



## **Metropolitan Anthony of Volokolamsk presents Patriarchal awards to DECR Staff**



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On January 9, a meeting took place between Metropolitan Anthony of Volokolamsk, Chairman of the Department for External Church Relations (DECR) of the Moscow Patriarchate, and DECR staff members.

The archpastor warmly thanked them for their service to the benefit of the Russian Orthodox Church and extended his greetings on the occasion of the Nativity of Christ and the New Year.

During the meeting, with the blessing of His Holiness Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Rus', Metropolitan Anthony presented awards to several staff members in recognition of their labors for the benefit of the Holy Church and in connection with commemorative dates.

- Protopriest Nikolai Lischenyuk, Deputy Chairman of the DECR, who has served for 25 years as a presbyter, was awarded the Order of St. Seraphim of Sarov (3rd Class).
- Protopriest Igor Yakimchuk, Deputy Chairman of the DECR, received the Order of St. Sergius of Radonezh (3rd Class).
- G.V. Tokareva, DECR accountant, was awarded the Order of Equal-to-the-Apostles Princess Olga (3rd Class) in honor of a milestone birthday.
- A.Yu. Khoshev, M.V. Pervushin (Head of the DECR Publications Sector), both celebrating their 50th birthdays, and M.B. Nelyubova were honored with the Order of the Holy Prince Daniel of Moscow (3rd Class).
- Priest Anthony Gusev was recognized with a Patriarchal Certificate of Merit.

In congratulating the award recipients, Metropolitan Anthony wished them God's help in their future endeavors.

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