DECR chairman celebrates in the Holy Trinity Cathedral in Paris

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On September 8, the 11th Sunday after Pentecost, Metropolitan Anthony of Volokolamsk, chairman of the Moscow Patriarchate' Department for External Church Relations (DECR), currently on a working visit to France with the blessing of His Holiness Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Rus', celebrated Divine Liturgy in the Cathedral Church of the Life-Giving Trinity in Paris, website of the Diocese of Chersonesus reports.

 Metropolitan Anthony was assisted by Rev. Maxim Politov, secretary of the Chersonesus diocesan administration; Rev. Yevgeny Morozov of the Moscow Patriarchate's Chancellery; and clerics of the cathedral, including archpriest Igor Trofim, Rev. Georgy Sheshko, hieromonk Iriney (Gribov), Rev. Anthony Sidenko, protodeacon Nikolai Rebinder, deacon Roman Onika, and hierodeacon Dionisy

(Volkov).

Singing at the Liturgy, which was celebrated in Church Slavonic and French, was the cathedral choir conducted by Ms. Marina Politova.

The Liturgy being over, Metropolitan Anthony delivered a sermon on the theme of the Gospel reading, conveyed the blessing and good wishes of His Holiness the Patriarch of Moscow and All Rus' to the worshippers, expressed gratitude to Metropolitan Nestor of Chersonesus and Western Europe for the invitation to celebrate, and warmly greeted the clergy and flock of the diocese, recalling the years of common work for the good of the Church of Christ when he served as the Patriarchal Exarch of Western Europe.

On behalf of the diocesan clergy, Rev. Maxim Politov thanked the high guest for visiting the Holy Trinity Cathedral and reminded the community that Metropolitan Anthony has been closely linked with the life and work of the diocese for almost fifteen years and was actively involved in the opening of the Spiritual and Cultural Center and construction of the Orthodox cathedral on the Branly embankment in Paris.