



## **DECR Chairman meets with representatives of Orthodox Church in America**



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On September 1, DECR Chairman Metropolitan Anthony of Volokolamsk met at the Moscow Patriarchate Department for External Church Relations with the rector of the Moscow Representation of the Orthodox Church of America, Archpriest Daniel Andreyuk, and Fr. Alexander Koranda, rector of the Trinity Cathedral in Chicago, director of the diocesan communication department and the department for the seminarians' affairs, who is on a pilgrimage in Russia.

Participating in the meeting was also Archpriest Igor Yakimchuk, DECR vice-chairman.

The representatives of the Orthodox Church in America recalled their recent trip to Tikhvin and their

visit to the Monastery of the Dormition of the Theotokos in which the wonder-working Icon of the Mother of God is kept. During the Great Patriotic War, this venerated icon was brought out first to Latvia and then to the USA, where for many decades it was kept in the Trinity Cathedral in Chicago. In 2004, the icon, according to the will of its keeper Archbishop John (Garclavs) of Chicago, was solemnly returned to Russia.

They also discussed possible initiatives for joint veneration of the Tikhvin Icon in the Russian Orthodox Church and the Orthodox Church in America, as well as inter-Orthodox relations and cooperation between the two Sister Churches.

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