



ROC Holy Synod begins its regular session in St. Daniel Monastery in Moscow

On July 25, 2014, the Holy Synod of the Russian Orthodox Church has begun its regular session at the Patriarchal and Synodal residence in the St. Daniel Monastery in Moscow.

Before the session, His Holiness Patriarch Kirill and members of the Holy Synod proceeded to the patriarchal Chapel of All Saints Who Shone Forth in the Russian Land and prayed for the late Metropolitan Vladimir of Kiev and All Russia.

The permanent members of the Holy Synod are Metropolitan Onufry of Chernovtsy and Bukovina, Locum Tenens of the Metropolitan See of Kiev; Metropolitan Varsonofy of St. Petersburg and Ladoga, chancellor of the Moscow Patriarchate; Metropolitan Juvenaly of Krutitsy and Kolomna; Metropolitan Vladimir of Kishinev and All Moldova; Metropolitan Alexander of Astana and Kazakhstan, head of the Metropolis of Kazakhstan ; Metropolitan Vikenty of Tashkent and Uzbekistan, head of the Metropolis of Central Asia; and Metropolitan Hilarion of Volokolamsk, head of the Moscow Patriarchate's department for external church relations.

Summoned for the Holy Synod summer session (March-August) are Metropolitan Alexander of Bryansk and Sevs, Metropolitan Nikodim of Chelyabinsk and Zlatoust, Metropolitan Zinovy of Saransk and Mordovia, Archbishop Ionafan of Tulchin and Braclaw, and Archbishop Mikhail of Geneva and Western Europe.

Opening the session, Patriarch Kirill awarded Metropolitan Vladimir of Kishinev and All Moldova the Order of St. Sergius of Radonezh in recognition of his zealous archpastoral work and on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of his episcopal consecration.

Addressing the Synod, Patriarch Kirill noted the outstanding services rendered by His Beatitude Metropolitan Vladimir to the preservation of the unity of the canonical Church in Ukraine and after that informed the Synod about the main items on its agenda.

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