



Patriarch Kirill sends Christmas and New Year greetings to heads of foreign states

His Holiness Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Russia has sent Christmas and New Year greetings to heads of the far-abroad countries of Orthodox tradition. The Primate of the Russian Orthodox Church has sent these messages to President of Bulgaria Rosen Plevneliev, President of Greece Prokopis Pavlopoulos, President of Cyprus Nicos Anastasiadis, President of Macedonia Gjorge Ivanov, President of Romania Klaus Iohannis, President of Serbia Tomislav Nikolic, and President of Montenegro Filip Vujanovic.

Below is the text of the message:

Kindly accept cordial greetings on the occasion of the Nativity of Christ and the New Year.

The coming of the Lord Jesus to the world has opened for us the way to a new life. It continues to give people the light of unfading hope, inspiring spiritual transformation and moral improvement, for Christ *did not come to judge the world, but to save the world* (Jn. 12:47).

In these radiant days, I wish you spiritual and physical strength, help from above in your responsible public service, and to the people of your country I wish peace and wellbeing.

+ KIRILL

Patriarch of Moscow and All Russia