THE RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH
Department for External Church Relations

The Polish Orthodox Church has expressed support for the Primate of the UOC



On October 10, 2021, the 16th Sunday after the Pentecost, His Beatitude Metropolitan Onufriy of Kiev and All Ukraine celebrated the festive divine services at the Holy Mountains Laura of the Dormition on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the UOC Diocese of Donetsk and the episcopal consecration of Metropolitan Hilarion of Donetsk and Mariupol.

Before the service, the Primate was given a solemn welcome at the Laura's gates. His Beatitude blessed a new monument to the late Primate of the UOC, His Beatitude Metropolitan Vladimir (Sabodan).

During the Divine Liturgy at the Laura's Cathedral of the Dormition, the Primate had as his concelebrants Metropolitan Agafangel of Odessa and Izmail, Metropolitan Hilarion of Donetsk and Mariupol, Metropolitan Pavel of Vyshgorod and Chernobyl, Archbishop Paisius of Przemyśl and Gorlice, Archbishop Peter of Ungheni and Nisporeni (Orthodox Church of Moldova), and Metropolitans: Sergiy of Ternopol and Kremenets, Onufriy of Kharkov and Bogodukhov, Luke of Zaporozhe and Melitopol, Arseny of Svyatogorsk, Mitrofan of Gorlovka and Slavyansk, Elisey of Lugansk and Kupyansk, Feodor of Mukachevo and Uzhgorod, Panteleimon of Lugansk and Alchevsk, Nikodim of Severo-Donetsk and Starobelsk, Filaret of Lviv and Galich; Archbishops: Alipiy of Krasnolimansk, Varnava of Makeyevka, Efrem of Berdyansk and Primorsk, Bogolep of Alexandia and Svetlovodsk, Diodor of Yuzhnensk;

Bishops Victor of Baryshevka, Silvestr of Belovodsk, Spiridon of Dobropolye, Amvrosy of Volnovakha, Pavel of Belovodsk, Lavr of Irpen, Mark of Borodyanka, Irinarkh of Novopskov, Paisiy of Konstantinovka, as well as the clergy of the Laura, the Diocese of Donetsk and guests in holy orders. Among the numerous worshippers were abbesses of UOC convents.

At the Lesser Entrance, His Beatitude Onufriy awarded Metropolitan Hilarion the right to bear the Cross during the Liturgy on the occasion of his 70th birthday and the 30th anniversary of his episcopal consecration.

After the Reading of the Gospel, the Primate addressed himself to the flock with a sermon in which he explained the history of the Miraculous Draught of Fish on the Lake of Gennesaret.

After the Dismissal, “Many Years of Life” was sung. His Beatitude congratulated Metropolitan Hilarion on his personal anniversaries and the 30th anniversary of the Diocese of Donetsk. “These beautiful numbers, which speak of the God’s mercy that protects Your Eminence and strengthens you in your ministry”, the Primate noted and wished the hierarch to overcome hardships and to stay always on the path of salvation.

A speech of greeting was also made by Archbishop Paisius of Przemyśl and Gorlice. The hierarch from Poland conveyed best regards from the Primate of the Polish Orthodox Church and expressed support for His Beatitude Metropolitan Onufriy on behalf of his Local Church, saying “We are always with you. You are ours. We always seek to support you by word and prayers”.

The archbishop congratulated Metropolitan Hilarion on the anniversary and, on behalf of His Beatitude Metropolitan Sava, presented him with the highest award of the Polish Orthodox Church - the Order of St. Mary Magdalene Equal-to-the-Apostles, Class I, and conveyed to him a pectoral icon on behalf of the Primate of the Polish Church and a copy of the Lesne Icon of the Mother of God, a gift from Archbishop Abel of Lublin and Holmes.

UOC Information-Education Department/
DECR Communication Service

Source: https://mospat.ru/en/news/88242/