Chairman of the DECR congratulates His Beatitude the Metropolitan of Warsaw and All Poland Sawa on the occasion of his eighty-fifth birthday.

The Chairman of the Department for External Church Relations of the Moscow Patriarchate the metropolitan of Volokolamsk Anthony sent to the Primate of the Polish Orthodox Church congratulations on the occasion of his eighty-fifth birthday.

The text of the message of congratulations is reproduced below:

Your Beatitude,

Allow me to convey to you my heartfelt congratulations on the occasion of an important personal landmark or you which is your eighty-fifth birthday.

Prayers for the health of Your Beatitude are being offered today not only by the Polish Orthodox

Church, but in all places where you enjoy esteem as one of the most senior Primates in the family of Local Orthodox Churches who has found “favour and good repute in the sight of God and of people” (Proverbs 3.4) through long years of zealous labours in the spiritual vineyard of the Lord.

While sacrificing yourself for the good ordering of church life and the constructing of new fine church buildings, you have always above all striven to renew peoples’ hearts by helping the older generation to return to the faith of their fathers and by arousing within young people interest in Holy Orthodoxy and the desire to build up their lives on the foundation of Christ’s Gospel in “bearing fruit in every good work and growing in the knowledge of God” (Col. 1.10).

As chairman of the Department for External Church Relations of the Moscow Patriarchate, I would like to note especially the courageous and uncompromising position of Your Beatitude in defense of canonical Orthodoxy now being persecuted in Ukraine, as well as your ardent paternal love for all of our brothers who in these difficult times have been compelled to abandon their homeland and find refuge in Poland.

On this day of celebration of your birthday, I wish you grace-filled strong health, unfailing spiritual joy and boldness in prayer for your flock.

With esteemed love in the Lord,

Chairman of the Department of External Church Relations of the
Moscow Patriarchate
Metropolitan of Volokolamsk Anthony

Source: https://mospat.ru/en/news/90233/