



## Metropolitan Anthony of Chersonesus visits parishes in Milan



On September 12, 2021, festivities took place in Milan timed to the 800<sup>th</sup> anniversary of St. Prince Alexander Nevsky's birthday. The festive Liturgy was celebrated on that day at the Parish of St. Ambrose of Milan by the Patriarchal Exarch for Western Europe, Metropolitan Anthony of Chersonesus and Western Europe, and Metropolitan Augustine of Belaya Tserkov and Boguslav.

The hierarchs were assisted by rector of the parish Archimandrite Ambrose (Makar), secretary of the Moscow Patriarchate parish administration in Italy Hieromonk Ambrose (Matsegora), Italian clergy and pilgrims in holy orders. The service was celebrated in Church Slavonic, Moldavian and Italian.

After the Liturgy, the Patriarchal Exarch greeted Metropolitan Augustine, thanked him for the participation in the liturgy and wished him physical strength and God's help in his ministry, assuring him of the tireless prayers of the clergy and flock of the Exarchate of Western Europe for peace and welfare of the Church of Christ in Ukraine at this difficult time.

Metropolitan Anthony also greeted Archimandrite Ambrose (Makar) and presented him with jewelry beads for prayerful memory.

In his address, Metropolitan Augustine expressed cordial gratitude to the Patriarchal Exarch for the invitation to visit Italy and wished him blessed success in his archpastoral work. With a blessing of His Beatitude Onyfriy, Metropolitan of Kiev and All Ukraine, he presented Archimandrite Ambrose with the Order of the Holy Prince Yaroslav the Wise (Degree II).

On the same day, the Patriarchate Exarch visited the Parish of Ss Sergius of Radonezh, Seraphim of Sarov and Vincent of Saragossa. He was welcomed by rector Archimandrite Dimitry (Fantini), the clergy and numerous flock.

Having venerated the church's shrines, the Patriarchal Exarch greeted the clergy and parishioners, expressing joy at the opportunity to visit one of the oldest Orthodox parishes in the Apennines.

With a blessing of His Holiness Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Russia, Metropolitan Anthony placed on Archimandrite Dimitry a high award - the Order of St. Seraphim of Sarov granted to the priest on the occasion of the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his Presbyterian consecration.

Metropolitan Anthony pointed to numerous services rendered by Father Dimitry to the Russian Orthodox Church in Italy, wishing him good health and God's help in his pastoral work.

*Website of the Diocese of Chersonesus/DECR Communication Service*