obstacle to purity of heart, provided we give the body what its illness requires, not what gratifies our desire for pleasure. Food is to be taken in so far as it supports our life, but not to the extent of enslaving us to the impulses of desire.

4. Fasting is healthy

To eat moderately and reasonably is to keep the body in health, not to deprive it of holiness. A clear rule for self-control handed down by the Fathers is this: stop eating while still hungry and do not continue until you are satisfied. When the Apostle said, 'Make no provision to fulfill the desires of the flesh' (Romans 13:14), he was not forbidding us to provide for the needs of life: he was warning us against self-indulgence.



from Elder Cleopas Ilie

1. We must have a son's heart to God, a judge's reason to ourselves and a mother's heart to our neighbour.

2. All good deeds must be performed sparingly and with righteous judgement.

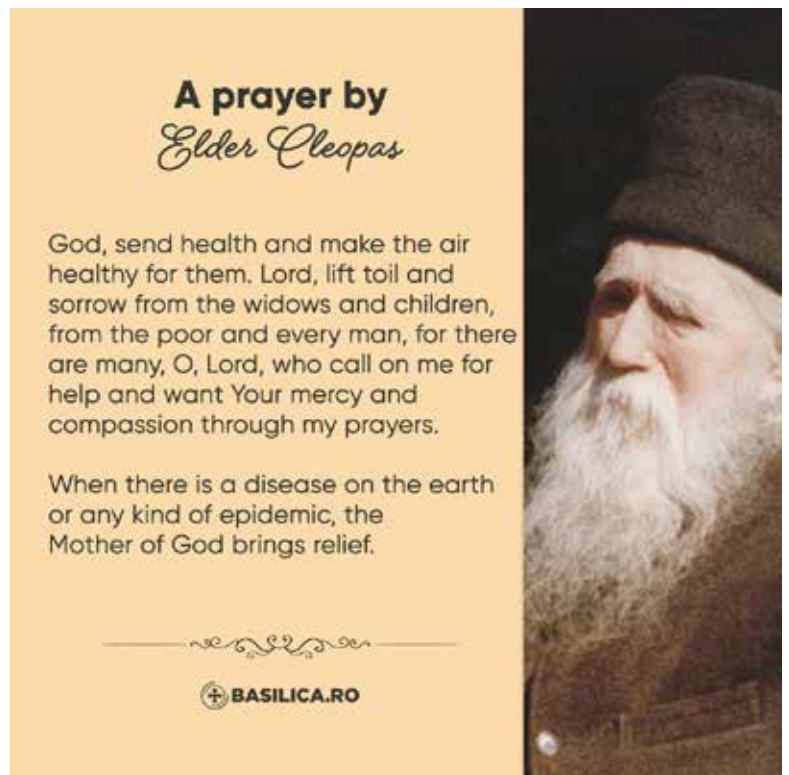
3. Because every moment we make mistakes, we need vigilance, to guard our mind, prayer and humility before God.

4. When praying you must have a contrite and humble heart, a saddened heart for your sins and humbleness.

5. During prayer, you should imagine nothing.

6. He who thanks God in sickness is a volunteer martyr.


7. Give no advice to anyone until you experience it yourself.




A prayer by
Elder Cleopas

God, send health and make the air healthy for them. Lord, lift toil and sorrow from the widows and children, from the poor and every man, for there are many, O, Lord, who call on me for help and want Your mercy and compassion through my prayers.

When there is a disease on the earth or any kind of epidemic, the Mother of God brings relief.

 **BASILICA.RO**



”

Three things are needed for salvation.
First: patience;
second: patience;
third: patience.
Elder Cleopas Ilie

 **BASILICA.RO**



Game

Raster: **“Great Lent is also a _____”** - Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew in his catechetical message at the beginning of Lent.

1.)										
2.)										
3.)										
4.)										
5.)										
6.)										
7.)										
8.)										
9.)										

Horizontally:

- 1.) The Mount where Jesus was tempted by the devil (Northwest from Jericho).
- 2.) Saint celebrated on the first day of Great Lent in 2021.
- 3.) The 9th month of the Islamic calendar, observed by Muslims as a month of fasting.
- 4.) The act of not doing something, especially something that gives you pleasure.
- 5.) Ancient Greek city in NW Anatolia where 2 of the 7 Ecumenical Councils took place.
- 6.) The liturgical period from the Sunday of the Publican and Pharisee to the Holy Saturday.
- 7.) The current name of the Ancient Greek city where 2 of the 7 ecumenical synods took place (in Turkey).
- 8.) The main part of an Orthodox church.
- 9.) Icon bearing an image of the dead body of Christ used during the liturgical services of Good Friday and Holy Saturday in the Eastern Orthodox Churches.

