



## Hierarchical liturgy celebrated in Philippine city of Tagaytay



On June 29, 2018, Archbishop Sergiy of Solnechnogorsk, administrator of the Moscow Patriarchate parishes in East and South-East Asia, celebrated the Divine Liturgy at the church of the Nativity of Christ in the city of Tagaytay. 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.

For the memory of the common prayer, His Eminence presented the community with an icon of Our Lady of Kazan 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 gave the Holy Gifts of Christ to the oldest parishioner of the church, Fotinia, 97.

On the same day, the Russian ambassador I. Khovaev and D. Petrovsky of the Moscow Patriarchate department for external church relations met with the mayor of Taguig, the national capital city region of the Philippines, Ms. Maria Laarni, to discuss the restoration of the Russian church presence in the Philippines and revival of the Parish of Our Lady of Iveron, which had functioned in Manila from 1930 to the 1950s.

*DECR Communication Service*

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