



Metropolitan Anthony of Volokolasmk leads patronal celebrations at the Church of the Renewal of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre in Danilovskaya Sloboda



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On 26th September 2025, the commemoration day of the Renewal of the Church of the Holy Resurrection in Jerusalem, Metropolitan Anthony of Volokolamsk, chairman of the Department for External Church Relations of the Moscow Patriarchate, celebrated the Divine Liturgy at the Moscow Church of the Renewal of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre in Danilovskaya Sloboda.

Concelebrating with Metropolitan Anthony were: Archpriest Igor Yakimchuk, DECR deputy chairman, rector of the Church of the Renewal of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre in Danilovskaya Sloboda; Archimandrite Seraphim (Shemyatovsky), representative of the Orthodox Church of the Czech Lands and Slovakia to the Patriarch of Moscow and All Rus', rector of St. Nicholas Church in Kotelniki; Archpriest Daniel Andrejuk, representative of the Orthodox Church in America to the Patriarch of

Moscow and All Rus', rector of the Church of the Holy Great Martyr Catherine in-the-Fields; Archpriest Igor Vyzhanov, DECR deputy chairman; Hegumen Feofan (Lukyanov), head of the DECR Protocol Service; Archpriest Sergy Zvonarev, DECR secretary for far abroad countries, rector of Ss. Boris and Gleb Church in Zyuzino; Priest Iliya Kosykh, head of the DECR Communication Service; DECR staff members – Priest Andrei Titushkin, Hieromonk Kirill (Peregudin) and Hieromonk Mark (Akhmatkhanov) – as well as Priest Nikolai Vasin, secretary to the DECR chairman; and the invited clergy.

After the Litany of Fervent Supplication, Metropolitan Anthony said a prayer for Holy Rus'.

The Liturgy was followed by a procession of the cross.

After that, Metropolitan Anthony greeted all those present with the words of Easter salutation – “Christ is Risen” – and delivered a homily, in which he conveyed to the clergy and parishioners blessings and warm wishes from the Primate of the Russian Orthodox Church and congratulated them on the patronal feast of the church.

The DECR chairman commended the work of Father Igor Yakimchuk at the Department for External Church Relations and presented to him a memorable gift – a pectoral cross.

Father Igor thanked Metropolitan Anthony for leading the patronal celebrations and presented to him a painting of the Holy Resurrection Cathedral in Tver.

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