The Russian Orthodox Church's participation in averting HIV and the spread of AIDS is to be discussed at the Nativity Readings.

DECR Communication service, 12.01.2023.

On 26th January, as part of the XXXI International Nativity Educational Readings, there will be a round table dedicated to the participation of the Russian Orthodox Church in averting HIV and the spread of AIDS.

The meeting will take place in the Department for External Church Relations of the Moscow Patriarchate and will be attended by representative of the state authorities, including the health service, public organizations, priests and church social workers from various dioceses of the Russian Orthodox Church and representatives of the Protestant and Catholic religious communities.

The round table will discuss issues concerning the current-day state of the HIV/AIDS epidemic in Russia, treatment for those infected with HIV as well as its prevention, psychological and palliative care and other issues.

The round table is being organized by the Department of External Church Relations of the Moscow Patriarchate.

The round table will be presided over by archpriest Maxim Pletnev, the director of the coordination centre for drug addiction and alcoholism at the Department for Church Charity Work and Social Ministry in the diocese of Saint Petersburg. The curator of the project is staff member of the Secretariat of the DECR for inter-Christian relations M.B. Nelyubova.

Admission is be pre-arranged registration, which can be done by phoning +7 495 952 32 60 or by applying online at **rondtb@dol.ru**. The duration of the round table will be from 10.00 to 12.30.

Directions: ul. Danilovsky val, 22, Bolshoi zal of the Department of External Church Relations. The nearest metro station in Tulskaya.

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