

Patriarch Kirill's greetings to Primate of the Bulgarian Orthodox Church on his name day

His Holiness Kirill, Patriarch of Moscow and All Russia, has greeted His Holiness Patriarch Neophyte of Bulgaria on the occasion of his Name Day.

To His Holiness Neophyte

Metropolitan of Sofia

Patriarch of Bulgaria

Your Holiness,

Beloved in the Lord Brother and Concelebrant:

I cordially greet you on the occasion of your Name Day.

Martyr Neophytus, whose name was given to you when you embarked on the path of monasticism, after you were installed to the Patriarchal See of Bulgaria, has become the heavenly patron not only for Your Holiness but also for the whole Orthodox Bulgarian people. This saint – a blessed fruit of Christian matrimony, repository of grace-giving gifts, wonderful miracle-maker and sufferer for the truth – by his example inspires people to follow the ways of the faith of the fathers.

On the auspicious day of your spiritual celebration, I pray to the Lord that He may grant you His peace, *which transcends all understanding* (Phil. 4:7) and send you bodily strength and generous help in your Patriarchal ministry.

With invariable fraternal love in Christ,

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