



## **Primate of the Orthodox Church in America officiates on the dedication day of the Patriarchal Cathedral in New York**

On 19 December 2018, the commemoration day of St. Nicholas the Wonderworker, His Beatitude Tikhon, Metropolitan of All America and Canada, celebrated the Divine Liturgy at St. Nicholas Patriarchal Cathedral in New York. Concelebrating were Bishop Matfei of Sourozh, administrator a.i. of the Patriarchal parishes in the USA; Archpriest Eric Tasi, secretary of the Synod of the Orthodox Church in America (OCA); Archpriest Igor Tarasov, chancellor of the Patriarchal parishes in the USA; Archpriest Andrew Sommer, sacristan of the Cathedral of the “Sign” Icon of the Mother of God, the Russian Orthodox Church Outside of Russia; and clerics of the Moscow Patriarchate parishes in the USA.

Petitions for the unity of the Orthodox Church and protection of the Church from divisions and schisms were offered up at the Litany of Fervent Supplication.

After the Liturgy Bishop Matfei greeted Metropolitan Tikhon on behalf of His Holiness Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Russia and thanked the Primate of the OCA for the joy of common prayer on the dedication day.

His Beatitude greeted the worshippers and asked Bishop Matfei to convey his gratitude to His Holiness Patriarch Kirill for fraternal attention and the words of support to the hierarchs, clerics and laypersons of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church which is undergoing hardships.

At the fraternal repast the participants discussed various issues of cooperation between the OCA and the Patriarchal parishes in the USA and exchanged opinion on the situation of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church.