



## Metropolitan Anthony of Volokolamsk visits Lebanon



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On 25<sup>th</sup> January 2025, with the blessing of His Holiness Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Rus', Metropolitan Anthony of Volokolamsk, chairman of the Department for External Church Relations of the Moscow Patriarchate, arrived in Lebanon on a work trip.

The hierarch was accompanied by Archpriest Nikolai Balashov, adviser to the Patriarch of Moscow and All Rus'; Archpriest Igor Yakimchuk, DECR deputy chairman; and Priest Nikolai Vasin, secretary to the DECR chairman. Meeting the delegation of the Russian Orthodox Church at the Beirut airport were Metropolitan Silouan of Mount Lebanon; Archimandrite Philip (Vasiltsev), representative of the Patriarch of Moscow and All Rus' to the Patriarch of Antioch and All the East; and Mr Alexander Rudakov, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Russian Federation to the Republic of Lebanon.

The DECR chairman and other delegation members visited the Russian Embassy in Lebanon, where a dinner was given by Ambassador Rudakov in honor of the guests. Invited to the reception were also Metropolitan Silouan of Mount Lebanon and Archimandrite Philip (Vasiltssev). Metropolitan Anthony warmly thanked the head and staff members of the Russian diplomatic mission in Lebanon for their assistance in arranging the delegation's visit and wished them help from God in their further service to the homeland.

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