



## **His Holiness Patriarch Kirill celebrates memorial service on the third anniversary of the demise of Patriarch Alexy II**

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December 5<sup>th</sup>, 2011, marked the third anniversary of the demise of His Holiness Patriarch Alexy II of Moscow and All Russia.

His Holiness Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Russia celebrated memorial service at the tomb of the 15<sup>th</sup> Patriarch of Moscow at the Annunciation side-altar of the Moscow Cathedral of the Epiphany.

Praying at the service were Metropolitan Varsonofiy of Saransk and Mordovia, chancellor of the Moscow Patriarchate; Bishop Ilian (Vostryakov); Bishop Serafim (Zalznitsky); Bishop Irinarkh of Krasnogorsk, chairman of the Synodal Department for Ministry in Prisons; Bishop Amvrosiy of Gatchina, rector of the St. Petersburg Theological schools; Bishop Feofilakt of Pyatigorsk and Cherkessk; Bishop Sergiy of Solnechnogorsk, head of the Moscow Patriarchate's Administrative Secretariat; protopresbyter Matfei Stadnyuk, rector of the Cathedral of the Epiphany; archpriest Vladimir Divakov, Patriarch's secretary for Moscow; archpriest Mikhail Ryazantsev, sacristan of the Cathedral of Christ the Saviour; archpriest Nikolai Balashov, DECR deputy chairman; deans of Moscow deaneries; mother superiors of Moscow convents; Moscow clergymen; staff members of the Moscow Patriarchate; and many laymen.

After the memorial service, His Holiness Patriarch Kirill addressed the worshippers and laid flowers at the tomb of Patriarch Alexy II. Also, a wreath was laid at the tomb on behalf of Patriarch Kirill.