



His Beatitude Patriarch Theophilos of Jerusalem receives Head of Russian Ecclesiastical Mission



DECR Communication Service, 14/01/2026

On 13th January 2026, Archimandrite Vassian (Zmeyev), Head of the Russian Ecclesiastical Mission in Jerusalem, was received by His Beatitude Patriarch Theophilos, Primate of the Orthodox Church of Jerusalem.

Discussed at the meeting was a forthcoming visit to Jerusalem of a delegation of St. Andrew the First-Called Foundation for the Feast of the Holy Theophany, website of the Mission [reports](#). While in the Holy Land, the delegation will also visit the Jordan River. Among other topics raised during the meeting was a coming blessing, to be performed by His Beatitude Patriarch Theophilos, of a replica of the Shroud of the Mother of God, commissioned by St. Andrew the First-Called Foundation. The original shroud is kept at the Metochion of Gethsemane. It was donated in the 19th century by a well-known Russian benefactress, Countess Anna Orlova-Chesmenskaya.

Source: <https://mospat.ru/en/news/93928/>