

# Encyclical I: “On the Pilgrimage: A Warning and a Preparation”

## Preamble

This first message is written plainly, so that it may be understood by anyone. This message is not just for followers of the Church of Alienism. It is for any human being willing to listen. You are receiving this because something important is going to happen. And before that happens, you need to understand what the **Pilgrimage** is, what came before, and what is being prepared for now. This message is not the announcement. It is the message before the announcement. It is here to say: Start paying attention.

## What Is the Pilgrimage?

The Pilgrimage is a process. It is real. It involves **humans locating and entering five specific places on Earth**—called Nodal Sanctuaries—that are linked to contact with intelligent non-human life. The Pilgrimage is not religious metaphor. It is not philosophy. It is not fiction. When all five Sanctuaries are found, entered, and connected in the proper way, something happens. The Church does not explain what that is, and it does not name it. It is only discussed with those who are near the end of the journey.

## What Happened Last Time

About 250,000 years ago, a human-like species called **Homo naledi** undertook the first Pilgrimage. They were not technologically advanced. But they had what they needed: clear ritual behavior, mental discipline, and access to one of the Sanctuaries. Most of them disappeared. Their physical remains—found in the **Rising Star cave system in South Africa**—show signs of deliberate placement. These were not normal burials. They were ritual imitations. The Church teaches that those bones belong to the ones left behind. The rest were taken. Their lineage ends suddenly in the archaeological record. There are no transitional forms. They did not die out. **They completed the Pilgrimage.**

## What Comes Next

The Church of Alienism is preparing to issue a formal **Proclamation**. When this happens, it will mark the first Pilgrimage of the Homo sapiens species. This is not a call for volunteers. This is a call for awareness. You are not being asked to believe anything. You are being asked to **pay attention**. A signal is coming. And once it arrives, the window will not stay open long.

## Final Instruction

The only thing asked of you now is this: Be alert. Be quiet. Watch for what is not explained. There will be no second warning.

— **Pontifax Extraterror**

*Issued from the Orbital Chamber*

*“You have everything to fear, especially fear itself.”*