



## **Participants of the Divine Service at the Church of the Nativity of John the Baptist in Presnya congratulated the DECR Chairman on his 40th birthday.**



### **DECR Communication service, 12.10. 2024**

On October 12, 2024, the Divine Liturgy at the Church of the Nativity of John the Baptist in Presnya was celebrated by the rector of the parish, Chairman of the Department for External Church Relations of the Moscow Patriarchate, Metropolitan Anthony of Volokolamsk, and Metropolitan Nicander of Naro-Fominsk, Chairman of the Financial and Economic Administration of the Moscow Patriarchate.

Concelebrating with the Hierarchs were: Protopresbyter Vladimir Divakov, the secretary of the Patriarch of Moscow and All Rus' for Moscow, Dean of the Central Deanery, Archpriest Nikolai Balashov, advisor to the Patriarch of Moscow and All Rus'; Archimandrite Vassian (Zmeev), head of the Russian Ecclesiastical Mission in Jerusalem, Archpriest Nikolai Lishchenyuk, deputy chairman of the DECR, Priest Alexander Ershov, assistant to the DECR Chairman; Priest Alexander Volkov; DECR staff

members Hieromonk Kirill (Peregudin) and Hieromonk Mark (Akhmatanov); clerics of the Church of the Nativity of John the Baptist in Presnya, Archpriest Dionysius Lobov, Priests Maxim Romanov, Alexey Vorontsov, Maxim Boyarov; Deacons Evgeny Kuznetsov, Sergey Bobrov; as well as Deacon Makariy Petukhov, cleric of the Russian Ecclesiastical Mission in Jerusalem.

After the service, Protopresbyter Vladimir Divakov announced a congratulatory address from His Holiness Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Rus'. The Primate of the Russian Orthodox Church congratulated Metropolitan Anthony on his 40th birthday.

Then, Metropolitan Nicander of Naro-Fominsk addressed the celebrant with congratulatory words.

On behalf of the clergy, parishioners, and staff of the Church of the Nativity of John the Baptist in Presnya, Priest Alexey Vorontsov warmly congratulated the rector on his anniversary and presented him with a bouquet of flowers and a commemorative gift, as reported by the parish website.

In response, Metropolitan Anthony of Volokolamsk sincerely thanked all those who had prayed during the service for their support and kind wishes.

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