



**THE RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH**  
Department for External Church Relations

## **Metropolitan Anthony of Volokolamsk visited the Cathedral of the Holy Myrrh-bearing Women in Baku**



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On the 29<sup>th</sup> of April 2024, with the blessing of His Holiness Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Rus', as part of his **trip to Azerbaijan** to participate in a conference of religious leaders on the topic of "Building Trust through Interreligious Dialogue", Metropolitan Anthony of Volokolamsk, Chairman of the Department for External Church Relations of the Moscow Patriarchate, visited the Cathedral of the Holy Myrrh-bearing Women in Baku.

The Archpastor was welcomed in the church by Archpriest Dionisy Svechnikov, Secretary of the Baku Diocesan Office. Vladyka Anthony venerated the holy relics of the cathedral and also viewed the exposition of the diocesan museum opened at the church.

Later in the day, the hierarch visited the Alley of Heroes and the tomb of Azerbaijan's first President Heydar Aliyev on the Alley of Honour.

At the place of repose of Archbishop Alexander (Ishchein), who headed the Baku diocese in 1998-2021 until his death, the DECR Chairman offered requiem prayers. As a sign of great respect for the first bishop of the revived Baku Diocese, Vladyka Alexander was buried in the Alley of Honour.

During the trip, Metropolitan Anthony of Volokolamsk is accompanied by Archimandrite Philaret (Bulekov), Deputy Chairman of the Russian Orthodox Church, and Priest Nikolai Vasin, Secretary of the Chairman of the Russian Orthodox Church.

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