

## DECR Vice-chairman attends the first plenary session of the Synodal Commission on Bioethics



On September 30, 2021, the Synodal Commission on Bioethics held its first plenary session, at the Sretensky Patriarchal Monastery in Moscow. It was chaired by Bishop Siluan of Petergof, rector of St. Petersburg Theological Academy. Among the attendees of the on-line and off-line session was Archpriest Nikolay Balashov, vice-chairman of the Department for External Church Relations of the Moscow Patriarchate.

The session discussed the Commission's aims, tasks and work plans for the nearest future. The working group for drafting a document of the Inter-Council Presence of the Russian Orthodox Church presented its report on the project "Ethical problems involved in the extra-corporation method of impregnation".

It is planned to set up several working groups focused on the study of key bioethical problems.

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The Synodal Commission on Bioethics was established by the Holy Synod decision of April 13, 2021 (Minutes No. 15); the Provision for the commission and its membership were adopted by the Holy Synod decision of June 17, 2021 (Minutes No. 44).

The main area of the Commission's work is defined by the Holy Synod as the study of "bioethical problems from the perspective of the Orthodox teaching with the participation of experts of various specialties and viewpoints".

Website of the Synodal Commission on Bioethics/ DECR Communication Service

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