



## **His Holiness Patriarch Kirill celebrates Little Vespers and Akathistos hymn to St. Sergius in the Lavra of the Holy Trinity and St. Sergius**



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On October 7, the eve of the commemoration day of St. Sergius, Hegumen of Radonezh, His Holiness Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Rus' arrived in the Holy Trinity and St. Sergius Lavra after attending the opening ceremony of the social rehabilitation centre for post-boarding support of deaf-blind young people in the town of Sergiev Posad near Moscow, Patriarchia.ru. reports.

The Primate of the Russian Orthodox Church proceeded to the Trinity Cathedral, where he celebrated glorification and venerated the righteous relics of St. Sergius of Radonezh. Also, His Holiness venerated the Trinity icon painted by St. Andrei Rublev and the shrines kept at the Nikon's Chapel and the

Serapion's Chamber.

After that, His Holiness Patriarch Kirill celebrated the Little Vespers and the Akathistos hymn to St Sergius.

Assisting His Holiness at the service in the Trinity Cathedral were Metropolitans Vikenty of Tashkent and Uzbekistan, head of the Central Asia Metropolitan District; Varsonofy of St. Petersburg and Ladoga; Pavel of Krutitsy and Kolomna, Patriarchal Vicar of the Moscow Metropolis; Veniamin of Minsk and Zaslavl, Patriarchal Exarch of All Belarus; Gregory of Voskresensk, chancellor of the Moscow Patriarchate; Anthony of Volokolamsk, chairman of the Department for External Church Relations; Nikandr of Naro-Fominsk, chairman of the Finance and Economics Administration; Bishops Kirill of Sergiev Posad and Dmitrov, abbot of the Holy Trinity and St. Sergius Lavra; and Alexy of Ramenskoye, private secretary to His Holiness Patriarch Kirill; as well as an assembly of clergy.

The liturgical hymns were sung by the Lavra's choir conducted by hieromonk Nestor (Volkov).

Praying at the service along with the hierarchs and clergy were monks and pilgrims who have arrived for the celebration.

Present at the church were also Ms. Oksana V. Yerokhanova, acting head of the Sergiev Posad urban district, and Mr. Sergei Yu. Rudov, deputy head of the World Russian People's Council.

The service was broadcast live on Soyuz and Spas TV channels.

The Little Vespers and the Akathistos hymn were celebrated by Metropolitan Sergy of Samara and Novokuibyshevsk in the refectory church of St. Sergius together with the archpastors who have arrived in the Lavra for the feast.

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