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Putin Receives Orthodox Church's Blessing Following Inauguration

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On May 7, 2018, Vladimir Putin was inaugurated for his fourth term as Russia's president. Following the official state ceremony, Putin met with Patriarch Kirill, the leader of the Russian Orthodox Church, at the Cathedral of the Annunciation for a prayer service and a blessing.

The Patriarch gifted the president an 18th century icon bearing an inscription saying: "For Vladimir Vladimirovich Putin, from the Patriarch of Moscow and All Russia Kirill and the members of the Holy Synod, with blessings to continue work for the benefit of Russia."

Here’s a look at Putin, the Patriarch and the service.

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