

# **AWARD OF HONORARY DISTINCTION TO THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE RUSSIAN SPIRITUAL MISSION (MISSIA) IN JERUSALEM**

On Friday, October 14/27, 2023, His Beatitude our Father and Patriarch of Jerusalem Theophilos awarded the representatives of the Moscow Patriarchate to the Russian Spiritual Mission (MISSIA) in Jerusalem an honorary distinction for the completion of their fruitful ministry.

The Head of the Russian Mission, Reverend Archimandrite Alexander Elisov, was awarded the order of the Cross-bearer of the Order of the Knights of the Holy Sepulchre, and the Deputy Head Archimandrite Dometianos the medal of the small Cross-bearer of the same Order.

Presenting them with the medals, His Beatitude said that this honorary distinction is awarded to Archimandrite Alexander for his kind cooperation with the Patriarchate of Jerusalem in matters concerning its relations with the Patriarchate of Moscow, as well as Archimandrite Dometianos for his devotion and effective cooperation with Archimandrite Alexander. Archimandrite Dometianos was praised for his care in cooperation with the conservator from Cyprus Mr Stavros Andreou as well as the conservators and a donor from Russia for the maintenance of the chandeliers of the Church of the Resurrection and the icons of the Art Gallery and the Museum of the Patriarchate.

Archimandrite Alexander thanked His Beatitude for the Patriarchal love and support in his work and for the always hospitable reception of the Bishops, Priests and numerous pilgrims of the Moscow Patriarchate and pledged to become a

messenger of this experience to the Moscow Patriarchate, in which he will continue his ministry.

**From the General Secretariat**