



MOSCOW PATRIARCHATE

Saints Cyril and Methodius

Theological Institute of Post-Graduate Studies

No 5, from January 12, 2017

The Very Reverend Archpriest John Behr
Dean of St. Vladimir's Orthodox Theological Seminary
Head of the Metropolitan Kallistos Chair of Orthodox Theology at
Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam

Dear Father John,

Please accept my heartfelt greetings on the day when you take up official duties as Head of the newly established Metropolitan Kallistos Chair of Orthodox Theology at Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam.

For many years your research interests have focused upon the heritage of the Church Fathers. You have prepared translations of patristic texts and have authored several books and numerous scholarly articles. Your election as Head of a Chair bearing the name of the renowned modern-day Orthodox patristics scholar and our teacher Metropolitan Kallistos (Ware) of Diokleia testifies to the recognition of your achievements.

As you undertake these new duties you at the same time remain Dean of St. Vladimir's Orthodox Theological Seminary. It is with your direct participation that the relationship between the seminary and the Sts. Cyril and Methodius Theological Institute for Post-Graduate Studies has flourished in recent years. I would like to hope that in the future we will be able to establish mutual relationship between the Sts. Cyril and Methodius Institute for Post-Graduate Studies and the Chair which you now head.

I wish you God's almighty help in your labours and further success in the field of theological research.

With love in Christ,

+ Hilariion

Metropolitan of Volokolamsk
Chairman of the Department of External Church Relations of the Moscow Patriarchate
Rector of the Sts. Cyril and Methodius Theological Institute for Post-Graduate Studies