



Representative of the Russian Church took part in the Divine service at the place where the Lord appeared to the Apostle Paul



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On the 28th of June, on the eve of the feast day of the memory of the Holy Chiefs of the Apostles Peter and Paul according to the New Julian calendar, Archimandrite Philip (Vasiltsev), representative of the Patriarch of Moscow and All Rus' to the Patriarchal See of Antioch, took part in the Cathedral Vespers, which was presided over by His Beatitude Patriarch John X of Antioch and All the East at the Patriarchal Monastery in honour of the Lord's apparition to the holy Apostle Paul in the Damascus suburb of Tal Kawkab, on the site of the event described in the Book of the Acts of the Apostles.

His Beatitude was accompanied by members of the Holy Synod of the Antiochian Orthodox Church: Archimandrite Jacob (Yacoub), rector of the Patriarchal Monastery in honour of the Dormition of the

Holy Theotokos in Balamand, Archimandrite Jacob (Khalil), dean of the theological institute of Balamand University, Archimandrite Gerasim (Kabbas), rector of the Patriarchal Monastery of St. George in Al-Humeirah, clergy of Damascus, Syrian and Lebanese dioceses of the Antiochian Patriarchate, as well as numerous pilgrims from Australia, Argentina, Brazil, France, Lebanon and Syria, **according to the** website of the Russian Orthodox Metochion in Damascus.

Metropolitan Damascene of Brazil delivered a sermon on the theme of the feast.

In his Primatial Address at the end of the service, His Beatitude Patriarch John thanked the fellow Archpastors, Archimandrite Philip, the clergy and pilgrims from many countries for their participation in the festive service on the eve of the Feast of the Commemoration of the Holy Chiefs of the Apostles Peter and Paul.

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