



## **Metropolitan Hilarion of Volokolamsk visits a church in Jyhvi in which the late Patriarch Alexy II began his pastoral ministry**

[gallery]

On 14 September 2010, Metropolitan Hilarion of Volokolamsk, head of the Moscow Patriarchate's Department for External Church Relations, currently on a visit to Estonia with the blessing of His Holiness Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Russia, visited the Church of the Epiphany in the city of Jyhvi, in which Alexy Ridiger (later Patriarch Alexy II of Moscow and All Russia) served as a priest in 1950-57.

Metropolitan Hilarion was greeted by Bishop Lazar of Narva, a vicar of the Tallinn diocese, clerics and parishioners.

Metropolitan Hilarion venerated a Chernigov Icon of the Most Holy Mother of God and other holy objects in the church and addressed the worshippers with his archpastoral homily, saying, in particular, that he is deeply moved by being within the walls of the church sanctified by the ministry of the late Patriarch Alexy II.