



## **Clerics from Russia celebrate requiem service at the tomb of Metropolitan Laurus of the blessed memory, the First Hierarch of the Russian Church Abroad**

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On 6 February 2010, during the All-Night Vigil celebrated at the Synodal Cathedral of the "Sign" Icon of the Mother of God in New York, the First Hierarch of the Russian Church Abroad, Metropolitan Hilarion of Eastern America and New York, archpastors and clerics met the honourable head of St. John Chrysostom, Doctor of the Church.

The honourable head of St. John Chrysostom was brought from Moscow to New York with the blessing of His Holiness Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Russia. Pilgrims from the parishes of all Orthodox jurisdictions in the USA, as well as monks and seminarians of the Roman Catholic Church in the USA also arrived to venerate the relic that will repose at the Synodal Cathedral of the Russian Church Abroad till February 11. After the Divine Liturgy, it will be transferred to St. Nicholas Patriarchal Cathedral in New York and depart for Moscow on February 12.

During their stay in the USA, members of the Russian Orthodox Church delegation, who accompanied the relic, made a pilgrimage to the spiritual centre of the Russian Church Abroad, the Holy Trinity Monastery in Jordanville where they celebrated requiem service for the First Hierarch of the Russian Church Abroad, Metropolitan Laurus of the blessed memory. Choir of the seminary students sang at the service. After the sightseeing of the monastery, the guests from Russia met with the abbot of the monastery, Archimandrite Luke.

On Tuesday, February 9, the commemoration day of St. John Chrysostom, members of the delegation from Moscow concelebrated with the First Hierarch of the Russian Church Abroad at the Divine Liturgy at the Cathedral of the "Sign" Icon of the Mother of God in New York.