Palm Sunday is celebrated at Patriarchal Cathedral of the Dormition in Damascus



On 25th April 2021, the feast day of the Entrance of the Lord into Jerusalem, a festive divine service was celebrated at the Patriarchal Cathedral of the Dormition of the Holy Theotokos in Damascus.

His Beatitude Patriarch John X of Antioch and All the East officiated at Matins and the Divine Liturgy. Concelebrating were Bishop John of Sergiopolis, the assembly of clergymen from the capital of Syria, and Hegumen Arseny (Sokolov), representative of the Patriarch of Moscow and All Russia to the Patriarch of Antioch and All the East who led priests during the service with the blessing of His Beatitude.

The Divine Liturgy having been celebrated, His Beatitude Patriarch John X led the traditional festive procession of clerics and laypersons with palm branches accompanied by the patriarchal orchestra of wind instruments and the drummers.

Last year, new instruments were purchased for the orchestra with funds donated by the Russian Orthodox Church to replace those damaged in spring of 2018 during intense shelling of Damascus carried out by the militants from the territory of suburbs.

That same day His Beatitude Patriarch John X met and talked with Hegumen Arseny. Representative of the Patriarch of Moscow and All Russia to the Patriarch of Antioch and All the East conveyed to His Beatitude congratulatory messages on the upcoming Pascha from His Holiness Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Russia and from Metropolitan Hilarion of Volokolamsk, chairman of the Moscow Patriarchate's Department for External Church Relations.

Moscow Patriarchate Representation to Patriarch of Antioch/
DECR Communication Service

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