



## **His Holiness Patriarch Kirill congratulates Primates of the Local Orthodox Church on the Nativity of Christ**

*His Holiness Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Russia sent Christmas greetings to the Primates of the Local Orthodox Churches: His Holiness Patriarch Bartholomew of Constantinople; His Beatitude Pope and Patriarch Theodoros II of Alexandria; His Beatitude Patriarch John X of Antioch; His Beatitude Patriarch Theophilos III of Jerusalem; His Holiness and Beatitude Catholicos-Patriarch Iliya II of All Georgia; His Holiness Patriarch Irineos of Serbia; His Beatitude Patriarch Daniel of Romania; His Holiness Patriarch Neofit of Bulgaria; His Beatitude Archbishop Chrysostomos II of Cyprus; His Beatitude Archbishop Hieronymus II of Athens and All Greece; His Beatitude Archbishop Anastasios of Tirana and All Albania; His Beatitude Metropolitan Sawa of Warsaw and All Poland; His Beatitude Metropolitan Tikhon of All America and Canada; and also Archbishop Rostislav of Prešov and Slovakia, Locum Tenens of the Metropolitan See of the Orthodox Church of the Czech Lands and Slovakia. The text reads:*

Please accept my heartfelt congratulations on the Nativity in the flesh of our Lord God and Saviour Jesus Christ.

The pre-eternal council of the Holy Trinity has been accomplished on the day hoped for from time immemorial. 'The Word became flesh' (Jn 1:14), the Son of God has come into the world to assume our nature, sacrifice himself for the sins of the whole world and accomplish the redemption of the human race.

My prayerful wish is that the incorruptible light of the present spiritual celebration always fills your heart with inexhaustible joy in the God-Infant Christ and grants you peace and strong health for many and good years of Primatial ministry.

With brotherly love in the Lord,

**+KIRILL**

**Patriarch of Moscow and All Russia**