Russian Church representative takes part in memorial service on the 40th day after repose of Patriarch Neophyte of Bulgaria



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On April 21, the 5th Sunday of Lent and the 40th day after the demise of His Holiness Patriarch Neophyte of Bulgaria, the Divine Liturgy was celebrated at the St. Nedelya Cathedral. Metropolitan Grigory of Vratsa, Locum Tenens of the Bulgarian Patriarchal Throne, officiated. Concelebrating were Metropolitans Grigory of Veliko Tarnovo, Gavriil of Lovech, Ioann of Varna and Veliki Preslav, Seraphim of Nevrokop, Naum of Rousse, Kyprian of Stara Zagora, and Daniel of Vidin, Bishop Gerasim of Melnik, chief secretary of the Holy Synod; Bishop Siony of Velic, hegumen of the Troyan and Bachkovo monasteries; Bishop Polycarp of Belogradchik, vicar of the Metropolis of Sofia; Bishop Pachomy of Branitsa, rector of the Sofia Theological Seminary; Bishop Isaac of Velbazhda, second vicar of the Diocese of Sofia; archimandrite Vasily, protosyngel of the Metropolis of Sofia; archimandrite Evfimy, spiritual advisor of the Diocese of Sofia; archpriest Vladimir Tyshchuk, representative of the Patriarch of

Moscow and All Rus'; staurophoric oikonomos Neluţ Oprea, representative of the Romanian Orthodox Church; archimandrite Stefan, father superior of the Troyan Monastery; and clergymen of the Metropolis of Sofia.

After the Liturgy, a memorial service was celebrated for the recently departed Patriarch Neophyte in the middle of the church. Concelebrating with the assembly of hierarchs were Metropolitans Nikolai of Plovdiv, Anthony of Western and Central Europe and Yakov of Dorostol, website of the Russian Orthodox Church's Metochion in Sofia reports.

At the end of the memorial service, a funeral litany was celebrated at the grave of the ever-memorable Patriarch Neophyte.

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His Holiness Neophyte, Patriarch of Bulgaria and Metropolitan of Sofia, 78, passed away in the Lord after a long illness on March 3, 2024.

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