

## Metropolitan Hilarion greets Russian Prime Minister with his 50th birthday

Metropolitan Hilarion of Volokolamsk, chairman of the Department for External Church Relations of the Moscow Patriarchate, sent a message of greetings to Mr. Dmitry Medvedev, Chairman of the Russian Government, on the occasion of his 50<sup>th</sup> birthday. The text of the message is given below.

Esteemed Dmitry Anatolyevich,

Please accept my cordial greetings with this memorable date – your 50<sup>th</sup> birthday! You have approached this jubilee, having gained a considerable experience in political leadership and governance at various posts, including that of President of the Russian Federation. Working selflessly as head of the Russian Government at present, you perform an important and difficult service.

Your professional skills, diligence and commitment to your duties have won you the widespread authority and acknowledgment both in our country and beyond. I would particularly like to note the good will you show towards the activities of the Russian Orthodox Church and the support you render to her. Thanks to it, the projects of importance for our people can be implemented.

I wish you, esteemed Dmitry Anatolyevich, physical and spiritual strength and God's abundant help in your work for the benefit of our homeland.

Yours sincerely, /+Hilarion/

**Metropolitan of Volokolamsk** 

Chairman

**Department for External Church Relations** 

**Moscow Patriarchate** 

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