## Metropolitan Hilarion's talk with youth at Lipetsk State Technical University

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Metropolitan Hilarion of Volokolamsk, chairman of the Moscow Patriarchate's department for external church relations, during his visit on March 13, 2010, to Lipetsk with the blessing of Patriarch Kirill and on the invitation of the Bishop Nikon of Lipetsk and Yelets, had a talk with youth at the Lipetsk State Technical University.

Metropolitan Hilarion and Bishop Nikon were welcomed by the LSTU rector A. Pogodaev and the regional education department director Yu. Taran.

In his address to the audience of over one thousand students and representatives of Orthodox youth organizations in Lipetsk and the region, Metropolitan Hilarion spoke about the personality of Jesus Christ and a possibility for modern man to follow His teaching. He said in particular that 'a Christian is a person called to swim against the tide notwithstanding all the hardships and to seek the ideal of Christian love and morality'. To do it is beyond the powers of an ordinary person, he said, and for this very reason Christ left behind the Church as a source of divine power able to support a person in his or her personal efforts on the way to salvation.

Then the archpastor answered questions from the audience. The text of his talk will be published at the DECR official website shortly.

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