



## Orthodox community in Burkina Faso moves into the Russian Orthodox Church



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‘The Patriarchal Exarchate of Africa has broadened its virtual presence: the Orthodox community in Burkina Faso has moved into the Russian Orthodox Church’, Metropolitan Leonid of Klin reports on his Telegram messenger.

The rite of acceptance was administered by the chairman of the Exarchate mission department, Rev. Geogriy Maksimov.

In 2018, the priest of the Church of Alexandria from Côte d'Ivoire accepted this community to Orthodoxy. However, the hierarchy of the Patriarchate of Alexandria did not support the idea of opening

a mission in Burkina Faso and a priest had to come once a year and then stopped coming at all. In spite of it, the parishioners remained faithful to Orthodoxy and now they are very glad that the Russian Orthodox Church has come to their country.

The leader of the community, Gerard, was named after St Luka the confessor and Archbishop of Simferopol. The parish was named in honour of the Council of All the Saints. The pastoral care for the new parish was entrusted to the Rev. Parthenios Danse, the website of the Patriarchal Exarchate for Africa reports.

The day before, 10 June 2023, Rev George Maksimov celebrated the Sacraments of Baptism and Confession for compatriots living in Burkina Faso. For some of them, it is the first confession in their lives; some of them had not taken confession for 25 years.

‘It is with extraordinary inspiration and gratitude that people here welcome the priest of the Russian Orthodox Church’, His Eminence Leonid noted.

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