



## A meeting of the Synod of the Patriarchal Exarchate of Western Europe has been held



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On the 12<sup>th</sup> of February 2024, a regular meeting of the Synod of the Patriarchal Exarchate of Western Europe was held in Paris.

The meeting, chaired by Metropolitan Nestor of Chersonesus and Western Europe, Patriarchal Exarch of Western Europe, was attended by Archbishop Simon of Brussels and Belgium, Archbishop Elisey of The Hague and the Netherlands, Bishop Matthew of Sourozh, and the exarch's vicars, Bishop Amvrosy of Bogorodsk and Bishop Peter of Kafa.

Metropolitan Nestor addressed the participants of the meeting with opening remarks.

The members of the Synod expressed their deep gratitude to His Holiness Patriarch Kirill of Moscow

and All Rus' and the Holy Synod of the Russian Orthodox Church for their attention and tireless concern for the dioceses and parishes in Western Europe, for the organisation of their canonical existence and connection with the Mother Church in the difficult circumstances of the present time.

Then, at the suggestion of Metropolitan Nestor, the members of the Synod sang "Memory Eternal" to the deceased **Archbishop Anatoliy (Kuznetsov)**, former Vicar of the Diocese of Sourozh, who died on the 26<sup>th</sup> of January of this year.

During the meeting there was a discussion of issues related to inter-diocesan coordination of outreach activities, youth ministry and the establishment of the judicial body of the Exarchate, according to the website of the Diocese of Chersonesus.

The members of the Synod reported on the state of affairs in the dioceses entrusted to their archpastoral governance and exchanged views on a wide range of topical issues.

In accordance with the Internal Regulations for the Patriarchal Exarchate of Western Europe, the journals of the meeting will be sent to His Holiness Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Rus' and the Holy Synod of the Russian Orthodox Church for approval.

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