



## Russian church representative takes part in Orthodox celebration in Lebanese village

On September 19, 2015, the Orthodox community in the Lebanese village of Balloune held its parish feast. At the invitation of the rector of the Parish of St. Nicholas, Father Seraphim Tarasi (Patriarchate of Antioch), vespers was celebrated by Hegumen Arseny (Sokolov), representative of the Patriarch of Moscow and All Russia to the Patriarch of Antioch and the entire East. The congregation included local Orthodox Lebanese as well as numerous faithful of the Russian Orthodox Church who came to Balloune from Beirut, Jounieh and various settlements in the Kesruan Province.

The choir consisted of choristers from the Beirut Representation of the Moscow Patriarchate.

After the service, a festive concert was given at the parish courtyard by children from the Children's Creative Studio at the Russian Cultural Center in Lebanon.

After that the generous hosts offered a festive repast consisting of Lebanese and Russian dishes. There was a charity fair in which Russian women residing in Lebanon offered their handicrafts, the website of the Beirut Representation of the Moscow Patriarchate reports.

*DECR Communication Service*

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