



His Holiness Patriarch Kirill sends greetings to the head of the Maronite Church on 15th anniversary of his Patriarchal enthronement



His Holiness Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Rus' congratulated His Beatitude Béchara Boutros Cardinal Rai, Maronite Patriarch of Antioch and All the East, on the 15th anniversary of his Patriarchal enthronement.

His Beatitude Béchara Boutros Cardinal Rai

Maronite Patriarch of Antioch and All the East

Your Beatitude,

Please accept my cordial greetings on this memorable occasion – the 15th anniversary of your Patriarchal enthronement.

Over the years of your Primatial ministry, you have gained recognition and respect as a defender of the Gospel values and a champion of inter-Christian dialogue and interfaith concord who calls his flock *to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace* (Eph 4:3). In these trying times for the Middle East and the whole world, you devote considerable effort to developing parochial and monastic life and various activities of the Maronite Church. It is gratifying that the years of your service at its helm are marked by the fruitful work *because of the grace of God which was given you in Christ Jesus* (1 Cor 1:4).

I highly value my personal acquaintance with Your Beatitude and your continued commitment to maintaining good relations between our two Churches.

May Christ the Chief Shepherd grant you His abundant mercies and every success in the Patriarchal ministry that you carry out with zeal and reverence.

With love in the Lord,

+KIRILL
Patriarch of Moscow and All Rus'

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