



## **DECR chairman sends Easter greeting to the heads of Non-Orthodox Churches**

*Metropolitan Hilarion of Volokolamsk sent the following Easter greeting to Pope Francis of Rome, Supreme Patriarch and Catholicos of All Armenians Karekin II, Archbishop Justin Welby of Canterbury, Praeses Nikolaus Schneider, president of the Council of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Germany, Dr. Kari Mäkinen, head of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Finland, and heads of other non-Orthodox Churches.*

With all my heart I congratulate you on the 'feast of feasts and triumphs of triumphs' - the Bright Resurrection from the dead of our Lord Jesus Christ - with the words of the Paschal greeting:

**CHRIST IS RISEN!**

'Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you' (1 Pet 1:3-4). In the modern world amidst sufferings and privations we are given unashamed hope in Christ who has vanquished death and corruption 'by the glory of the Father' (Rom 6:4).

May Christ's victory strengthen our hearts and help us to withstand the action of sin in the world which surrounds us 'by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself' (Phil 3:21).

I cordially wish you radiant joy in the risen Saviour, good health and many years of life.

With love in the risen Christ,

**+Hilarion**

**Metropolitan of Volokolamsk**

**Chairman of the Moscow Patriarchate's**

**Department for External Church Relations**

*Easter*

*2013*

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