

THE 10th MEETING OF THE PAN-ORTHODOX EPISCOPAL ASSEMBLY OF BRITAIN AND IRELAND

The 10th Meeting of the Pan-Orthodox Episcopal Assembly of Britain and Ireland took place on 24th April, 2015 at the Russian Orthodox Cathedral of the Dormition, Ennismore Gardens, London.

The following bishops were present:

His Eminence Archbishop Gregorios of Thyateira & Great Britain
(Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople)

His Eminence Archbishop Elisey of Sourozh
(Patriarchate of Moscow)

His Eminence Archbishop Mark of Berlin, Germany & Great Britain
(Russian Orthodox Church Outside of Russia)

His Eminence Metropolitan Kallistos of Diokleia (Archdiocese of Thyateira)

His Grace Bishop Athanasios of Tropaeou (Archdiocese of Thyateira)

His Grace Bishop Ignatie of Mures (Romanian Diocese of Spain and Portugal)

In his opening address, the Chairman, Archbishop Gregorios, called on the Assembly to express its prayerful solidarity with persecuted Christians, especially those of the Middle East and North Africa, who are suffering greatly at present. It should also seek to keep the matter on the political agenda, as well as to organise collections for the relief of those in need.

The bishops discussed a paper on Mixed Marriages prepared by the Pastoral committee, as well as the role of the Assembly in relation to the question of the Diaspora, which is on the agenda of the Council of the Orthodox Church due to take place next year. The question of improving the communication of the work of the Assembly was considered. A number of administrative questions were also discussed.

The bishops agreed:

- 1) To make a brief public statement on the situation of the persecuted Christians.
- 2) To encourage collections in churches for refugees in the Middle East.
- 3) To bless the creation of a website to represent the work of the Assembly.
- 4) To appoint Archpriest Maxim Nikolsky as Eastern Orthodox representative to the General Synod of the Church of England.

The meeting concluded with a lunch offered by the host, Archbishop Elisey, who expressed his hope that as many as possible of the bishops present would be able to concelebrate the Divine Liturgy on the following day.

From the Secretariat of the
Pan-Orthodox Episcopal Assembly
for Britain and Ireland