

**THE RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH** Department for External Church Relations

## Patriarch Theophilos of Jerusalem receives Metropolitan Seraphim of Penza and Nizhny Lomov



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On February 22, Metropolitan Serafim of Penza and Nizhny Lomov, currently on a pilgrimage to the Holy Land with the blessing of His Holiness Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Rus', was hospitably received by His Beatitude Patriarch Theophilos III of the Holy City of Jerusalem and All Palestine in the Small Throne Hall of the Patriarchate of Jerusalem.

The meeting was attended by Metropolitan Joachim of Hellenoupolis; Archimandrite Vassian (Zmeyev), head of the Russian Ecclesiastical Mission in Jerusalem; Hegumen Nikon (Golovko), deputy head of the Mission; clergy of the Holy Sepulchre Brotherhood, as well as the clergy and laity who have arrived with Metropolitan Seraphim in the Holy Land, the Mission's website reports.

During the conversation, His Beatitude Patriarch Theophilos and Metropolitan Seraphim exchanged

views on topical issues and underscored the imperious necessity of upholding the unity of the Orthodox Church, which is the only one in the modern world that is guarding the faith, cultural values and national identity of all the nations on the earth.

Patriarch Theophilos and Metropolitan Seraphim exchanged gifts as tokens of the meeting.

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