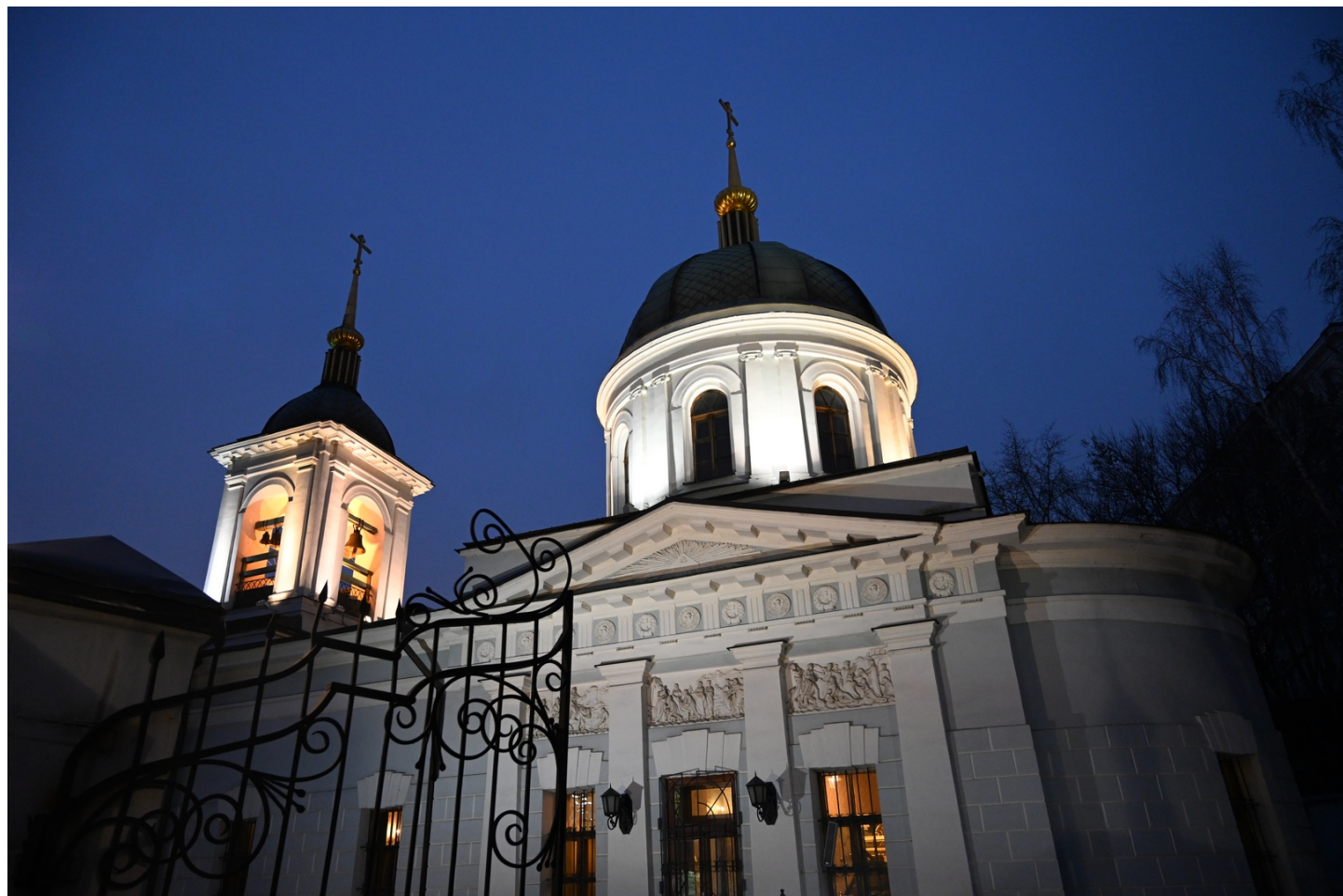




**THE RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH**  
Department for External Church Relations

## **Metropolitan Anthony leads celebrations on patronal feast of Moscow Representation of Orthodox Church of the Czech Lands and Slovakia**



**DECR Communication Service, 19/12/2025**

On 19<sup>th</sup> December 2025, commemoration day of St. Nicholas the Wonderworker, Archbishop of Myra in Lycia, the Church of St. Nicholas in Kotelniki – Moscow Representation of the Orthodox Church of the Czech Lands and Slovakia – celebrated its patronal feast. The Divine Liturgy in St. Nicholas Church was celebrated by Metropolitan Anthony of Volokolamsk, Chairman of the Moscow Patriarchate's Department for External Church Relations, and Metropolitan Niphon of Philippopolis, Representative of the Patriarch of Antioch and All the East to the Patriarch of Moscow and All Rus'.

Concelebrating with the archpastors were Archimandrite Seraphim (Shemyatovsky), Representative of the Orthodox Church of the Czech Lands and Slovakia to the Moscow Patriarchal Throne, Rector of the Church of St. Nicholas in Kotelniki; Archpriest Daniel Andrejuk, Representative of the Orthodox Church

in America to the Moscow Patriarchal Throne; Priest Miron Kanteladze of the Church of the Holy Great Martyr George the Victory-Bearer in Gruziny; as well as the local clerics and ordained guests.

Among those who attended the divine service on the feast day were Mr Patrik Rexa, Third Secretary of the Embassy of the Slovak Republic in Moscow, and Mr V.A. Alexeyev, President of the International Foundation for the Spiritual Unity of Peoples.

After the Prayer Behind the Ambo, the hierarchs and clergy lifted up prayers of praise to St. Nicholas in front of his icon.

Archimandrite Seraphim (Shemyatovsky), Rector of St. Nicholas Church, greeted the archpastors and clergy who were taking part in the celebrations. He also asked the DECR Chairman to convey his gratitude to the Primate of the Russian Orthodox Church for the care His Holiness shows for the Representation.

Metropolitan Anthony of Volokolamsk conveyed to all those present blessings and warm wishes from His Holiness Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Rus'.

The DECR Chairman also thanked Archimandrite Seraphim for his work aimed at strengthening fraternal ties between the two Local Orthodox Churches.

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