



## **Celebrations marking 60th anniversary of the Diocese of Vienna and Austria begin in Vienna**



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On November 24, Metropolitan Anthony of Volokolamsk, chairman of the Moscow Patriarchate's Department for External Church Relations, arrived in Vienna with the blessing of His Holiness Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Rus' to lead the celebrations marking the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Diocese of Vienna and Austria.

Celebrations began on November 25 with a concert of sacred music at the Vienna Cathedral of St. Nicholas.

Before the concert began, Bishop Alexy of Vienna and Austria congratulated the audience on the remarkable date in the life of the diocese and noted a long way it has gone. He underscored the role

being played by churches of the Orthodox Church in creating peace in human souls and maintaining unity among representatives of different nationalities.

Among those performing at the concert were the Sacramelos male quartet conducted by choirmaster Konstantin Leipus and the children's choir of the Cathedral of St. Nicholas. Presented on the projection screen were histories of the Cathedral choirs and of different periods in the life of the Diocese of Vienna and Austria, of its archpastors and clergy.

At the end of the festive evening, the large choir of the Cathedral of St. Nicholas sang church hymns by classical and modern composers.

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