His Holiness Patriarch Porfirije of Serbia and Metropolitan Anthony of Volokolamsk visit the Russian Orthodox Church's Belgrade Representation



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On November 10, His Holiness Porfirije, Patriarch of Serbia, and Metropolitan Anthony of Volokolamsk, chairman of the Department for External Church Relations of the Moscow Patriarchate, who is in the Serbian capital on a working visit with a blessing of His Holiness Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Russia, visited the Russian church of the Holy Trinity at Tasmajdan - the Metochion of the Russian Orthodox Church, to venerate its shrines and evaluate the progress made in the repair and restoration work carried out in it.

The DECR chairman was accompanied by Archpriest Nikolay Balashov, adviser to the Patriarch of Moscow and All Russia; Archpriest Vitaly Tarasjev, rector of the Belgrade Metochion; Archpriest Igor Yakimchuk, acting vice-chairman of the DECR; and Rev. Alexander Ershov, secretary to the DECR chairman.

The Primate of the Serbian Orthodox Church, assisted by Metropolitan Anthony, celebrated the solemn rite of blessing the crosses for the cupolas of the Russian church in Belgrade and the over-gate mosaic image of the Holy Trinity and bestowed a benediction on the clergy and faithful of the church.

His Holiness Patriarch Porfirije greeted Metropolitan Anthony and all those present and pointed to the importance of the church of the Holy Trinity as a place uniting the Russian and Serbian Orthodox nations.

Metropolitan Anthony cordially thanked His Holiness for the care of the Metochion and its parishioners.

Then His Eminence presented Archpriest Vitaly Tarasjev with a mitre, the right to ware which had been bestowed on him by His Holiness Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Russia on his 60th birthday in acknowledgment of his long-standing fruitful rector's work, and with the Oder of St. Seraphim of Sarov, Degree III, in honour of the 30th anniversary of his priestly service.

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