

## Restoration of the church in Jal el-Dib, where the community of the Russian Church's Lebanon Representation worship, begins with thanksgiving celebrated in two languages



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On October 8, at the church of the Annunciation of the Most Holy Mother of God in Jal el-Dib, Lebanon, in which the community of the Russian Orthodox Church Representation worship, the thanksgiving with blessing water was celebrated. After the thanksgiving hymns were sung, a prayer was said before the beginning of restoration work in the church and the parish house.

The divine service was presided over by Metropolitan Silouan of Lebanese Mountains and Metropolitan Niphon of Philippopolis, representative of the Patriarch of Antioch and All the East to the Patriarch of

Moscow and All Russia. The archpastors were assisted by Archimandrite Philipp (Vasiltsev), rector of the Lebanon Representation of the Russian Orthodox Church; Archpriest Samir Khouri, rector of the Parish of the Most Holy Mother of God in Jal el-Dib (Metropolis of the Lebanese Mountains); Archimandrite Isaac (El-Khouri), and Deacon Maxim Sabah.

The thanksgiving was celebrated in Arabic and Church Slavonic, the Representation website reports.

Present in the church were Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Ambassador of the Russian Federation to Lebanon A. N. Rudakov, Honorary Consul of the Russian Federation in Lebanon Jacques Jean Sarraf and parishioners of the church of the Annunciation of the Most Holy Mother of God in Jal el-Dib.

After the dismissal, Metropolitan Silouan addressed the members of the Russian Orthodox Church community in Beirut. His Eminence congratulated the parishioners on the beginning of restoration work in the church of the Annunciation, which has been the permanent place of community worship for two years now.

Metropolitan Silouan also warmly welcomed Metropolitan Niphon and presented him with a pectoral icon of St. Silouan the Athonite.

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