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Jerusalem: 'Holy Fire' lights up Jerusalem church for Easter

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JERUSALEM – The flame poured forth from the tomb, lighting up the cavernous church as fire passed from candle to candle held by thousands of Christian pilgrims convinced they were witnessing a miracle.

Orthodox Christians packed into Jerusalem's centuries-old Church of the Holy Sepulchre and spilled out into the surrounding cobblestone alleys in anticipation of the annual "Holy Fire" ceremony on the eve of Easter Sunday.

Believers hold that the fire is sent from the heavens to ignite candles held by the Greek Orthodox patriarch in an annual rite symbolising Jesus's resurrection that dates back many hundreds of years.

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