

## DECR chairman congratulates His Beatitude Archbishop leronymos of Athens and All Greece on 10th anniversary of his ascension to Primatial throne

Metropolitan Hilarion of Volokolamsk, chairman of the Moscow Patriarchate's Department for External Church Relations, sent a message of greetings to Archbishop leronymos on the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his election to the throne of Archbishops of Athens and All Greece. The text of the message is given below.

Your Beatitude,

Please accept my cordial greetings with an important milestone in your Primatial ministry – the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of your election as Archbishop of Athens and All Greece.

Having become the head of the Church of Greece in a difficult period for the Greek people, you have for many years been comforting your flock named after Christ by the words of paternal exhortation and by the deeds of mercy, supporting your needy compatriots and "pouring... oil and wine" (Lk 10:34) in the wounds of those who, due to the tragic circumstances, left the land of their fathers.

On this memorable day I prayerfully wish Your Beatitude bodily and spiritual strength and God's bountiful help in your lofty and responsible service.

With love in Christ,

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