



## Hierarch of the Serbian Church takes part in patronal feast of St. Elijah church on Ilyinka Street in Moscow



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On August 2, festive events dedicated to St. Elijah's Day were held in Moscow.

The main event was the celebration of the patronal feast in St. Elijah's church at the Novgorod metochion. The old Moscow street Ilyinka was named in honor of this church. The Divine Liturgy was celebrated by Bishop Jovan of Pakrac and Slavonia, a hierarch of the Serbian Orthodox Church, who arrived in the Russian capital with the blessing of His Holiness Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Rus', and by Bishop Serafim of Istra, vicar of His Holiness the Patriarch. They were assisted by archpriest Andrei Rechitsky, rector of St. Elijah's church and dean of the Iversky district of the Moscow city diocese; archpriest Alexander Ilyashenko, rector of the church of the All-Merciful Savior of the former Convent of Joy to All Sorrows in Moscow; archpriest Vyacheslav Shestakov, rector of the churches of the Patriarchal metochion in Zaryadye in Moscow and sacristan of the Patriarchal Cathedral of the Dormition and other churches in the Moscow Kremlin; and other clergymen of Moscow.

Among those attending the festive service were Lieutenant General Anatoly Kontsevoy, Chief of Staff of the Airborne Troops; Major General Vladimir Danilchenko, chairman of the Council of Airborne Troops Veterans; and Mr. Alexander Ruabov, advisor to the Prefect of the Central Administrative District of Moscow; as well as other guests.

The celebration of St. Elijah's Day in Moscow was continued by the procession with the cross, taking part in which were veterans and servicemen of the Russian Airborne Troops, who venerate the Prophet of God as their heavenly patron. The procession went to Lobnoye Mesto on the Red Square, where, according to the twenty-years-old tradition, a prayer service to St. Elijah was celebrated by Bishop Serafim of Istra.

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