

Patriarch Theophilos of Jerusalem calls for peace between Russia and Ukraine and the restoration of Church unity



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On June 9, the Day of the Holy Spirit, celebrated as the principal feast of the Russian Ecclesiastical Mission in Jerusalem, His Beatitude Patriarch Theophilos III of the Holy City of Jerusalem and All Palestine presided over the Divine Liturgy at the Trinity Cathedral of the Mission.

In his address to those present, Patriarch Theophilos expressed his hope that the Holy Spirit would help political leaders end the ongoing violence and achieve peace and harmony, according to **SPZh**, citing the Orthodoxia News Agency.

Patriarch Theophilos emphasized that the Feast of the Holy Spirit symbolizes the peace and unity that the Jerusalem Church has preserved from the time of the first Pentecost to the present day.

His Beatitude called for prayers to end the violence in Gaza and Ukraine, stressing that the Holy Spirit sustains the Church and the unity of believers, enlightening the minds and hearts of those who make decisions about war and peace.

"We pray for a peaceful resolution to the ongoing conflict between the brothers in Russia and Ukraine, so that peace and reconciliation may prevail between these nations and the unity of the Church be restored," said Patriarch Theophilos.

The Jerusalem Church remains a living witness of the faith and is called to serve the cause of reconciliation and the spiritual mission of the Church throughout the world, His Beatitude reminded.

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