

SAT-7 TÜRK BROADCASTS EASTER MESSAGE

On Good Friday, SAT-7 TÜRK broadcasted an Easter message of encouragement and call to unity to viewers in Turkey, from the Bishop of the Roman Catholic Church and Apostolic Vicar of Istanbul, Monseigneur Rubén Tierrablanca González.

“We recently received a wonderful request from Monseigneur Rubén, who kindly wanted to share his Easter message with us and our viewers,” says Melih Ekener, Executive Director of SAT-7 TÜRK. “His message is aimed at Christians from all denominations, and we are sure it was an inspiration to all who watch it.”

In his 15-minute message Bishop Rubén encouraged viewers by addressing the role of the Christian faith during this pandemic. “The problems we are experiencing, whatever they may be, will never be greater than our faith. We will never be alone, God never abandons us, the heavenly Father never abandons his children.” He also reminded viewers to love one-another. “Brotherly love is the testimony of God’s love in the world. We are the witness of the love that the heavenly father has given us in His son, Jesus Christ” he said.

This Easter, due to the coronavirus, churches in Turkey remained closed, abiding by government health regulations. Nevertheless, the churches have been looking for alternative means of remaining in contact with people over the past couple of weeks, including broadcasting via SAT-7 TÜRK.

There are many Christian denominations which vary in history, tradition, and culture, reflecting the complexity and diversity of humanity. This year, however, Christians across the globe celebrate Easter, Christ’s death and resurrection, in the same way – isolated in their homes. Broadcasting on Good Friday, Bishop Rubén’s message encouraged Christians from all backgrounds and denominations to accept, support and encourage one another.

Give thanks that SAT-7 gives MENA churches an opportunity to reach millions through satellite television during this ‘lock-down’ Easter. (17-19 April in the Eastern Orthodox Church)



Prayer † News



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Reverend Keyvan is a regular guest on SAT-7 PARS

MAKING HOPE VISIBLE

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POWERFUL RESPONSE TO PRAYER

A prayer shared live on SAT-7 PARS’ program *Signal* created a powerful dialogue between the channel and its viewers, when hundreds of messages poured in as a response.

“Let these diseases and microscopic organisms that can destroy our bodies be replaced by harmony and peace, mercy and healing in our bodies,” prayed Rev Keyvan in response to the pandemic that has impacted Iran worse than any other country in the Middle East and North Africa. The audience response to his five-minute prayer was one of overwhelming gratitude.

“We are grateful for the prayer you shared – truly these days we need prayer so that we can be strengthened. Really, what would we do if we didn’t have Jesus Christ?” shared one viewer named Lale.

“Thank you for your beautiful prayer,” shared Ramona, another SAT-7 PARS viewer. “Amen, the Lord is working – how I needed to hear this prayer. I am sorry I am unable to speak clearly, after hearing this prayer my tears won’t let me speak”.

“I am so grateful to you for your hard work – how I needed that prayer which brought me so much peace and blessing,” wrote Asal, another female viewer from Iran.

Currently, there are over 66,000 (9 April) cases of the coronavirus in Iran, many people are worried and afraid. However, despite all the difficulties, the messages sent in response to Rev Keyvan’s prayer are messages of hope.

“We are watching people who are in so much pain, anxiety and anger,” added Lale to her message of thanks. “My husband is a street vendor and currently has no work. We don’t even have any loose change. But we are living in faith and we have never been left in need, and we are praying for everyone else.”

“Oh Lord, there is this problematic coronavirus, but we can safely navigate it because we have You as our Lord,” prayed Shohreh a female viewer. “Heavenly Father open the gates of blessing for the people of the world, and especially those in Iran who need to experience kindness and compassion at this time”.

PTO



MEET OUR VIEWERS

Please pray for the following viewers while reading their messages:

FROM A VIEWER IN TURKEY

“I thought Christianity was a western religion, but through your channel I learned that Christians have been in Turkey since the time of the apostles. Help me know if it is alright to be Turkish and Christian.”

FROM A VIEWER IN TUNISIA

“My parents tried unsuccessfully to abort me before I was born, but now I know Jesus searched for me and found me. Thank Him for caring about me.”

FROM A VIEWER IN SYRIA

“I am eleven years old. I have watched your programs since I was a little child. I love you so much. Pray God will use you more and more for His glory.”

FROM A VIEWER IN SWITZERLAND

“I have been watching your teaching videos to help me grow in faith. I’m getting to know God’ word. Pray I’ll be a good child of my Heavenly Father.”

FROM A VIEWER IN AFGHANISTAN

“I have been working since I was eight but was never happy. I want to get away from hate and immorality. Pray I can know Christ through experience.”

POWERFUL RESPONSE TO PRAYER

With Easter fast approaching, during his prayer Rev Keyvan also brought viewers back to the message of the cross. “Lord help us keep Your word in our hearts. Let the cross of Christ be our example and we pray that we would pick up our cross during this time of Lent. May we draw closer to You every day and put aside our sins and worship You more”.

Although living in the United Kingdom, Rev Keyvan’s message to his fellow Iranians was made possible through the aid of satellite television. Knowing that there are Christians beyond Iran who remember them, pray for them and bring them before God’s presence, is a huge encouragement to Iranian Christians who have to keep their faith a secret in Iran. Through programs like *Signal*, Christians in Iran are reminded that they are part of a much bigger Christian community and that they are not alone.

- We thank you for your prayers and support for the work that the SAT-7 PARS team are continuing to do to bring hope to believers in Iran despite the challenges they face during this pandemic.
- Please pray for people in Iran, Afghanistan and Tajikistan, that as they remain in self-isolation in their homes, they will come across the SAT-7 PARS channel and be encouraged through the programs.

“

I know real peace in my life. I have the same life and I am the same person, but before I gave my heart and the Lord touched me, I was always anxious and knew no peace. But ever since I gave my heart to the Lord; my life is full of peace.

Beita from Iran



MEET OUR VIEWERS

Please pray for the following viewers while reading their messages:

FROM A SYRIAN REFUGEE IN IRAN

“A neighbour turned in my son to the police for being a Christian. My son is now in jail. Pray for me to be able to forgive my neighbour as Christ forgives me.”

FROM A VIEWER IN ALGERIA

“At 16 I was forced to marry a man. For 23 years I suffered with his beatings. Then he heard about Jesus and accepted Him as Lord. My husband is not that rough, bullying man now. He shared with me, and I accepted Christ. Pray I can experience Christ in my life.”

“I am a regular viewer of the programme *Keep on Singing*. Some time ago I sent a prayer request because I had difficulties at home. My prayer was that my household and I would serve the Lord. I would like to thank you for praying and testify that it has been a while since we had any problems; we now have peace and our lives and ways of handling problems have changed. Truly, thank you for your prayers and being there when we needed you.”

- Adam, Egyptian SAT-7 ARABIC viewer