



THE RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH
Department for External Church Relations

His Holiness Patriarch Kirill greets Metropolitan Niphon of Philippopolis with his Nameday



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His Holiness Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Rus' has congratulated Metropolitan Niphon of Philippopolis, representative of the Patriarch of Antioch and All the East to the Patriarch of Moscow and All Rus', on his Nameday.

**To His Eminence Niphon,
Metropolitan of Philippopolis,
Representative of the Patriarch of Antioch and All the East to the Patriarch of Moscow and
All Rus' and Rector of the Antiochian Metochion in Moscow**

Your Eminence, dear Vladyka!

I heartily congratulate you on your Nameday — the commemoration day of St. Niphon, Bishop of

Cyprus.

For many years, you have represented the Apostolic Church of the Great Antioch and have been the head of the Antiochian Metochion in Moscow, setting the faithful an example *in speech and conduct, in love, in faith, in purity* (1 Tim. 4:12). In your ministry in Christ's vineyard, you are inspired by the ascetic life of your heavenly patron, *who was chosen by the Son of God to sing praise to His ineffable mercy* (from the Akathist hymn to St. Niphon).

May the All-Bountiful Lord renew your spiritual and physical strength, grant you peace and spiritual joy, and strengthen you in your zealous labours for the good of our sister Churches.

With love in Christ,

+KIRILL,

PATRIARCH OF MOSCOW AND ALL RUS'

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