Metropolitan Anthony of Volokolamsk meets with His Holiness Serbian Patriarch Porfirije



DECR Communication Service, 17/11/2024

On 16th November 2024, Metropolitan Anthony of Volokolamsk, chairman of the Moscow Patriarchate's Department for External Church Relations, while in Serbia with the blessing of His Holiness Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Rus', took part in the celebrations marking the City Day of Novi Sad and the patronal feast of the local Cathedral of the Holy Great Martyr George the Victory-Bearer.

Officiating at the Divine Liturgy in the Cathedral of St. George was His Holiness Serbian Patriarch Porfirije. Concelebrating with the Primate of the Serbian Orthodox Church were Metropolitan Anthony of

Volokolamsk, Metropolitan Irinej of Bačka, Bishop Damaskin of Mohacs, and members of the Russian Orthodox Church's delegation – Archpriest Nikolai Balashov, advisor to the Patriarch of Moscow and All Rus', Archpriest Igor Yakimchuk, DECR deputy chairman, and Priest Nikolai Vasin, secretary to the DECR chairman. Among the concelebrants were also the following clerics of the Serbian Orthodox Church: Archpriest Miloš Vesin, professor at St. Sava School of Theology in Libertyville, USA; Archpriest Đorđe Stojisavljević, head of the Patriarchal Cabinet; and Archpriest Vladan Simič, secretary of the Bačka Diocese.

Attending the divine service were, among others, Mr Miloš Vučević, president of the Government of the Republic of Serbia; and Mr Milan Đurić, mayor of Novi Sad.

The Divine Liturgy was followed by a litiya for a newly demised hierarch of the Russian Orthodox Church Outside of Russia – **Archbishop Peter of Chicago and the Mid-America**, and the victims of the recent **tragedy that had occurred at the Novi Sad railway station**.

After that, His Holiness Patriarch Porfirije met with the delegation of the Russian Orthodox Church and Prime Minister of Serbia Miloš Vučević.

Later that day, on the premises of the Bačka Diocese, His Holiness Serbian Patriarch Porfirije met with Metropolitan Anthony of Volokolamsk. They were joined by Metropolitan Irinej of Bačka; Archpriest Nikolai Balashov, advisor to the Patriarch of Moscow and All Rus'; and Archpriest Igor Yakimchuk, DECR deputy chairman. The DECR chairman conveyed to the Primate of the Serbian Church brotherly greetings from His Holiness Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Rus'. He also expressed gratitude to His Holiness Patriarch Porfirije and all the hierarchs of the Serbian Orthodox Church for their firm unwavering support for the persecuted canonical Church in Ukraine. The participants in the meeting discussed various issues pertaining to further bilateral relations between the two brotherly Orthodox Churches, and topics of pan-Orthodox importance.

Source: https://mospat.ru/en/news/92507/