



Presidents of Russia and Ukraine visit Cathedral of the Three Anastasias in Glukhov

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On September 17, 2010, the Presidents of Russia and Ukraine visited the Cathedral of the Three Anastasias in the city of Glukhov. As participants in the international rally to mark the centennial of the first motor race for Nicholas II's Prize from St. Petersburg to Kiev, Mr. Medvedev and Mr. Yanukovich had covered a 60 km-leg driving Pobeda cars from the starting point at 26 km from the Russian-Ukrainian border to finish in the Ukrainian city of Glukhov, the President of Russia's press service reported.

After finishing the 'border' leg at Glukhov's central square, the heads of states saw a small exhibition of retro cars, laid wreaths at the Great Patriotic War memorial and visited the Cathedral of the Three Anastasias.

At the cathedral, they were welcomed by Archbishop Luka of Konotop and Glukhov, the diocesan website reports. After a brief prayer, His Eminence Luka addressed the presidents wishing them 'physical and spiritual strength for their work for the good of our God-saved people'. 'Please, do not forget that Orthodoxy is a faith of love. Extend your love to all those who hope for your care and the Lord will not abandon you. It is possible to go forward only if there is peace and harmony', he said. His Eminence presented the presidents with icons of the Synaxis of the Glinsky Hermitage Starets.

The high guests, on their part, presented the church with an icon and church vessels.

Among the worshippers in the cathedral were regional and other officials.

The Church of the Three Anastasias was built in the early 18th century by Anastasia Skoropasky of the prominent Ukrainian hetman's family. In 1884-1893 a new church dedicated to the same three saints was built by the sugar manufactures Tereschenko. Among the artists who painted the frescoes in the church was V. Vereshchagin. The Three Anastasias' in its architectural forms resembles St. Vladimir's in Kiev.

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