



THE RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH
Department for External Church Relations

His Beatitude Patriarch Theophilos attends reception on the occasion of Russia Day at the Saint Sergius Metochion in Jerusalem.



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On 11th June 2023 a reception was held at the Saint Sergius metochion in Jerusalem on the occasion of Russia Day. The Russian and Israel national anthems were played at the opening ceremony of the reception.

The festive occasion was opened by words of greetings from the Russian ambassador to Israel Alexander Viktorov. A congratulatory speech was given on behalf of the Israeli government by the Israeli intelligence minister G. Gamliel.

The guests of the Saint Sergius metochion were then taken to view a photo exhibition illustrating the history of diplomatic relations between Russia and Israel, reports the press service of the Russian Spiritual Mission.

Among the guests of honour were His Beatitude the Patriarch of the Holy City of Jerusalem and All Palestine Theophilos, the general secretary of the Patriarchate of Jerusalem the archbishop of Constantina Aristarchos and the clergy of the Brotherhood of the Holy Sepulchre, the Belarusian ambassador Ye. S. Vorobyov, the Kazakh ambassador S. Ye. Burshakov, the Armenian ambassador to Israel A. Ye. Akopyan, the Azerbaijani ambassador to Israel M. N. Mamedov, the Uzbek ambassador to Israel F. Yu. Makhmudov, the director of the Russian mission to the Palestinian administration G. L. Buachidze, representatives of the diplomatic corps of friendly countries, the head of the Spiritual Mission of the Russian Orthodox Church Outside Russia archimandrite Roman (Krasovsky), the mother superiors of the Russian convents in Jerusalem abbess Yekaterina (Chernusheva), abbess Elizabeth (Shmelts) and abbess Barbara (Novikova), the head of the Bethany school for girls sister Maria (Vaal) and other guests. On behalf of the Russian Spiritual Mission attending the reception were the Mission's head archimandrite Alexander (Yelisov), mission staff abbot Nikon (Golovko) and hieromonk Dometian (Markaryan), as well as the sacristan of the Mission's metochion in Tel Aviv and Jaffa archpriest Nikolai Zhdanov.

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