



## **Patriarchal Exarch for Southeast Asia visits Republic of Korea**

On 29<sup>th</sup> November – 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2019, Metropolitan Sergy of Singapore and Southeast Asia, Patriarchal Exarch for Southeast Asia, visited the Republic of Korea, leading a delegation of the Russian Orthodox Church.

On 29<sup>th</sup> November, in the Incheon International Airport, Metropolitan Sergy and the delegation members were met by Archbishop Feofan of Korea and clerics of the Holy Resurrection parish in Seoul.

On 30<sup>th</sup> November, the members of the Russian Orthodox Church's delegation accompanied by diplomats of the Russian Embassy in South Korea and Captain 3rd Rank Sergei Balazhigitov, Assistant to the Military Attaché of the Russian Federation to the Republic of Korea, visited the city of Incheon, where Archbishop Feofan of Korea celebrated a litiya for the repose of the souls of the fallen soldiers of the Russian Navy at the monument commemorating the sailors of the cruiser Varyag. The monument was erected in St. Petersburg Square in 2004 to mark the centenary of the exploit of the cruiser Varyag and gunboat Koreets.

On 1<sup>st</sup> December 2019, Metropolitan Sergy of Singapore and Southeast Asia celebrated the Divine Liturgy at the home chapel of the Holy Resurrection parish. Concelebrating with him were Archbishop Feofan of Korea; Bishop Foma of Pavlovsky Posad, head of the Moscow Patriarchate's Administrative Secretariat; Hieromonk Pitirim (Dondenko), secretary of the Patriarchal Exarchate of Southeast Asia; Archpriest Dmitry Fedorin, dean of the First District of the city of Vladivostok; Archpriest Pavel Kang, administrator of the Korean Mission of the Russian Church Abroad; and clerics of the Holy Resurrection parish in Seoul. Among those praying at the service were Mr. D.I. Petrovsky of the Moscow Patriarchate's Department for External Church Relations; Mr. S.S. Suntsov and Mr. A.V. Topchilo of the Moscow Patriarchate; Mr. N.F. Sokolov, assistant to the Patriarchal Exarch for Southeast Asia; numerous compatriots and Orthodox Koreans.

While in Seoul, the Russian Orthodox Church's delegation met with H.E. Mr. Andrei Kulik, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Russian Federation to the Republic of Korea, and with several officials of the Republic of Korea.

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