



## Recitals given in Slovakia and Czechia by the choir of the Moscow Cathedral of the Epiphany



From September 27-29, 2019, the choir of the Cathedral of the Epiphany, with a blessing of His Holiness Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Russia and His Beatitude Metropolitan Rostislav of the Czech Lands and Slovakia, gave recitals in Slovakia and Czechia. The choir was conducted by the cathedral's chief precentor Alexander Majorov. The tour was made with the support of the Russian Federation Ministry of Culture. During their tour, the choristers were accompanied by the rector of the Cathedral of the Epiphany and the chairman of the Patriarchal church-public council for development of Russian church music, Archpriest Alexander Agheikin.

On September 27, the day of the Elevation of the Honourable and Life-Giving Cross of the Lord, the Russian choir sang festive hymns during the celebration of the Divine Liturgy at the church of St. Rostislav Equal-to-the-Apostles. The foundation stone was laid for this church during the visit of

Patriarch Alexy II of blessed memory to the Orthodox Church of the Czech Lands and Slovakia in 1966.

On September 28, the choir took part in the prayer service sung at the church of the Great Martyr George the Conqueror in Prague Castle – the oldest church in Prague (10<sup>th</sup> cent.) in which the Holy Martyr Princess Ludmila of Prague is buried. On the eve of the commemoration day of St. Ludmila, a prayer service with the akathistos was celebrated at her tomb by His Beatitude Rostislav, who was assisted by Metropolitan Sergiy of Barnaul and Altai (Russian Orthodox Church) and hierarchs of the Orthodox Church of the Czech Lands and Slovakia. His Beatitude noted that the prayer together with the choir of the Moscow Cathedral of the Epiphany at the heart of Christian Czechia was a special event in the life of the Orthodox Church of the Czech Lands and Slovakia.

In the evening, the choir gave a recital of the 20<sup>th</sup> century Russian choral music at the Chrystal Hall of the Czechian representation of Rossotrudnichestvo.

On September 29, the choir sang liturgical hymns in the church of Ss Peter and Paul at the Karlovy Vary representation of the Russian Orthodox Church.

On September 28, the Rossotrudnichestvo representation in Czechia opened a multi-media exposition of masterpieces of Old Russian iconography from the Russian Museum funds (St. Petersburg). Presented are over one hundred works of art. In addition, on September 16 the State Museum of the History of Religion opened an exhibition on Monasteries and Monasticism in Russia, at the Chrystal Hall of the Russian Center of Science and Culture in Prague.

*DECR Communication Service*

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