



## **Metropolitan Hilarion sends greetings to the Primate of Bulgarian Orthodox Church on his Name Day**

*Metropolitan Hilarion of Volokolamsk, chairman of the Moscow Patriarchate's Department for External Church Relations, greeted His Holiness Patriarch Neofit of Bulgaria with his Name Day. The text of the message is given below.*

**Your Holiness,**

Please accept my cordial greetings with your Name Day.

The untiring prayerful intercession of the Holy Martyr Neohytos, which has been assisting you in your monastic labours for forty years now, bestowing on you gifts of the *manifold grace of God* (1 Pt 4:10) and giving strength to Your Holiness for bearing the heavy cross of Patriarchal service, is truly a source of God's blessings for your numerous flock as well.

In this day of celebration for Your Holiness and for the whole Bulgarian Orthodox Church, I prayerfully wish you peace, good health, and daring in your Primatial prayer for the future of the Bulgarian Orthodoxy.

It is with warmth and gratitude that I recall our talks in Sofia, looking forward to new joyful meetings.

With respectful love in the Lord,

**+Hilarion**

**Metropolitan of Volokolamsk**

**Chairman**

**Department for External Church Relations**

**Moscow Patriarchate**