DECR Chairman expressed condolences on the death of Protopresbyter Leonid Kishkovsky



Metropolitan Hilarion of Volokolamsk, Chairman of the Moscow Patriarchate's Department for External Church Relations, sent his condolences on the death of Protopresbyter Leonid Kishkovsky, Director for External and Interchurch Relations of the Orthodox Church in America, to His Beatitude Metropolitan Tikhon of All America and Canada. The message reads as follows:

Your Beatitude,

It has grieved me to learn about the death of Protopresbyter Leonid Kishkovsky. I am mourning this heavy loss with you, with the family of the deceased and with his colleagues and flock.

Born into a pious Russian family, Fr. Leonid devoted his whole life to the Church. Having being called to serve the Lord’s altar, he was a thoughtful and experienced pastor for the flock of the Church of Our Lady of Kazan in Sea Cliff.

For many years Fr. Leonid served as an assistant to the Primates of the Orthodox Church in America,

carrying out manifold and demanding administrative tasks. Held in well-earned respect by the global Christian community, he actively participated in the work of the World Council of Churches and in numerous inter-Christian and interfaith forums.

Throughout the years of his service, Protopresbyter Leonid oftentimes visited the Russian Orthodox Church and was well known to its episcopate, pastors and laypeople, especially to parishioners of the Church of St. Catherine in Moscow – the Representation of the Orthodox Church in America – when he served as the acting OCA representative to the Patriarch of Moscow and All Russia.

May the Prince of life heed the prayers that are being lifted up to Him now for the blessed repose of the recently deceased servant of God in Abraham's bosom, establish his soul in the mansions of the righteous, and make his memory eternal.

I am also praying to the All-Merciful Lord that He grant strength unto you, Fr. Leonid's relatives and friends and his flock at this time of sorrow.

With love in the Lord,

/+Hilarion/
Metropolitan of Volokolamsk
Chairman
Department for External Church Relations
Moscow Patriarchate

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