

## Rector of Russian Orthodox Church metochion in Beirut takes part in Divine Liturgy at the Cathedral of St. George

On 20 July 2020, the commemoration day of St. Elijah, Archimandrite Filipp (Vasiltsev), rector of the metochion of the Russian Orthodox Church in the capital of Lebanon, took part in the Divine Liturgy celebrated at the Cathedral of St. George of the Orthodox Church of Antioch.

Praying at the Liturgy was Metropolitan Elias of Beirut who celebrated his Nameday and delivered a sermon on the feast.

The divine service was celebrated in the Arabic, Church Slavonic and French languages.

Archimandrite Filipp congratulated Metropolitan Elias and presented him with congratulatory address from Metropolitan Hilarion of Volokolamsk, chairman of the Moscow Patriarchate's Department for External Church Relations, who extended felicitations on the Metropolitan's Nameday and the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his ministry as metropolitan, noting in particular his labours for consolidation of the Orthodox community of Beirut, for which he has become a spiritual guide and father.

Metropolitan Elias asked to convey his heartfelt gratitude to Metropolitan Hilarion for congratulations.

After the Divine Liturgy, the archpastor gave his blessing to the parishioners of the Russian Orthodox metochion who attended the service.

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