



## **DECR chairman meets with religious leaders of Bahrain**



### **DECR Communication Service, 09/12/2024**

On 9<sup>th</sup> December 2024, as part of his working trip to the Kingdom of Bahrain, Metropolitan Anthony of Volokolamsk, chairman of the Moscow Patriarchate's Department for External Church Relations, visited the Roman Catholic Cathedral of Our Lady of Arabia in Awali.

Meeting the archpastor there was Bishop Aldo Berardi, Apostolic Vicar of Northern Arabia. He showed the guest around the church, which is the largest Christian temple in the Persian Gulf region, and gave a historical overview of its construction.

Later, on the cathedral's premises, Metropolitan Anthony met with the leaders of Bahrain's major religious communities, including representatives of the Orthodox Patriarchate of Antioch, the Roman

Catholic Church, the Oriental Churches, as well as the Protestant, Buddhist and Hindu communities. Each of the participants told how his religious organization had first appeared in Bahrain and highlighted its current activities.

The DECR chairman focused in his speech on the modern-day life of the Russian Orthodox Church and its external activities, having emphasized the importance of promoting dialogue among traditional religions' communities.

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