



## Adherents of the 'Orthodox Church of Ukraine' seize church building of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Khmelnytskyi region.



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On 9<sup>th</sup> July in the city of Netishyn in the region of Khmelnytskyi adherents of the schismatic 'Orthodox Church of Ukraine' seized the Cathedral of the Burning Bush Icon of Our Lady, which belongs to the canonical Ukrainian Orthodox Church.

As reported by the information and education department of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church, the raid by the adherents of the 'OCU' was accompanied by open desecration. A group of schismatic entered the church during the divine liturgy. At the end of the service the rector of the church Father Viktor Tishkin and the clergy of cathedral attempted to speak to the activists, but the latter continually shouted abuse at them and mocked the Orthodox priests and faithful.

As they seized the church, the adherents of the 'OCU' shouted aloud and indulged in mock applause, as well as being violent towards the parishioners in the cathedral. All of this occurred with the direct participation and encouragement of the director general of the Khmelnytskyi nuclear power plant Andriy

Kozyuri, the local authorities and so-called clergy of the 'OCU'.

Stationed inside the church were the police who in effect supported the raiders in their illegal acts. The schismatics threatened the clergy of the cathedral and the faithful of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church.

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