



## **Metropolitan Anthony of Volokolamsk celebrates Divine Liturgy at St. Nicholas Metochion in Bari**



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On February 16<sup>th</sup>, the Sunday of the Prodigal Son, the chairman of the Moscow Patriarchate's Department for External Church Relations, Metropolitan Anthony of Volokolamsk, celebrated the Divine Liturgy at the Patriarchal Metochion of St. Nicholas the Wonderworker in Bari, Italy.

Prior to the Liturgy, Metropolitan Anthony was greeted at the church entrance by pupils of the local Sunday school.

Concelebrating with the hierarch were Archpriest Vyacheslav Bachin, the Metochion rector, and Priest

Nikolai Vasin, secretary to the DECR chairman.

After the dismissal, Metropolitan Anthony delivered a sermon on the parable of the prodigal son which had been read during the Liturgy. His Eminence also expressed gratitude to Archpriest Vyacheslav Bachin for all his work aimed at the adornment of the church.

Father Vyacheslav, in his turn, thanked Metropolitan Anthony for the joy of concelebration and wished him help from St. Nicholas the Wonderworker in his service.

Later that day, the DECR chairman visited the town of Monopoli and prayed before the venerated Hodegetria Icon of the Most Holy Theotokos in the local cathedral.

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