



## **Chancellor of the Moscow Patriarchate meets with Primate of the Orthodox Church of Cyprus**

On November 7, 2018, the Chancellor of the Moscow Patriarchate, Metropolitan Varsonofy of St. Petersburg and Ladoga, visited in Nicosia the Archdiocese of the Orthodox Church of Cyprus where he met with His Beatitude Chrysostomos II, Archbishop of New Justiniana and All Cyprus.

His Eminence Varsonofy conveyed to His Beatitude a message of greetings from His Holiness Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Russia and congratulated him on the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the episcopal consecration, presenting him a holy pectoral icon.

During their talk, they discussed the situation of the Church in Ukraine and the present situation in inter-Orthodox relations. His Beatitude Chrysostomos stressed that 'at present the whole Orthodox world should enhance prayers for the solution of the problem which can be resolved if the sides involved seek a solution. Soberly, with love, guided by the good of the Church alone, we will be able to resolve all the differences which arise in our life and first of all are consequences of our egoism'.

They expressed the hope for further development of fraternal relations between the Orthodox Church of Russia and Cyprus.

Metropolitan Varsonofy wished His Beatitude an early recovery, fortitude and God's help in his ministry as Primate of one of the oldest Orthodox Churches.

For the memory of the meeting, Archbishop Chrysostomos presented his guest with a platter with images of the founders of the Orthodox Church of Cyprus – Ss Paul and Barnabas.

On the same day, Metropolitan Varsonofy visited the Nicosia representation of the Patriarchate of Jerusalem, where he was given a warm welcome by Metropolitan Timotheos of Vostra.

The program concluded with a visit to the Monastery of Kykka. In its main church, His Eminence prayed at the Kykka Icon of the Mother of God and venerated the relics of saints. Then he made a tour of the monastery's Byzantine museum with its rich collection of icons, sacred vessels, liturgical vestments and books, church utensils and manuscripts. Some exhibits are dated from the early Christianity centuries

Metropolitan Varsonofy also visited the nearby burial place of the Primate of the Orthodox Church of Cyprus and the first President of the Republic of Cyprus, His Beatitude Archbishop Makarios III.

*DECR Communication Service*

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