



# Memo

**Date:** April 23, 2019  
**To:** Priests  
**From:** Paula Gwynn Grant, Director, Office of Communications  
**Re:** Archbishop Gregory's Statement on the Notre Dame Cathedral Fire

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On Monday, April 15, in response to the tragic fire at Notre Dame Cathedral, Archbishop Gregory released the following statement:

*“At the beginning of Holy Week, the people of Paris have been asked to embrace a very heavy cross with the fire at their beloved cathedral. Notre Dame is a treasure for the Catholic Church, for European history and culture, and for the world of art. We praise God that apparently there is no loss of life in this tragedy. Paris would not be Paris without Notre Dame.*

*This iconic church is a bookmark of history and a sacred place where Catholics have prayed for almost 9 centuries. The Church of the Archdiocese of Atlanta sends our French brothers and sisters our prayers and closeness in faith. May the Lord's Passion, Death, and Resurrection strengthen them as we celebrate these mysteries this week. May Mary, the Mother of God bless Paris and all those who hold this church as an icon of faith.” -- Archbishop Wilton D. Gregory*

We will keep you updated on this story in The Georgia Bulletin and via memos such as this. <https://georgiabulletin.org/news/2019/04/blaze-erupts-at-paris-iconic-notre-dame-cathedral-cause-unknown/>

Please keep the Paris and worldwide community in your prayers.