



## Synodal Biblical-Theological Commission meets in session



On June 22, 2021, the Synodal Biblical-Theological Commission of the Russian Orthodox Church met for a plenary session at the Ss Cyril and Methodius Institute of Post-Graduate Studies (CMI). The meeting was held in a mixed mode with face-to-face and distant participation of the Commission members. It was chaired by Metropolitan Hilarion of Volokolamsk.

Opening the session, the chairman of the Commission made a report on the work carried out by the Commission, in particular, on the completion of the work on the document 'Faith and Natural Sciences', the drafting of commentaries on the invalid consecrations of Ukrainian schismatics and a commentary to the published letter of Patriarch Bartholomew to Archbishop Anastasios of Albania, as well as on the publication of three collections: 1) Foundations of the Orthodox doctrine; 2) Basics of the canonical order and liturgical life of the Orthodox Church 3) Basics of the Orthodox Ethical Teaching. These collections, as the chairman of the Commission noted, was a fruit of the Commission's longstanding work which began as far back as when it was chaired by the late Most Rev. Metropolitan Filaret of Minsk and Slutsk.

The main part of the session was devoted to a discussion on the theological legacy of Schema Archimandrite Sophrony (Sakharov).

In the course of the meeting, Archpriest Nikolay Balashov, vice-chairman of the Department for External Church Relations of the Moscow Patriarchate and member of the Commission, spoke about the progress made in the work to implement instructions to draft a document for the Bishops' Council devoted to the new ecclesiology of the Patriarchate of Constantinople.

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Source: <https://mospat.ru/en/news/87505/>