

## **Charity concert at Moscow Conservatoire**

[gallery order="DESC"]

On February 7, 2013, a charity concert 'In Anticipation of the Presentation of the Lord' took place at the Grand Hall of the Tchaikovsky Conservatoire in Moscow. Proceeds from the sale of tickets for the concert will be donated to the restoration of the Patriarchal Chernigovsky Metochion in Moscow, in which the Sts Cyril and Methodius School for Post-Graduate and Doctoral Studies is situated.

The Moscow State Academic Symphony Orchestra conducted by Russian People's Artist P. L. Kogan performed compositions by Giuseppe Verdi and Metropolitan Hilarion of Volokolamsk, head of the Moscow Patriarchate's department for external church relations and rector of the ROC School for Post-Graduate Studies. Svetlana Kasyan (soprano) of Bolshoi Theatre sang the arias.

Among honorary guests were Presidential Envoy for Central Russia A. Beglov, Deputy Foreign Minister A. Meshkov, ambassadors of Brazil, Colombia, Chile, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Estonia, Germany, Japan, Lithuania, Palestine, Serbia, Slovenia, Turkey, and the USA. There were also Apostolic Nuncio in Russia Archbishop Ivan Jurkovic, members of the Presidential Staff, members of the Russian Government, Orthodox businessmen, prominent artists and composers.

The concert was organized with the support of the Moscow Government and the St. Gregory the Theologian Charity. Information assistance was given by the Cervantes Institute at the Spanish Embassy.

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