



Metropolitan Hilarion: May the light of Christ which enlightens all illumine your life journey

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On the night of April 4, 2010, Metropolitan Hilarion, head of the Moscow Patriarchate's department for external church relations, celebrated the festive Easter service at the church of Our Lady the Joy to All the Afflicted in Bolshaya Ordynka, Moscow.

Among the worshippers were Rosatom corporation leader S. Kirienko, Concern Energoatom public corporation general director, Atomenergoprom public corporation deputy director S. Obozov, Lukoil vice-presidents L. Fedun and A. Matytsyn, Lukoil chief accountant L. Khoba, Protek state corporation board of directors chairman V. Yakunin and his wife and other representatives of the business community and cultural and political elite.

The congregation walked in a procession with the cross around the church, singing 'Your resurrection, O Christ the Saviour...'

After the post-communion prayer, Hegumen Filaret Tambovsky read out the Paschal Message of Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Russia to archpastors, pastors, monastics and all the faithful of the Russian Orthodox Church.

After the prayer behind the ambo, His Eminence Hilarion consecrated Easter bread.

After the festive service, Metropolitan Hilarion brought Easter greetings to the faithful, saying, 'Christ is risen! I cordially extend Paschal greetings to you all, dear brothers and sisters. Let the remembrance of this radiant night always stay in your hearts. Let the light of Christ which enlightens all illumine your life journey. Share this Paschal joy with your nearest and dearest. Share it with those who stand in need, with those who suffer, with those whom fate has deprived of their share, with those who have nobody to share the joy.

'Let us carry this light of the Resurrection of Christ through our life. Let this joy never leave us, not only on Easter days but also on every day of our life. Let us be the light of the world and the salt of the earth, as the Lord enjoined us! Let us live in such a way as to be worthy of our Risen Lord! Let us be apostles and preachers of Christ and His Resurrection! Let us live in such a way as to be worthy in the eternal life too to partake of that inextinguishable light which we partake here every time when we celebrate holy Pascha, every time when we partake of the holy Mysteries of Christ! Christ is risen!'

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