



A hierarchy of the Russian Orthodox Church visits Capetown

On October 3, 2018, Archbishop Antony of Vienna and Budapest began his visit to South Africa. At the Capetown airport the head of the Moscow Patriarchate office for institutions abroad was met by Pavel Klimashin, representative of the Russian Federation general consulate and chairman of the coordinating board of the of Organization of Russian Compatriots in South Africa, and Archpriest Daniel Lugovoy, rector of the church of St Sergius of Radonezh in Johannesburg.

Later that day, Archbishop Antony met with the Russian consul general in Capetown Mr. R. Ambarov. They discussed numerous matters of mutual concern including the history and today's situation of the Russian-speaking community in South Africa and possible ways of its development in the future.

On October 4, Archbishop Antony said the Office for the Dead at the navy cemetery in Simon's Town. He lifted up a prayer for the Russian seamen who found their final resting place in the south of the African continent. Wreaths were laid at their graves on behalf of the Russian general consulate and the association of compatriots.

On the same day, Archbishop Antony attended a concert given by the choir of the St. Alexander of Svir

Monastery of the Holy Trinity and addressed the audience. Among the invited guests were representatives of political and business circles in South Africa and the Russia-speaking diaspora.

On October 5, Archbishop Antony met with the Archbishop of the Cape of Good Hope (Patriarchate of Alexandria). They discussed problems involved in the presence of the Orthodox Church in Capetown and pastoral care for the Russian-speaking community, as well as problems on the inter-Orthodox relation agenda. Participating in the talk were also Rev. Daniel Lugovoy, Archpriest Nicholas Giamouridis, rector of the St. George the Conqueror Cathedral in Capetown, and Deacon Sergiy Kalashnikov of the Moscow Patriarchate office for institutions abroad.

After the talk, His Eminence Antony visited the church of Ss Raphael, Nicholas and Irene, in which he celebrated a brief thanksgiving.

On October 6, the church delegation flew out to Johannesburg to attend the festivities devoted to the 20th anniversary of the opening of a Russian parish in South Africa, the website of the St. Sergius church in Johannesburg reports.

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