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In Photos: Russian Priests Appear on the Frontlines of Ukraine

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Under its leader Patriarch Kirill, the Russian Orthodox Church has staunchly supported the invasion of Ukraine. The Church's backing has coincided with Russian officials' and propagandists' rhetoric that Russia is waging a "holy war" against Western ideology and values by attacking Ukraine. While many Orthodox priests oppose the war, most have stayed silent to protect their positions — while others have been demoted, left the church or fled the country altogether. Yet others have gone to great lengths to show their support for the war effort by appearing on the frontlines alongside Russian troops — sometimes with fatal consequences. Here's a look at some of the Russian priests traveling to the battlefield:



Alexander Chernykh / Kommersant

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