



Archbishop Sergiy of Solnechnogorsk completes his visit to the Philippines

On June 30, 2019, Archbishop Sergiy of Solnechnogorsk, administrator of the Moscow Patriarchate parishes in East and South-East Asia, celebrated the Divine Liturgy in the church of Our Lady of Iveron in Manila. He was assisted by Hieromonk Pitirim (Dodenko), senior priest of the church of the Dormition in Singapore; Hieromonk Alexiy (Lapshin) of the Russian Orthodox Church's diocese of Shuya, who has been sent on a mission to serve at the reviving Parish of Our Lady of Iveron in Manila; Hieromonk Philip (Balingit), administrator of the Philippines mission of the Russian Orthodox Church Outside Russia; and Hierodeacon Juvenaly (Lapshin) of the Moscow church of the Life-giving Trinity at Ostankino.

Among the worshippers were the Russian ambassador of the Philippines I. A. Khovaev; D. Petrovsky of the Moscow Patriarchate department for external church relations; Orthodox Philippians and compatriots. The liturgy was celebrated in Church Slavonic, Tagalog and English.

For the memory of the common prayer, His Eminence presented the community with an icon of Our Lady of Iveron and gave numerous parishioners gifts from Russia and icons of the Mother of God with a blessing from His Holiness Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Russia.

After the service, Archbishop Sergiy baptized a baby called Alexandra.

On the same day, the delegation of the Russian Orthodox Church led by Archbishop Sergiy departed for Singapore. At the Ninoy Akino airport in Manila, the delegation was seen off by the head of the Russian diplomatic mission in Manila, I. Khovaev, and the third secretary of the Russian embassy D. Karenin.

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