Metropolitan Hilarion expresses condolences over the tragic death of Bulgarian pilgrims in bus accident

Metropolitan Hilarion of Volokolamsk, chairman of the Moscow Patriarchate's Department for External Church Relations, sent a message of condolences to His Holiness Patriarch Neophytos, Primate of the Bulgarian Orthodox Church, over the bus crash that had claimed the lives of the pilgrims returning from the Monastery of Seven Altars. The message reads:

Your Holiness:

Please accept my condolences over the tragic death of the faithful in the bus accident that occurred when they were returning from the Monastery of Seven Altars.

I am devastated by the tragedy. It is my belief that Our Lord Jesus Christ Who knows the hearts of all men and *commends the intention* (St John Chrysostom. Paschal Homily) will accept the offering of His faithful servants and their good intentions with which they came to the famous abode, and will receive them in the eternal mansions *where there is neither sickness, nor sorrow, nor sighing, but life everlasting*.

I am praying that the All-Merciful Lord grant rest to the souls of all victims and give strength to those who lost their relatives and friends in this terrible accident.

With respectful love in the Lord,

+Hilarion

Metropolitan of Volokolamsk

chairman

Department for External Church Relations

Moscow Patriarchate

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