Shall we write “The Good to Know” together?

Are you a fan of “The Good to Know”? Do you resonate with what we write? This free space can belong to you. Let’s build together “The Good to Know” because it is ours, it belongs to everyone. If you have a text, information, a story or any creation that you think is suitable for our magazine, please feel free to share it with us via email: info@basilica.ro.

2 new names in the Holy Synod



"I receive this new ministry intending to renew my monastic vows through obedience made with confidence, joy and goodwill, using the experience I have gained through my service so far to the good governance of the spiritual harvest."

His Grace Nestor is the first Assistant Bishop of the youngest eparchy in Romania, the Diocese of Deva and Hunedoara.

He is from Craiova, 37 years old, and comes to this service from the position of diocesan administrative vicar.

He attended doctoral courses at the Faculty of Orthodox Theology in Alba Iulia. He obtained a scholarship in Padua-Italy in order to write his doctoral thesis. He obtained his doctorate in 2015.

"I ask God to give me wisdom, humility and obedience so that I can be worthy to work with His Grace in the field of the Church, for the glory of the Most Holy Trinity and the benefit of the faithful of Hunedoara."

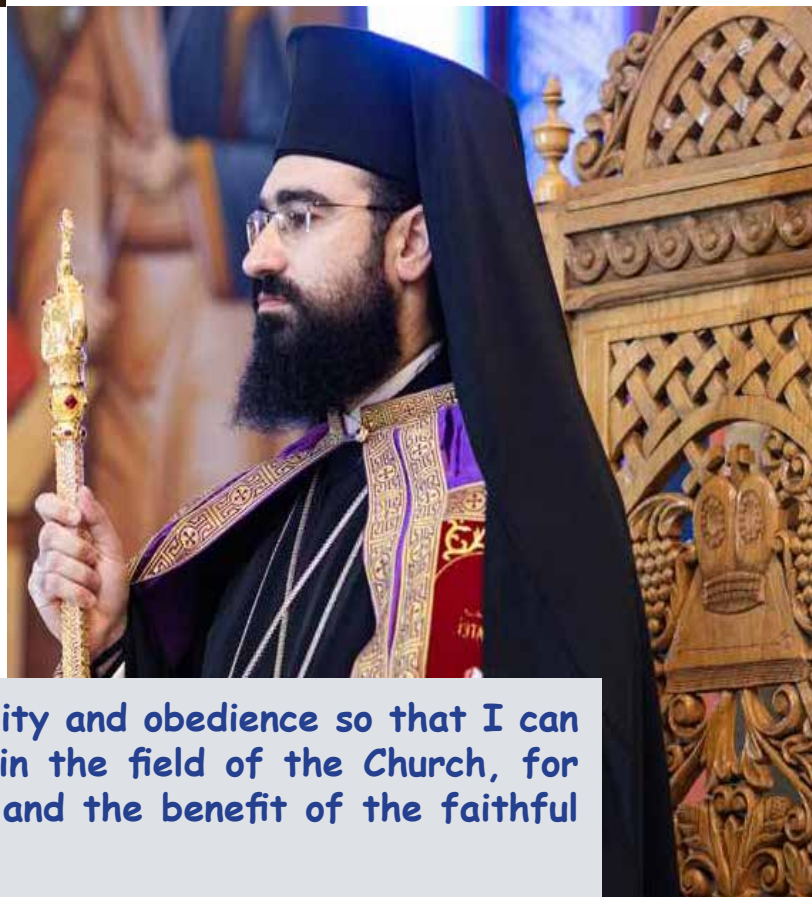
Assistant Bishops Nichifor of Botoșani and Nestor of Hunedoara are the newest members of the Holy Sinod of the Romanian Orthodox Church.

His Grace Nichifor, is the new Assistant Bishop to the Archdiocese of Iasi.

He is 53 years old and was born in Brăila. He was elected bishop from the position of abbot of the "Holy Three Hierarchs" Monastery from Iași and administrative Exarch of the monasteries from the Archdiocese.

He is a graduate of the Faculties of Mechanics, specializing in Thermal Machines, as well as Pastoral Theology.

He also has other courses and studies such as the training of museographers and guides in church museums. He speaks French and Russian.





What writer Paul Kingsnorth found in Orthodoxy

He first met with Orthodoxy in a little church in Bucharest. The experience stayed with him and worked inside him for four years, until it bought him into the Romanian Orthodox Church. One of the most important living English writers reveals what he found in Orthodoxy.

Basilica.ro asked recently-converted Paul Kingsnorth a few questions about the journey which led him through various faith and spiritual practice communities until he reached “home”, according to his very words: in the Orthodox Church.

