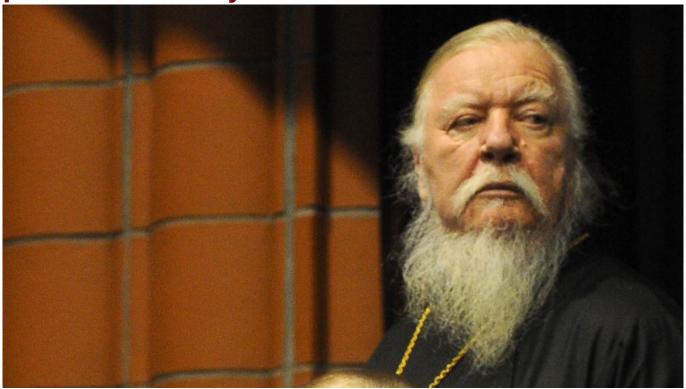
Russian Orthodox Church's Synod dismisses Archpriest Dimitry Smirnov as head of patriarch's family affairs commission



Moscow, August 26, Interfax – Archpriest Dimitry Smirnov, who is famous his statement that spark public outcry, has left the post of chairman of the patriarch's commission for family affairs and protection of maternity and childhood.

According to final documents of the Synod that made the decision on Tuesday, Archpriest Dimitry asked to be relieved of the duties himself for "health reasons."

It was reported earlier that Archpriest Dimitry contracted coronavirus in spring. He has been on rehabilitation since then.

The Synod thanked Archpriest Dimitry for his effort to create and organize the patriarch's commission for family affairs and protection of maternity and childhood. Archpriest Dimitry was appointed the commission's honorary chairman.

Priest Feodor Lukyanov was appointed chairman of the patriarch's commission for family affairs and protection of maternity and childhood.

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