



**Coptic Orthodox Church UK  
Media and Communications Office**



**British Orthodox Church  
Secretariat**

**Joint announcement from  
the Coptic Orthodox Church in the United Kingdom  
and the British Orthodox Church of the British Isles**

The Coptic Orthodox Church (COC) has been present in Britain since the 1960s, and through its ministry became known to the British Orthodox Church of the British Isles (BOC). Subsequently, in 1994 the BOC approached the COC with a view to becoming part of the Coptic Orthodox Patriarchate of Alexandria, and upon acceptance and agreement of this new relationship, a protocol was signed in 1994, since when the BOC has been a full and effective part of the Patriarchate.

In the same spirit with which this union came into being at the request of the BOC in 1994, it is now agreed, again at its request, that the BOC will return to its pre-1994 status in fulfillment to what it sees as its current mission in the light of the developments and changing dynamics of the Middle East and Britain.

We will continue to pray for our communities, our clergy and our people, that they effectively live and fulfil their Christian witness in Britain, and serve their wider community at a time when that faithful Christian presence is critical.

**HE Metropolitan Seraphim  
of Glastonbury**

**HG Bishop Angaelos  
General Bishop  
Coptic Orthodox Church  
United Kingdom**