



Representatives of the Russian Orthodox Church congratulate the Patriarch of Jerusalem Theophilus on the occasion of the feast of the Nativity of Christ.



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On 8th January the head of the Russian Ecclesiastical Mission in Jerusalem archimandrite Vassian (Zmeyev), the head of the Russian Ecclesiastical Mission under the Russian Orthodox Church Outside of Russia (ROCOR) archimandrite Roman (Krasovsky), the deputy head of the Russian Ecclesiastical Mission abbot Nikon (Golovko), clerics of the Mission hieromonk Peter (Borodulin), hieromonk Philotheus (Artyushin) and deacon Makary Petukhov, as well as inmate of the Holy Transfiguration Monastery of Solovki hieromonk Dositheus (Dubov) attended the traditional reception held annually for the feast of the Nativity of Christ in the Great Throne Hall of the Patriarchate of Jerusalem.

Heading the reception was His Beatitude the Patriarch of Jerusalem Theophilus who warmly greeted

those gathered and congratulated them on the feast of the Nativity of Christ, reports the website of the Russian Ecclesiastical Mission.

The reception was also attended by bishops and clergy of the Greek Orthodox Church of Jerusalem, representatives of the local authorities, the clergy of the Brotherhood of the Holy Sepulchre and representatives of the Greek and Arab Christian communities of Jerusalem.

His Beatitude Patriarch Theophilus and the guests at the reception were greeted by by the students' choir of Sretensky theological academy which sang Christmas hymns and carols.

The head of the Russian Ecclesiastical Mission congratulated His Beatitude Patriarch Theophilus on the feast of the Nativity of Christ and conveyed to him words of congratulations by His Holiness the Patriarch of Moscow and All Russia Kirill and the chairman of the Department for External Church Relations of the Moscow Patriarchate the metropolitan of Volokolamsk Anthony.

Then those who worked at the Russian Ecclesiastical Mission presented His Beatitude with flowers and Christmas gifts.