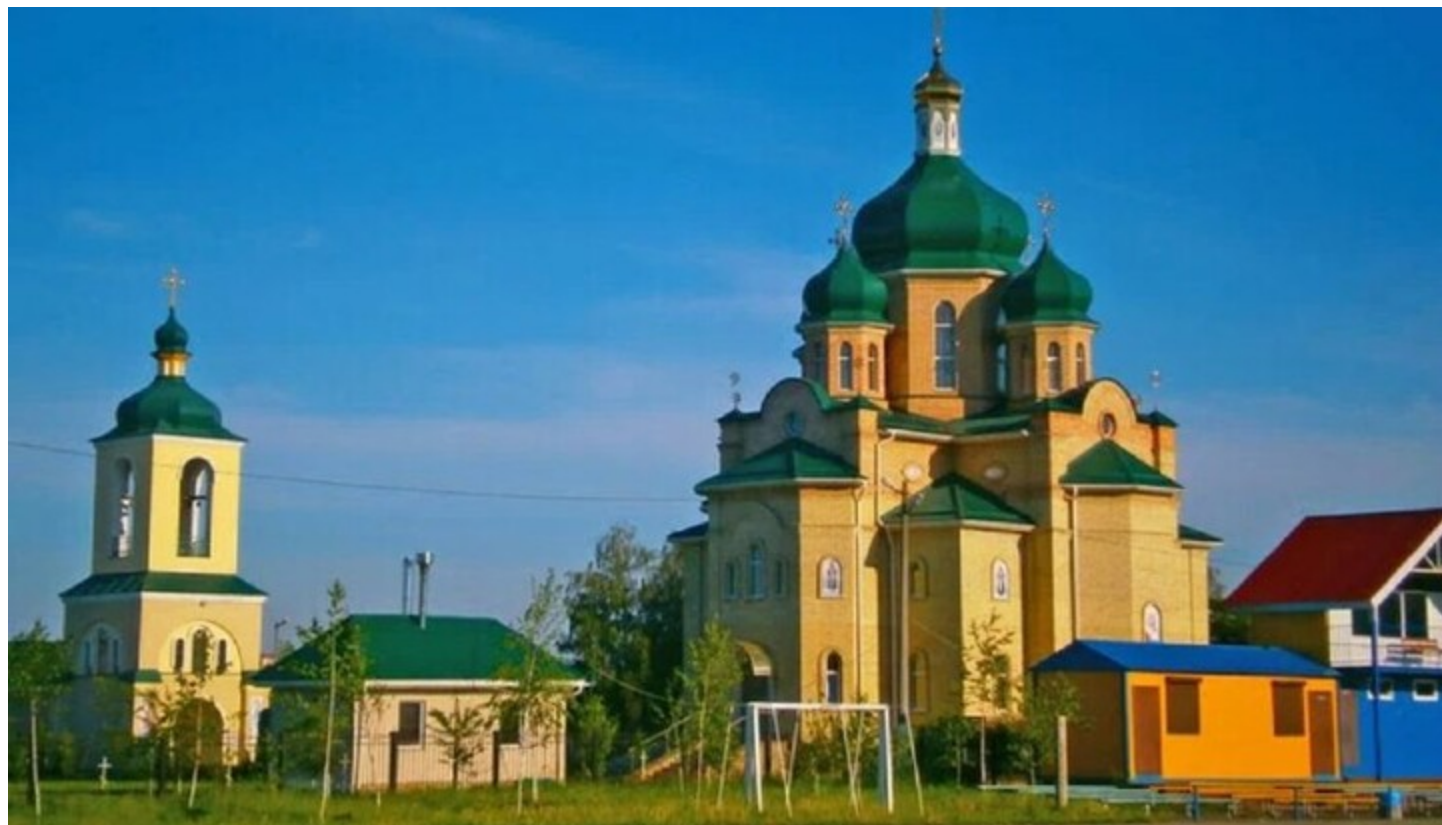




‘OCU’ supporters in Kiev region take away a church from the Ukrainian Orthodox Church’s community who have built it



DECR Communication Service, 26.06.2023.

On June 25, in the Belogorodka village, Kiev Region, supporters of the schismatics captured the lower church of God’s Archangel Michael, which belongs to the community of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church. Earlier, in January 2023, ‘OCU’ raiders seized the upper church. As a pretext for it, they used the parish documents unlawfully re-registered to the name of a local ‘cleric’ from the schismatic structure.

Pending the court verdict, the community of the canonical Church has to celebrate divine services in the lower church, but now it is deprived of this facility as well. The parishioners and clergy, who built the holy place by their own hands, are not allowed to enter the church territory. The police, who literally covered the raid, reported that the Orthodox Christians ‘can wait for the court decision in another place’.

The raiders came early in the morning. After several hours of confrontation with them, the faithful of the canonical Church decided to celebrate the Liturgy in the still unfinished church, reports the press service of the Diocese of Kiev of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church.

Several defenders of the church were detained by police and later released. 'Of course, the OCU activists and their cleric Vasily Chuprovsky were not accused for the attack on parishioners. Those who stood up for their brothers and sisters are accused of an administrative violation', reads the message on Telegram channel 'Dozor na Pervom Kazatskom'.

Source: <https://mospat.ru/en/news/90482/>