



## Traditional prayer for peace celebrated in Jerusalem by Patriarch Theophilos and delegation of St. Andrew the First-Called Foundation



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On 10<sup>th</sup> April 2026, Holy Friday, in the Great Throne Hall of the Jerusalem Patriarchate, His Beatitude Patriarch Theophilos of Jerusalem and members of a delegation of the St. Andrew the First-Called Foundation celebrated a joint prayer for peace.

With the blessing of His Holiness Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Rus', accompanying the delegation was Metropolitan Feognost of Kashira, chairman of the Synodal Department for Monasteries and Monasticism, **reports** the website of the Russian Ecclesiastical Mission in Jerusalem.

Thanks to the St. Andrew the First-Called Foundation, which is responsible for bringing the Holy Fire to Russia, in 2026 that traditional prayer was offered for the 24<sup>th</sup> time. Among those who took part in the

joint prayer were Mr Anatoly Viktorov, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Russian Federation to the State of Israel, and the Embassy officials.

Before the prayer, Mr. V.I. Yakunin, chair of the Board of Trustees of the St. Andrew the First-Called Foundation, thanked His Beatitude Patriarch Theophilos for the warm welcome and added that the Foundation had deep appreciation for the mission of the Orthodox Church of Jerusalem as the Mother of all Orthodox Churches, aimed at upholding peace and dialogue among representatives of different traditions, cultures and confessions.

Patriarch Theophilos warmly thanked the representatives of the St. Andrew the First-Called Foundation for maintaining the tradition of pilgrimages to Jerusalem in that holy season and emphasised that the Orthodox Church of Jerusalem – Church the Mother and the Martyr, destined to bear witness to the crucified and risen Christ before the aggressive world – teaches every person individually and Orthodox Christian nations as a whole to endure troubled times by relying on the inexhaustible power of Christ's Resurrection.

The prayer for peace in the Holy City and all over the world was celebrated by His Beatitude Patriarch Theophilos of Jerusalem; clergy of the Holy Sepulchre Brotherhood; Metropolitan Feognost of Kashira, Vicar of His Holiness Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Rus', chairman of the Synodal Department for Monasteries and Monasticism; and clergy of the Russian Ecclesiastical Mission in Jerusalem.

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