



**THE RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH**  
Department for External Church Relations

## **His Holiness Patriarch Kirill sends greetings to Catholicos-Patriarch of the Assyrian Church of the East, Mar Gewargis III Sliwa, on 5th anniversary of the beginning of his Primatial ministry**

*His Holiness Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Russia sent a message of greetings to His Holiness Mar Gewargis III Sliwa on the occasion of the 5<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his accession to the Throne of Primates of the Assyrian Church of the East.*

**His Holiness Mar Gewargis III Sliwa**

**Catholicos-Patriarch**

**Assyrian Church of the East**

**Your Holiness:**

Please accept my cordial greetings with the 5<sup>th</sup> anniversary of your accession to the See of Primates of the Assyrian Church of the East.

The lofty ministry that you strive to carry out, “bearing fruit in every good work” (Col 1:10), has fallen on the years of various afflictions and ordeals in the life of the Assyrian people and Christian communities of the Middle East. Recently, additional difficulties have been caused by the coronavirus infection which has spread across the globe.

It is gratifying that despite these doleful circumstances the friendly relations between the Russian Orthodox Church and the Assyrian Church of the East continue to develop, thanks, to a large extent, to the activities of the Commission for Bilateral Dialogue. I hope for further successful and fruitful cooperation. I would also like to assure you of the Moscow Patriarchate’s unwavering support for the Assyrian Christians who to this day have been suffering privations and oppression in their historical homeland.

May the Merciful Saviour grant unto Your Holiness spiritual and bodily strength for many years, and

send down peace and welfare upon the people of Iraq.

With love in the Lord,

**+KIRILL**

**PATRIARCH OF MOSCOW AND ALL RUSSIA**

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