Basilica.ro: *Do you remember what church in Bucharest was where you first met Orthodoxy? How did you feel when you stepped inside?*

Paul Kingsnorth: I was working in the Carpathians in 2017, and I stayed in Bucharest for a couple of nights. There was a small, very old church in the centre of the city.

I can't be sure which one it was, but I stepped inside and I remember very clearly the atmosphere, the holy relics, and the deep sense of the age and depth of what was going on in there. I wasn't a Christian at the time.

I bought a small icon, not even knowing who it was. I later discovered it was St Ephraim the New Martyr – a saint who has turned out to be important to some of my Romanian friends here in Ireland.

Basilica.ro: *Did you have the chance to explore Romania? How did you find it?*

Paul Kingsnorth: I spent some time in the villages of Carpathia and I loved the people and the places. It is a stunningly beautiful country with a sense of deep culture to it and a fascinating history. I would love to go back.

Basilica.ro: *Why do you think your spiritual answers could be found neither in Oriental religions, nor in neopaganism?*

Paul Kingsnorth: In the West we are very lost. We have spent centuries concentrating only on material aspects of life, and even in this aspect of our culture we still have deep inequalities and divisions.

But at the same time we have walked away from Christianity, and any serious engagement with the spiritual aspects of life.

Young people in particular can feel the emptiness of the culture but do not know where to go for answers.

“Buddhism is a powerful practice, but it is lacking something: God”

The Western churches have accommodated themselves to the culture so much that they seem to have no real alternative to offer.

In my own search, I practiced Zen Buddhism for five years: it's a powerful practice and I found it helpful, but it is lacking something: God.

After that I explored various neopagan avenues, wanting to connect my love of nature with a desire for worship. But they are new and unformed and don't contain any serious path to truth. In the end, to my own surprise, I found that Orthodoxy contained the old truths I was looking for.

Basilica.ro: *Why did you choose to live in Ireland?*

Paul Kingsnorth: We moved here to escape the rat race: to live in the country, farm some land and homeschool our children according to our own values. We have never looked back.

Basilica.ro: *Tell us please a few things about your family. How important is family today and why?*

Paul Kingsnorth: Family is the bedrock of culture, all over the world. A society can't thrive, or even exist I would say, without strong families.

My wife is British, like me, but her parents are Indian: they moved to Britain from Punjab in the 1960s. Family is still very important in India in a way it no longer is in modern Britain, so I have learned a lot from them.

We have two children, a son and a daughter aged 10 and 13, who we school at home. It's a rich life and I am thankful daily.

Basilica.ro: *What are children? What do they teach you?*

Paul Kingsnorth: I learn from my children every day. My ten year old son is a whirl of joy and energy, and he reminds me sometimes to take life more lightly. My daughter is very smart and grounded, much more than I was at her age. They remind me daily of the mystery of life, and of the need to try and parent with more forgiveness and ease.

Basilica.ro: *How does your family feel about your conversion to Orthodoxy? Are they interested in this spiritual path?*

Paul Kingsnorth: My daughter has said she is Christian for some time, though she is not (yet) a member of the church. My wife is actually a Sikh – her family tradition.

But while our faiths may differ, the fundamental worldview we have, of the importance of faith and family, are the same – and the teachings of Sikhism are strikingly similar in many ways to the teachings of Christ. We learn a lot from each other.

Basilica.ro: *How do you feel during your first Great Lent as a member of the Church?*

Paul Kingsnorth: This first Great Lent feels like a chance to immerse myself properly in the rhythm of the church, though with the lockdown still in force here I can't get to the services, officially, which obviously is not ideal. Still, the rhythm of fasting and prayer rules and reading is something which is taking me deeper into the life of the church, and into myself.



The Basilica News Agency redesigned its website and logo in 2016. On March 26, the current logo was launched. Since June 16, 2008, Basilica.ro has been operating as the only news agency of an autocephalous Orthodox Church.

BASILICA.RO, 5 years with the current visual identity

5 years with “The Good to Know”

In the rebranding process in 2016, the agency’s motto appeared, which is also our online magazine title. The initial motto “Good news shared with all” was summarized as “The Good to Know.” It focuses on the purpose of our institution’s existence and specific functions.

The Basilica News Agency’s online magazine was first published at the end of 2017 and was entitled “Basilica Monthly Review”. Since 2019, the review was rethought as an easier-to-read screen-friendly magazine. This project came from the desire to take a break from the daily news flow to summarize and analyze the most important topics of the last month. It is published in Romanian and English as “The Good to Know” Online Magazine.

