



Bishop Nestor of Chersonese takes part in celebrations marking 75th anniversary of the foundation of Taizé Community

On 16 August 2015, at the invitation of Brother Alois, prior of the Christian Taizé Community, and upon the blessing of the supreme authority of the Russian Orthodox Church, Bishop Nestor of Chersonese visited Taizé village in Burgundy, France, to take part in the commemorative events marking the 75th anniversary of the foundation of the community, the centenary of the birth of its founder, pastor Roger Schütz, and the 10th anniversary of his tragic death.

Among those who came to Taizé that day were hierarchs and lofty representatives of different Christian confessions, including Kurt Cardinal Koch, president of the Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity; Bishop John of Chariupolis, vicar of the Archdiocese of the Orthodox Russian churches in Western Europe (Patriarchate of Constantinople); as well as high representatives of the Oriental (non-Chalcedonian) and Protestant churches in Western Europe.

The day began with a prayer at a local abbey; a repast followed.

Representatives of the Christian Churches greeted the participants in the commemorative events. Bishop Nestor read out a message of greetings from Metropolitan Hilarion of Volokolamsk, chairman of the Department for External Church Relations of the Moscow Patriarchate.

To conclude the meeting, a prayer was said for the repose of the soul of pastor Roger Schütz, founder of the Taizé Community, who died ten years ago.

Bishop Nestor was accompanied on his visit by Rev. Maxim Politov, secretary of the Chersonese diocese, the website of the diocese reports.

The organizers estimate several thousand pilgrims, mainly young Christians, attended the commemorative events in Taizé that day.