Speaker of the National Assembly of the Republic of Korea visits the Monastery of the Holy Trinity



On May 23, 2021, the Speaker of the National Assembly of the Republic of Korea Mr. Park Byeong-seug visited the St. Sergius Laura of the Holy Trinity. The high guest was accompanied by Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Korea to the Russian Federation Mr. Mr Lee Sok-bae, the speaker's wife Ms. Han Myung-hui and elected members of the National Assembly.

The guests were welcomed to the Trinity monastery by the Patriarchal Exarch for South-East Asia, Metropolitan Sergiy of Singapore and South-East Asia, and the father superior of the Laura of the Holy Trinity, Bishop Thomas of Sergiev-Posad and Dmitrov.

They were joined by L. Slutsky, State Duma member; D. Petrovsky, secretary for inter-Orthodox relations of the Moscow Patriarchate's department for external church relations; Archimandrite Jeremias (Solovyov), a novice of the Laura; Hegumen Varnava (Fyodorov), assistant to the dean of the St. Sergius Laura of the Trinity; and Hierodeacon Polikarp (Tibanov), head of the Pilgrimage Center of the

St. Sergius Laura of the Trinity.

In his welcoming speech Bishop Thomas said, “The Laura is not just the largest acting monastery, but also Russia’s spiritual center, the heart of Russian Orthodoxy. We hope that a little part of your heart will remain in our holy monastery.

“As His Holiness Patriarch Kirill noted, thanks to the help given by Korean Christians at the hard time of the economic crisis of the 90s, a printing house was created in the St. Sergius Laura of the Holy Trinity, which made us independent from the state in publishing religious literature. On many occasions, the Laura’s pilgrimage center took part in exhibitions in Seoul to present booklets about the monastery printed in the Thai language in this very printing house.

“Through the intercession of St. Sergius, may our good relations develop for the good of both our two countries”.

Hierodeacon Polikarp organized for the guests a tour of the monastery and its main churches - the Refectory Church, the Church of the Trinity and the Church of the Dormition and showed them the Laura’s sacristy museum, in which they were guided by Ms. S. Nikolayeva, deputy general director of the Sergiev Posad preserve museum.

The guests were moved by the generous welcome, expressing a wish to visit the St. Sergius Monastery once again in the future.

Earlier, on May 22, a meeting took place at the Church of Christ the Saviour in Moscow between His Holiness Kirill, Patriarch of Moscow and All Russia, and the Speaker of the National Assembly of the Republic of Korea, Mr. Park Byeong-seug.

St. Sergius Laura of the Holy Trinity/
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