



## Children from Sunday schools in Latakia receive presents from Russia



Children attending Sunday schools at the churches of the Metropolis of Latakia (Orthodox Church of Antioch) received presents from Russia.

At the request of the Russian Orthodox Church and with the assistance of the Russian Centre for reconciliation of the warring parties, representatives of the All-Russia public organization of veterans "Battle Brotherhood" have brought all items necessary for studying in school, table games and toys to be distributed among 2.500 Syrian children who are learning the fundamentals of the Orthodox faith. Taking part in the humanitarian action was Fr Mikhail Frantsev, a military chaplain.

Sunday schools in Moscow are planning to open subscription for Sunday schools in Syrian towns which have suffered from war. Many churches were destroyed and desecrated during the conflict in Syria, and

thousands of Christians have fled from the cities occupied by terrorists.

Metropolitan John of Latakia thanked the Russian Church and Russian people for their aid and support during the hard time for Syria and presented the guests with an icon of St. George the Victorious.

He has given his blessing to the Russian-speaking resident of Latakia to celebrate service in their mother tongue. The services will be celebrated by the priests from Russia who care for servicemen at the Khmeimim air base.

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