# Thanksgiving celebrated at St. Nicholas Cathedral in Tehran



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On February 23, a thanksgiving service was celebrated at St. Nicholas Cathedral in the capital of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Officiating was archimandrite Alexander (Zarkeshev), rector of the church of St Philip the Apostle in Sharjah, United Arab Emirates, and of St. Nicholas Cathedral in Tehran. He was assisted by hegumen Varlaam (Dulsky) and deacon Alexiy Kostin, who said canonical Many Years, website of the parish reports.

Archimandrite Alexander greeted and blessed all the worshippers.

Festive food was offered at the refectory hall. The event was arranged through the efforts of the warden, Mr. Emmanuel Shirani, and the parishioners.

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On February 21, archimandrite Alexander (Zarkeshev), who was making a pastoral trip about Iran, visited the Holy Trinity church, the oldest of the extant Orthodox churches in the country built at the Orthodox cemetery in 1908. Archimandrite Alexander brought new utensils to the cemetery church, such as a seven-branched candlestick, a tabernacle, two altar crosses, a crucifix, and new cloth for the altar and the credence table at the sanctuary. The requiem service was celebrated ‘for all Orthodox Christians buried in this cemetery.’

Also, archimandrite Alexander conducted memorial services at the common graves of Soviet soldiers killed in Iran during the Second World War.

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