



## **DECR chairman's congratulates Archbishop Rostislav of Presov elected Metropolitan of the Czech Lands and Slovakia**

*Metropolitan Hilarion of Volokolamsk, head of the Moscow Patriarchate's department for external church relations, in his letter to Archbishop Rostislav of Presov elected Primate of the Orthodox Church of the Czech Lands and Slovakia wished him God's help in his primatial service.*

**To: The Most Rev. Rostislav**

**Archbishop of Presov**

**Elected Metropolitan of the Czech Lands and Slovakia**

Your Eminence,

Kindly accept my heartfelt congratulations on your election as Primate of the Orthodox Church of the Czech Lands and Slovakia.

The conciliar will of the episcopate, clergy and laity of the autocephalous Orthodox Church acting in the land sanctified by the missionary work of Ss Cyril and Methodius Equal-to-the-Apostles has resolved that you become a successor of their lofty ministry, preacher of the holy Orthodox faith and guardian of the Slavic church tradition uniting our Churches.

Today as the Orthodox faithful in Czechia and Slovakia have regained the First Hierarch, spiritual father and mentor, we in the Russian Orthodox Church sincerely rejoice in this blessing of God and pray to the Giver of All Good Things that the difficulties that marked the past year in the Orthodox Church of the Czech Lands and Slovakia may forever become a thing of the past.

On this day great both for you and for the plenitude of your Local Orthodox Church, I prayerfully wish you robust health, inexhaustible joy in the Lord Jesus Christ and His all-powerful help for many good years of your primatial ministry.

With love in the Lord,

**Metropolitan Hilarion of Volokolamsk**

**Chairman of the Department for External Church Relation**

**Moscow Patriarchate**

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