



## Metropolitan Anthony of Volokolamsk celebrates prayer service for Russian-speaking Orthodox community in Bahrain



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On the evening of December 9, Metropolitan Anthony of Volokolamsk, chairman of the Moscow Patriarchate's Department for External Church Relations (DECR), celebrated a prayer service for the Russian-speaking Orthodox community in Manama, the capital of the Kingdom of Bahrain.

The archpastor was assisted by archimandrite Alexander (Zarkeshev), rector of the church of St. Philip the Apostle in the United Arab Emirates; Rev. Nikolai Vasin, secretary to the DECR chairman; and deacon Alexei Kostin. The service was celebrated in a Catholic church provided for use to the local community of the Patriarchate of Antioch.

Among those praying were H.E. Alexei Skosyrev, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Russian Federation to the Kingdom of Bahrain, and the Serbian Ambassador Tatjana Garčević.

After the service, Metropolitan Anthony conveyed the blessing of His Holiness Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Rus' to the parishioners and delivered a sermon.

Also, he thanked archpriest Sabba Haidousian, rector of the Antiochian community, for his care of the Russian-speaking flock and presented him with a pectoral cross.

Then the hierarch talked with the faithful and answered their questions.

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