THE RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH
Department for External Church Relations

‘OCU’ supporters have captured a church of the canonical Church in Lvov



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On April 5, supporters of the schismatic structure ‘Orthodox Church of Ukraine’ disrupted the divine service at the St. George Cathedral of the city of Lvov, reports the Ukrainian Orthodox Church Information-Education Department. A group of people pretended to hold a meeting of the cathedral’s religious community with the aim to capture this church.

The Lvov diocesan administration reported that at 9 am unknown people (about 50 of then) entered the cathedral territory and blocked the entrance to the territory and to the church. Led by Yuriy Kholod, vice-chairman of the Lvov Regional Council, they held a ‘parish meeting’ on the ‘transfer’ of the church

community to the ‘OCU’.

The gathering was also attended by a ‘priest’ of the ‘diocese’ of Lvov headed by ‘Metropolitan’ Makariy. The ‘OCU’ representatives had already held their ‘thanksgiving’ in the church.

The instigators cried out pseudo-patriotic slogans in the cathedral and tried to provoke a violent confrontation. The cameraman who livestreamed the event was led out of the church by the police.

The event in the church was also joined by radical rogues.

At the diocesan administration, Metropolitan Philaret of Lvov and Galicia met with persons who demanded “to be transferred to the ‘OCU’ or to hand all the property to it”.

The capture of the St. George Cathedral in Lvov was commented by Bishop Jacob of Drogobych. His Grace related that the Diocese of Lvov of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church would appeal to court over all that happened around the St. George Cathedral on April 5, 2023.

‘We stand for the settlement of any problem only legally. We are against raids and any violent captures. We are against any settlement of problems by force’, the hierarch stressed.

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