



## Metropolitan Anthony of Volokolamsk officiates at Divine Liturgy in St. Nicholas Cathedral in Vienna



**DECR Communication Service, 26/11/2023**

On November 26, 25th Sunday after Pentecost, celebrations marking the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Diocese of Vienna and Austria took place at the Cathedral of St. Nicholas in Vienna.

**Officiating** at the Divine Liturgy was Metropolitan Anthony of Volokolamsk, chairman of the Department for External Church Relations of the Moscow Patriarchate. Among his concelebrants were Metropolitan Mark of Ryazan and Mikhaylov, Metropolitan Nestor of Korsun and Western Europe, and Bishop Alexy of Vienna and Austria, as well as Archpriest Vladimir Tyschuk, Archpriest Chrysostom Pijnenburg, Archpriest Radoslav Ristić, Hieromonk Ioann (Krammer), Priest Vyacheslav Schibanov, Priest Georgy Ryashko, Deacons Bojan Nedeljkovic and Nikolai Markovich, and ordained guests. Archimandrite Georgij (Vostrel) was praying in the sanctuary.

Among those who attended the divine service was H.E. Mr Dmitry Lyubinsky, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Russian Federation to the Republic of Austria.

After the Liturgy, Metropolitan Anthony warmly greeted the hierarchs, clergy and numerous worshippers on behalf of His Holiness Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Rus'. In his homily, His Eminence emphasized the utmost importance of unity for building up the Church of Christ. "The Church unites people inasmuch as we all are united by Christ. We have one faith, one baptism, and one Eucharistic Chalice in which we find the blessed unity. In this lies the great power of our Church," the DECR chairman said.

With the blessing of His Holiness Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Rus', Metropolitan Anthony of Volokolamsk presented Ambassador Lyubinsky with the Order of St. Seraphim of Sarov, 3<sup>rd</sup> Class, in consideration of his zealous work for the good of the Holy Church.

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