



**THE RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH**

Department for External Church Relations

## **Russian Orthodox Church's parishes in various countries celebrate 1030th anniversary of the Baptism of Russia**

*The divine services marking the 1030<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Baptism of Russia were celebrated at the parishes of the Russian Orthodox Church in various countries.*

On 28 July 2018, the commemoration day of the Holy Prince Vladimir, Equal-to-the-Apostles, Bishop Nestor of Korsun celebrated the Divine Liturgy at the Cathedral of St. Nicholas in Nice, France. The rector of the cathedral, Archpriest Andrei Yelisseyev, read out the Message of His Holiness Patriarch Kirill and the Holy Synod of the Russian Orthodox Church on the 1030<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Baptism of Russia.

After the Liturgy, a prayer service to Prince Vladimir, Equal-to-the-Apostles was celebrated, and at noon the neighbourhood rang with a peal of bells, website of the Korsun diocese reports.

To mark the 1030<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Baptism of Russia, Archbishop Tikhon of Podolsk, administrator of the diocese of Berlin and Germany, celebrated the Divine Liturgy at the Church of the Holy Grand Prince Vladimir, Equal-to-the-Apostles, in Marzahn, Berlin, and read out the Message of His Holiness Patriarch Kirill and the Holy Synod issued on this memorable date.

Among those praying in the church were pilgrims from the Polish Orthodox Church. The Liturgy was followed by a molyeben of thanksgiving to the Holy Prince Vladimir and a procession with the cross around the church, website of the diocese of Berlin and Germany reports.

Archbishop Tikhon greeted the worshipers with the commemoration day of the Baptist of Russia - "the man who had enlightened the Russian people with the light of Christ's faith and laid the foundations of the Christian civilization within the borders of the historical Rus'."

On the commemoration day of Prince Vladimir, Equal-to-the-Apostles, Bishop Matthew of Sourozh officiated at the Divine Liturgy in the Cathedral of the Dormition in London. Priest Dimitry Nedostupenko, secretary of the Diocese of Sourozh, and Protodeacon Vadim Santsevitch read out, in Russian and in English, the Message of His Holiness Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Russia and the Holy Synod of the Russian Orthodox Church on the occasion of the 1030<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Baptism of Russia.

At the conclusion of the Liturgy, the archpastor and the clergy celebrated a prayer service at the icon of St. Vladimir, website of the diocese of Sourozh reports.

To mark the 1030<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Baptism of Russia, Bishop John of Naro-Fominsk, administrator of the Patriarchal parishes in the United States, celebrated the Divine Liturgy at St. Nicholas Cathedral in New York. During the service, the Message of His Holiness Patriarch Kirill and the Holy Synod of the Russian Orthodox Church to the Archpastors, Clergy, Monastics and Laypeople was read out.

After the communion, a prayer service to Prince Vladimir, Equal-to-the-Apostles, was celebrated. Bishop John greeted the parishioners with the 1030<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Baptism of Russia, website of the Patriarchal parishes reports.

The Orthodox Christians in Thailand celebrated the 1030<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Baptism of Russia. On July 28, with the blessing of His Holiness Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Russia, the divine services were celebrated in all Orthodox churches of the Patriarchal deanery in the country.

In the city of Chiang Mai, Archimandrite Oleg (Cherepanin), dean of the Patriarchal parishes and representative of the Russian Orthodox Church to the Kingdom of Thailand, officiated at the Divine

Liturgy in the Church of the Holy Prince Vladimir, Equal-to-the-Apostles. The service was celebrated in the Slavonic and Thai languages. Most of the worshipers were the Thais from Chiang Mai and other cities. The Divine Liturgy was followed by a molyeben and a procession with the cross around the church.

The 1030<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Baptism of Russia coincided with the national holiday in Thailand – Birthday of His Majesty King Maha Vajiralongkorn Bodindradebayavarangkun (Rama X) – who, according to the Constitution of Thailand, is the patron of all religions in the Kingdom. Archimandrite Oleg (Cherepanin) greeted all the worshipers with the national holiday, and the choir performed the Royal anthem, website of the Russian Orthodox Church in Thailand reports.

On the 1030<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Baptism of Russia, a molyeben was celebrated at the Representation of the Russian Orthodox Church in Damascus by Hegumen Arseny (Sokolov), representative of the Patriarch of Moscow and All Russia to the Patriarch of the Great Antioch and All the East.

After the service, Fr. Arseny read out the Message of His Holiness Patriarch Kirill and the Holy Synod of the Russian Orthodox Church to the Archpastors, Clergy, Monastics and Laypeople.

A repast for the parishioners and guests followed, website of the Representation reports.

On 28 July 2018, Priest Alexy Maximov celebrated the Divine Liturgy at the Church of St. Catherine in Rome. After the service the Message of His Holiness Patriarch Kirill and the Holy Synod of the Russian Orthodox Church on the occasion of the 1030<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Baptism of Russia was read out. The bells of the Russian church on the banks of the Tiber resounded through the ancient Rome, website of the parish reports.

*DECR Communication Service*

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Source: <https://mospat.ru/en/news/47273/>