



Message of the Bishops' Council of the Russian Church Outside Russia to Patriarch Kirill

The members of the Bishops' Council of the Russian Church Outside Russia have sent the following message of greetings to His Holiness Kirill, Patriarch of Moscow and All Russia:

Your Holiness

The Most Holy Vladyko:

The Bishops' Council of the Russian Orthodox Church Outside of Russia, which is taking place these days in the St. Elizabeth Convent in Buchendorf, expresses to you deep gratitude for the kind words of your Patriarchal message of greetings and for the warm welcome accorded to our delegation by the Sretensky Stauropegial Monastery, of which you are the Holy Archimandrite, and for the Primateal blessing upon the participation in solemn divine services held on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the restoration of unity within the Russian Orthodox Church and in the Grand Consecration of the new cathedral church in above-mentioned monastery, dedicated to the Victory of Christ the Life-Giver over sin, evil and death and to the memory of holy New Martyrs and Confessors of Russia. The concelebration and fellowship with Your Holiness, prayer and service at the Russian shrines, meetings with archpastors, clergy, monastics and laity – all this has given us more spiritual strength for continuing the service entrusted to us as it takes place in the difficult situation of Russian diaspora.

We are grateful to Your Holiness both for the high assessment of the past decade-long period after the signing of the Act of Canonical Communion, expressed in your granting the right to wear a second panagia to the First Hierarchy of the Russian Church Outside of Russia.

We trust that the unity restored with God's help ten years ago, which you and we have attested to once again, will bring forth further fruits, mercies and blessings to all the flock of the Local Russian Orthodox Church.

May the Lord help you in your Archpastoral work for His glory and for the benefit of our Russian Orthodox Church!

With filial love in the Lord,

*+ Hilarion
Metropolitan of Eastern America and New York
First Hierarch of the Russian Church Outside of Russia*

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