



Three archpastors preside over patronal feast of St. Alexander Nevsky church in Buenos Aires



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On December 8, the 24th Sunday after Pentecost, the patronal celebration, which was postponed from December 6, took place in the house church of St. Alexander Nevsky in Buenos Aires.

The Divine Liturgy was celebrated by Metropolitan Jacob of Buenos Aires and Argentina, Patriarchate of Antioch; Bishop John of Caracas and South America, Russian Orthodox Church Outside of Russia; and Bishop Leonid of Argentina and South America, Russian Orthodox Church.

The archpastors were assisted by archpriest Sergy Yurin, secretary of the Diocese of Argentina, and archpriest Petr Gedesh, cleric of the church, the Diocesan Telegram channel reports.

Among those attending the divine service were Mr. Jorge Daniel Stockland, director general of the

National Registry of Religions Organizations at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Argentine Republic; Mr. T.L. Jagarian, first secretary of the Russian Embassy; numerous parishioners and guests.

After the Litany of Fervent Supplication, a prayer for Holy Rus' was offered.

The service was celebrated in Arabic, Greek, Spanish, and Church Slavonic.

The dismissal was followed by a glorification to the feast of the Entry of the Most Holy Theotokos into the Temple, the Leavetaking of which was celebrated on this day, and to the Holy and Right-believing Grand Prince Alexander Nevsky.

Bishop Leonid of Argentina and South America thanked the archpastors participating in the service for the joy of common prayer, expressed condolences to Metropolitan Jacob in connection with the events in Syria and Lebanon and assurances on behalf of the parishioners of prayers for the ancient Church of Antioch and its faithful and for the early triumph of peace.

In his address to the faithful, Bishop Leonid noted that the Right-believing Prince Alexander sets an example of love for the Fatherland, and especially for the Heavenly Fatherland, and continued to say, "Throughout his pious life, he strove to fulfill the Saviour's precept: 'Seek first his kingdom of God and his righteousness' (Mt. 6:33). We know that God's grace was with St. Alexander in all his endeavours." The Bishop wished everyone strength of soul and body and called them "to follow the example of the Holy Prince, wherever we are, try to live our lives according to the commandments, always pray at home, go to church, take the sacraments, do acts of mercy for our neighbors' sake, and thus, little by little, make our journey to the Heavenly Fatherland."

Metropolitan Jacob and Bishop John expressed gratitude to Bishop Leonid for the invitation to share the joy of Eucharistic communion and congratulated the faithful on the patronal feast.

Fraternal communication continued during a festive meal.