



## **Monastic delegation of Russian Church venerates Orthodox shrines of Cyprus**

On 27<sup>th</sup> November 2019, a monastic delegation of the Russian Orthodox Church, which had arrived in Cyprus to take part in the International Conference on The Monasticism and Today's World, visited the Church of St Cyprian in Meniko. The pilgrims prayed at the relics of the Holy Hieromartyr Cyprian and Martyr Justina, venerated other shrines of the church and visited its guesthouse.

The rector of the church, Rev. Sabbas Pavlou, warmly greeted the delegation of the Russian Orthodox Church, mentioning the spiritual ties which exist between the Church of St. Cyprian and the Stavropegic Convent of the Conception of the Most Holy Mother of God in Moscow.

That same day the pilgrims visited the Monastery of the Kykkos Icon of the Mother of God. Especially for the guests from the Russian Orthodox Church, the revered Icon of the Heavenly Queen, which is traditionally covered with a shroud, was unveiled a little, so that the abbots, hegumens, hegumennesses and other members of the delegation could venerate it.

The delegation members were shown around the monastery and then proceeded to the burial place of the first President of the Republic of Cyprus, Archbishop Makarios III (1913–1977), a cenobite of the Kykkos Monastery. There Metropolitan Arseny of Svyatogorsk celebrated a requiem litiya.

Later that day the monastics of the Russian Orthodox Church arrived in the Convent of St. Nicholas in Orounda in the Nicosia district and prayed there at the evening service.

After the divine service the guests were greeted by Metropolitan Neophitos of Morphou and Sister Justina, abbess of the abode.

*Synodal Department for Monasteries and Monasticism/*

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