



## Metropolitan Anthony of Volokolamsk begins his visit to Cyprus



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On 18<sup>th</sup> May 2024, with the blessing of His Holiness Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Russia, Metropolitan Anthony of Volokolamsk, chairman of the Department for External Church Relations of the Moscow Patriarchate, arrived in Cyprus.

Metropolitan Anthony is accompanied by Archpriest Igor Yakimchuk, DECR deputy chairman; and Priest Nikolai Vasin, secretary to the DECR chairman.

Meeting the delegation of the Russian Orthodox Church at the Larnaka Airport was Archpriest Pavel Povalayev, rector of the Church of St. Nicholas the Wonderworker in Limassol.

In Larnaka, Metropolitan Anthony and other members of the delegation venerated the relics of the Righteous Lazarus of the Four Days, Bishop of Kiteia, kept in the church named after the saint.

After that, they visited the Stavrovouni Monastery. Its most precious relic is an ancient cypress cross in a silver reliquary containing a particle of the wood from the Life-Giving Cross of the Lord.

That same day later, Metropolitan Anthony and other DECR staff members accompanying him on his visit prayed at the All-Night Vigil in St. Nicholas Church in Limassol on the eve of its great consecration scheduled for the third Sunday after Pascha, when the Church commemorates the Holy Myrrh-bearing Women.

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