



**THE RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH**

Department for External Church Relations

## **Metropolitan Hilarion of Eastern America and New York celebrates Divine Liturgy marking the fourth anniversary of signing of the Act of Canonical Communion**

[gallery]

On May 17, 2011, the fourth anniversary of the signing of the Act of Canonical Communion, which has restored the unity of the Moscow Patriarchate with the Russian Orthodox Church Outside of Russia, Metropolitan Hilarion of Eastern America and New York celebrated Divine Liturgy at the Synodal Cathedral of Our Lady “of the Sign” in New York.

At the end of the service, Metropolitan Hilarion read a prayer of thanksgiving for the reunification of the Russian Church Abroad with the Moscow Patriarchate. On behalf of the assembly of bishops Archbishop Mark of Berlin and Germany congratulated His Eminence Hilarion on the remarkable date of the life of the Church and also on the coming third anniversary of his enthronement.

The First Hierarch warmly thanked his brothers archpastors for common work at the Council of Bishops of the Russian Orthodox Church Outside of Russia that took place from May 10 to 17, and for assistance in his ministry. Also, Metropolitan Hilarion noted good relations with Archbishop Justinian, administrator of the Patriarchal Parishes in the USA.

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