Metropolitan Anthony of Volokolamsk takes part in festive divine services at the St. Sergius Laura of the Trinity



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On October 7-8, festivities were held at St. Sergius Laura of the Holy Trinity on the commemoration day of St. Sergius of Radonezh. Numerous pilgrims, including an assembly of bishops and priests, came to the monastery.

In the afternoon of October the 7th, the acathistus was celebrated at the relics of the abbot of the Russian land in the church of the Trinity. The celebrants included permanent members of the Holy Synod of the Russian Orthodox Church - Metropolitan Vladimir of Kishinev and All Moldova, Metropolitan Vikenty of Tashkent and Uzbekistan, Metropolitan Varsonofy of St Petersburg and Ladoga, Metropolitan Pavel of Krutitsy and Kolomna, Metropolitan Veniamin of Minsk and Zaslavsk; Metropolitan Dionisy of Voskresensk, chancellor of the Moscow Patriarchate, the first vicar of the Patriarch of

Moscow and All Russia for Moscow; and Metropolitan Anthony of Volokolamsk, chairman of the Department for External Church Relations of the Moscow Patriarchate and Patriarchal Exarch for Western Europe; as well as Bishop Thomas of Sergiev Posad and Dmitrov, and Bishop Kirill of Zvenigorod, rector of the Moscow Theological Schools.

In the evening of that day, Metropolitan Vladimir of Kishinev and All Moldova celebrated the All-Night Vigil at the Laura's church of the Dormition. Among his concelebrants was Metropolitan Anthony of Volokolamsk who presided over the festive lity at the vespers.

On October 8, His Eminence Anthony celebrated the Divine Liturgy at the Laura's church of the Descent of Holy Spirit on the Apostles. Participating in the festive service were Metropolitan Leonid of Klin, Patriarchal Exarch for Africa; Bishop Yelisey of Uryupinsk and Novoannino, Bishop Mathew of Surozh and Bishop Alexis of Caffa. They were assisted by an assembly of clergy including Archpriest Nikolay Balashov, an adviser to the Patriarch of Moscow and All Russia; and Archpriest Nikolay Lishchenyuk, DECR vice-chairman.

With a blessing of His Holiness Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Russia, after the petitions for Holy Rus's during the Ardent Supplication, prayers were lifted up for the good health of President of the Russian Federation V.V. Putin.

After the liturgy, Metropolitan Anthony delivered a sermon.

This was followed by a thanksgiving in the square of the St. Sergius Laura of the Trinity. It was presided by Metropolitan Vladimir of Kishinev and All Moldova, who was assisted by an assembly of bishops.

After the festive divine services, Moscow Patriarchate chancellor Metropolitan Dionisy of Voskresensk read out a congratulatory message from His Holiness Patriarch Kirill to the father superior, brethren of the monastery and pilgrims.

The choir sang Many Years to His Holiness Patriarch Kirill, the President of the Russian Federation, to the father superior of the Laura and his brethren, and to all the Orthodox Christians.

From the information on the site of the
Church of the Nativity of John the Precursor-in-Presnya.

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