



Orthodox Church of St Catherine in Rome celebrates its patronal feast



On 6 December 2015, Bishop Antony of Bogorodsk, head of the Moscow Patriarchate's Administration for Institutions Abroad, administrator of the Moscow Patriarchate's parishes in Italy, celebrated the Divine Liturgy at the Church of the Holy Great Martyr Catherine in Rome. The celebrations on the occasion of the patronal feast of St Catherine Church were brought forward to that date.

Among those present at the service were Mr. Alexander Avdeyev, Russia's Ambassador to the Vatican; Rev. Hyacinthe Destivelle of the Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity; Prof. Adriano Roccucci, general secretary of the Community of *Sant'Egidio*; *Marquise Immacolata Solaro del Borgo*, a member of the Order of Malta; and other distinguished guests.

After the Liturgy, *Marquise Solaro Del Borgo* presented a particle of the holy relics of St Alexis the Man of God to the Church of St Catherine.

In the evening, Bishop Antony read out the akathist to the Holy Great Martyr Catherine.

Later that evening, a concert of the Choir of the Cathedral of Christ the Saviour took place in the Roman Basilica of St Mary of the Angels and the Martyrs. The choir arrived in Rome to take part in the celebrations marking the patronal feast of the Church of St Catherine. Performed at the concert were Russian religious musical compositions by Rachmaninoff, Tchaikovsky, and other composers, the website of St Catherine Church reports.

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