



DECR Chairman participates in Divine Service at the Resurrection Cathedral in Tokyo



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On March 30, the Fourth Sunday of Great Lent, Metropolitan Antony of Volokolamsk, Chairman of the Moscow Patriarchate's Department for External Church Relations (DECR), visited Japan with the blessing of His Holiness Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Rus'. He concelebrated with His Eminence Seraphim, Archbishop of Tokyo and Metropolitan of All Japan, Primate of the Autonomous Japanese Orthodox Church, during the Divine Liturgy at the Resurrection Cathedral in Tokyo.

The service was conducted in Japanese, Church Slavonic, and English.

Following the Liturgy, Metropolitan Seraphim greeted Metropolitan Antony, emphasizing the importance

of strengthening ties between the Japanese Church and its Mother Church. He noted that the visit of the DECR Chairman held special significance in this regard.

In his response, Metropolitan Antony warmly thanked the Primate of the Japanese Orthodox Church for his kind words and hospitality and conveyed Patriarch Kirill's blessing to the faithful.

The hierarch also congratulated Metropolitan Seraphim on his recent birthday and presented him with a commemorative panagia as a prayerful keepsake. As a gift to the Resurrection Cathedral, the DECR Chairman donated an altar cross.

Afterwards, Metropolitan Antony held a working meeting with Metropolitan Seraphim to discuss a number of matters.

Later that day, the DECR Chairman met with Archpriest Nikolai Katsyuban, rector of the Moscow Patriarchate's representation church in Tokyo.

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