



## **A new church of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church is consecrated in Volyn region to replace the one seized by schismatics**



**DECR Communication Service, 19.09.2022.**

On September 18, a new church of the Nativity of the Holy Virgin was consecrated in the village of Belin, Kovel district, Volyn region. An old derelict building of rural pharmacy was converted into the church, the Union of Orthodox Journalists reports with reference to the press service of the Diocese of Vladimir-Volynsky.

The new church was built by the faithful of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church after the old church building had been seized by the OCU raiders.

The Office of the Consecration of the Altar and the Divine Liturgy were celebrated by Metropolitan Vladimir of Vladimir-Volynsky and Kovel together with clergymen of the Resurrection deanery.

The diocesan press service wrote: “In the 1990s, the Belin villagers combined their efforts and built a majestic beautiful church dedicated to the Holy Theotokos. Yet, on the eve of the consecration the schismatics, who had separated themselves from the Ukrainian Orthodox Church, captured the newly-built church of God. The villagers divided, and a large part of the faithful was left without a church. They decided to use a derelict building of rural pharmacy for worship and convert it into a church. The work has been completed, and the new church looks beautiful both outside and inside.”

During a long time of construction works several priests served as rectors. Now, heading the community is a young and deeply committed to the ministry of an Orthodox pastor archpriest Leonid Nichiporuk.

Metropolitan Vladimir congratulated him and the community on the great event and wished them to continue the ministry of the salvation of souls in unity and love, remaining steadfast in the faith of Christ.

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Source: <https://mospat.ru/en/news/89656/>