



ROCORA Synod of Bishops holds regular session

On February 18, 2020, a regular session of the Synod of Bishops of the Russian Orthodox Church Outside of Russia took place under the chairmanship of the ROCORA First Hierarchy, Metropolitan Hilarion of Eastern America and New York.

Taking part in the meeting were Metropolitan Mark of Berlin and Germany, Archbishop Kyrill of San Francisco and Western America, Archbishop Gabriel of Montreal and Canada, Bishop Irenei of London and Western Europe, and Bishop Nicholas of Manhattan. Archbishop Peter of Chicago and Mid-America was unable to participate due to diocesan matters.

The Synod members heard a brief report from Metropolitan Mark of Berlin and Germany on the activities of the ROCORA Ecclesiastical Mission in Jerusalem, and considered an appeal from the Union of Descendants of the Russians of Gallipoli, seeking special prayers for the White Army soldiers on the centenary of their exodus from Russia. The Synod of Bishops blessed the prayerful commemoration on Saturday, November 21, this year.

In view of the need to appoint a new ROCORA's representative to the Church and Public Council for Commemoration of Holy New Martyrs and Confessors of the Russian Church under the Patriarch of Moscow and All Russia, the Synod designated Archpriest Nikolai Artemoff, secretary of the German diocese, as new representative.

Having discussed the issues raised in a report of Archpriest Andre Papkov, president of the Synodal Liturgical Music Committee, the Synod decided to rename the school of church singing headed by him into the Metropolitan Laurus Synodal School of Church Singing. Noting the success of the recent conference held at the Cathedral of the Nativity of the Mother of God in London, England, the Synod blessed the establishment of a special committee under the auspices of the Liturgical Music Committee with the view of coordinating events in Western Europe. The committee will work under the guidance of Bishop Irenei of London and Western Europe.

Acting on a request from Archbishop Peter of Chicago and Mid-America, the Synod of Bishops granted to the St John the Theologian Skete, formerly a metochion of the Holy Cross Monastery in West Virginia, the status of an independent monastery.

The Synod of Bishops also deliberated on a number of disciplinary matters within the Church, and considered appeals from the ruling bishops for ecclesiastical awards to their clergymen and laity.

The meeting concluded with the singing of "It is Truly Meet," website of the Russian Orthodox Church Outside of Russia reports.

Official website of the Moscow Patriarchate/

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