

We can see how many fruitful transformations you have brought into the Russian Church and share the joy of your millions-strong flock in that they have a modern leader who bears witness to the Gospel's truth before the whole world.

Concelebrating with you, the Primate of the Holy Russian Church and the Holy Church of Jerusalem, in our common prayer we have experienced timeless unity with the great Teachers of the Church whose memory we celebrate today and have felt their protection.

May your Patriarchal ministry, through the interception of St Cyril Equal-to-the-Apostles and the protection of our Most Holy Lady, be for the glory of the Russian Orthodox Church and the entire Orthodoxy and to you personally, a staircase leading to Heaven. Amen.

+ Niphon

Archbishop of Philippople

Representative of the Patriarch of Great Antioch and All the East

to the Patriarch of Moscow and All Russia

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