



## **Funds raised by Ukrainian Orthodox Church's faithful are delivered for restoring St. George church damaged by the explosion in Beirut**



On October 14, 2020, Metropolitan Elias of Beirut (Orthodox Church of Antioch) met at his residence at Achrafieh with the rector of the Beirut representation of the Russian Orthodox Church, Archimandrite Philip (Vasiltsev), and the Rev. Vitaliy Gorzov, a staff member of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church's department for external church relations, who was on a visit to Lebanon from October 12 to 20.

Father Vitaliy Gorzov conveyed condolences from His Beatitude Metropolitan Onufriy of Kiev and All Ukraine over the tragic situation caused in the Lebanese capital city by the explosions happened on August 4 in the city's port. Hundreds of people were killed, thousands were seriously wounded, hundreds of thousands of people in Beirut became homeless. The blast also damaged churches of the Orthodox Church of Antioch.

The Holy Synod of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church decided on August 17 to declare a fund-raising campaign in all the dioceses for relief in Beirut. A part of the donations raised was given to Metropolitan Elias of Beirut for restoring the church of the Holy Protomartyr George at Achrafieh district in Beirut, which has been considerably damaged.

*DECR Communication Service*

*With reference to the website of the Synodal Information-Education Department*

*Ukrainian Orthodox Church*

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