The news in brief: **TOP 10** on basilica.ro

1.



CULTURAL

Egypt: Team led by Romanian archaeologist discover world's oldest known monastery

Published by Ștefana Totorcea © 17.03.2021

A Franco-Norwegian team led by Romanian archaeologist Victor Ghica discovered the oldest archaeologically attested monastic site in the world. The site is 370 kilometers south-west of Cairo, Egypt, and it dates back to the 4th...

2.



SPIRITUALITY

Watch: Trailer for Man of God film on St. Nektarios released (video)

Published by Aurelian Iftimiu © 11.03.2021

The official trailer for the long-awaited film Man of God, about St. Nektarios of Aegina, was released March 9. Watch the trailer below: Production company Simeon Entertainment describes the film: "Exiled unjustly, convicted without a...

3.



INTERVIEW

What writer Paul Kingsnorth found in Orthodoxy. "Buddhism is a powerful practice, but it is lacking something: God"

Published by Ștefana Totorcea © 25.03.2021

He first met with Orthodoxy in a little church in Bucharest. The experience stayed with him and worked inside him for four years, until it bought him into the Romanian

4.



DIASPORA

Man sanctifies the place: How Romanians transformed a warehouse into a church in Italy

Published by Aurelian Iftimiu © 16.02.2021

An Orthodox service was served for the first time in the Romanian Church in Montichiari, Italy, on Tuesday evening, February 9. Dean Rev. Gelu Porumb, the parish priest Gabriel Pandrea and several other clerics officiated...

5.



CULTURAL

Yelena Popovic, director of the film about St. Nektarios: An Orthodox Christian can offer a lot to the world

Published by Ștefana Totorcea © 09.11.2020

Yelena Popovic, writer and director of "Man of God", the film about St. Nektarios's life, offered Basilica News Agency an exclusive interview in which she speaks of the value of

6.



DIOCESES

Baby dies after baptism in Suceava. Archdiocese: "There is no word or deed to wipe away tears"

Published by Aurelian Iftimiu © 01.02.2021

"There is no word or deed to wipe away the tears and now soothe the broken hearts of parents and relatives, but we are with them at this particularly difficult time," the Archdiocese of Suceava...

7.



DIASPORA

Download this free Orthodox colouring book for children!

Published by Aurelian Iftimiu © 09.12.2020

A new Orthodox colouring book for children is now available for free download. The ebook, available in PDF format, was published by the Romanian Orthodox Diocese of Northern Europe with the blessing of His Grace...

8.



DIASPORA

Job, driver's license and an understanding wife, these are the criteria for clergy in the diaspora, Metropolitan Iosif says

Published by Aurelian Iftimiu © 24.03.2021

The challenges faced by Romanian clerics abroad and the specifics of the diaspora's mission were highlighted by Metropolitan Iosif of Western and Southern Europe in an

9.



DIASPORA

In the UK, priests work in IT, construction, engineering, deliveries, warehouses. Father Andrei works in deliveries

Published by Aurelian Iftimiu © 05.03.2021

Father Andrei Dosofoi, who is a priest in Scotland for Romanians in Aberdeen, Dundee, Inverness and surrounding areas, spoke about the clergy's situation in British society at Romania's National Television. "The first experience with the...

10.



DIASPORA

Romanian Physicist and Priest Iosif Bena: Conspiracies make us lazy and proud. Christians take responsibility

Published by Aurelian Iftimiu © 17.02.2021

A Romanian priest from Paris, who is also an elite physicist, spoke in an interview with Press One about conspiracy. because. "when I see someone say something stupid. I

New book explores continuity of dialogue between theology, philosophy and science in Romania

Basilica Publishing House of the Romanian Patriarchate included a valuable collection of studies written by Romanian scholars in English on the relationship between theology, philosophy and science.

The new book entitled “The Relationship between Theology, Philosophy, and Science: an Eastern Christian Perspective” includes articles signed by prof. Adrian Lemeni, Archdeacon Sorin Mihalache, Costea Munteanu, Dan Chițoiu, Fr. Petre Comșa, Fr. Răzvan Ionescu, Ștefan Afloarei, Ștefan Trăușan-Matu.

In the foreword, His Beatitude Patriarch Daniel stresses that the experience of the past fifteen years allows us to affirm the continuity of a dialogue between theology, philosophy, and science in Romania. This dialogue was actively supported and encouraged by the Romanian Orthodox Church.

“Faith is not grounded on ignorance or hostility towards scientific or philosophical inquiry, conducted by reason. It is a superior mode of knowledge expressing communion with the Truth-Creator of the universe and giver of eternal life, which transcends any demonstration.”

- Patriarch Daniel
of Romania

