



**THE RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH**

Department for External Church Relations

## **Metropolitan Anthony of Chersonesus and Western Europe visits Shanghai**

After the celebrations marking the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the church of the Dormition in Beijing, Metropolitan Anthony of Chersonesus and Western Europe, head of the Moscow Patriarchate office for the institutions abroad, visited Shanghai, together with Mr. D. Petrovsky of the Moscow Patriarchate department for external church relations and Deacon Sergiy Kalashnikov, of the same office, who accompanied him.

On October 20, 2019, the commemoration day of St. Jonah the Bishop of Hankou, Metropolitan Anthony celebrated the Divine Liturgy at the fireplace hall of the Russian consulate in Shanghai. He was assisted by Father Ioan Schelkov, rector of the Orthodox community in Shanghai, and Deacon Sergiy Kalashnikov.

Among the worshippers were Ye. Gryaznov, councillor consul of Russia's general consulate in Shanghai, M. Drozdov, chairman of the World Coordinating Council of Russian Compatriots, A.

Semenov, vice-chairman of the Interregional Council of the Russian-Chinese Committee for Friendship, Peace and Development, D. Petrovsky, and members of the international Orthodox community in Shanghai.

The Holy Scripture was read in Church Slavonic, English and Chinese, and several prayers were said in English, Greek, Romanian and Serbian.

After the service, Metropolitan Antony warmly greeted the congregation and convey them a blessing from His Holiness Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Russia.

For prayerful memory of the divine service, His Eminence presented the community with liturgical vessels.

He also presented active parishioners with Patriarchal awards.

After the service, the guests from Moscow took part in the parish repast during which the fellowship with the archpastor continued.

Metropolitan Anthony also inspected some surviving buildings of Orthodox churches in Shanghai – the Cathedral of Our Lady the Refuge of Sinners and the church of St. Nicholas of Myra in Lycia.

On October 21, His Eminence met with Russia's consul general in Shanghai, A. Shmanevsky. They discussed a wide range of issues, including the organization of pastoral care for compatriots in Shanghai.

On the same day, Metropolitan Anthony and his party left for Moscow.

*DECR Communication Service*

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