



## The Dormition of the Most Holy Mother of God is celebrated in Beirut



On 28 August 2021, the feast day of the Dormition of the Most Holy Mother of God and Ever Virgin Mary, Archimandrite Filipp (Vasiltsev), rector of the Representation of the Russian Orthodox Church in Beirut, celebrated Matins and the Divine Liturgy at the Church of the Annunciation of the Holy Virgin at Jal el Dib district in Beirut.

Metropolitan Nifon of Philippopolis, representative of the Patriarch of Antioch to the Patriarch of Moscow and All Russia, prayed at the Liturgy.

Attending the service was Mr. Dmitry A. Lebedev, senior counselor of the Embassy of the Russian Federation in Lebanon.

Petitions for the unity of the Orthodox Church and preservation of the Church from divisions and

schisms, against the spread of pernicious pestilence were offered up during the Litany of Fervent Supplication as well as prayers for the health of all victims of the explosion in Beirut and for all the benefactors of the Representation.

After the Litany, prayers were recited for the deliverance from the coronavirus infection, for the health and strength of medical doctors and the recovery of the sick.

After the Divine Liturgy the glorification for the feast of the Dormition of the Most Holy Mother of God was celebrated after which Metropolitan Nifon of Philippopolis delivered a sermon on the topic of the feast.

Archimandrite Filipp (Vasiltsev) spoke about the unique ministry of Metropolitan Nifon, thanked him for common prayers and expressed hope for their continuation and cooperation in the future.

Fraternal repast at the representation of the Russian Orthodox Church in Bsalim followed.

That same day Metropolitan Nifon gave a short interview to the website of the Representation of the Russian Orthodox Church in Beirut, saying in particular:

“It was important to us to receive the Holy Gifts during the celebration of the Dormition of the Most Holy Mother of God, because we celebrate as we are taking them. Whatever happens in the country, the Holy Mysteries of Christ help us communicate with each other in a proper way and behave decently. Lebanon is undergoing very hard times, and the Holy Communion helps us and makes us stronger. We have got a special strength today together with the community in Beirut and experienced a special feeling of love thanks to the Divine Liturgy. It is only through love that we can solve all problems.”

*Source: website of Beirut Representation*

*of the Russian Orthodox Church*

*DECR Communication Service*