THE RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH
Department for External Church Relations

Archbishop Damaskinos of Joppa Presided over the Liturgy at the Russian Ecclesiastical Mission Compound in Jaffa



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On May 3, 2026, the Fourth Sunday after Pascha, of the Paralytic, and the day of commemoration of the righteous Tabitha of Joppa, the patronal feast was celebrated at the compound of the Russian Ecclesiastical Mission in honor of the holy righteous Tabitha in Jaffa-Joppa (Tel Aviv). With the blessing of His Beatitude Patriarch Theophilos of Jerusalem, on this festive day the Liturgy at the compound was presided over by Archbishop Damaskinos of Joppa, reports the website of the Russian Ecclesiastical Mission.

Concelebrating with His Eminence were: the head of the Russian Ecclesiastical Mission in Jerusalem, Archimandrite Vassian (Zmeev), the rector of the compound in honor of the righteous Tabitha, Archpriest Nikolai Zhdanov, residents of the Mission Hieromonk Philotheus (Artyushin) and Deacon

Makary Petukhov, clergy of the Jerusalem Patriarchate, as well as pilgrims in holy orders.

Among those present at the service were the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Russia to Israel A.D. Viktorov with his spouse, and numerous worshippers.

After the augmented litany, the head of the Russian Ecclesiastical Mission read a prayer for the granting of peace. The Divine service was celebrated in Church Slavonic and Greek. The hymns of the service were performed by the choir of the Jaffa compound.

After the dismissal of the Divine Liturgy, Archbishop Damaskinos, accompanied by clergy and laity, made a prayerful procession to the tomb of the holy righteous Tabitha, located on the territory of the compound, where he presided over a moleben in honor of the glorified saint.

At the conclusion of the moleben, Bishop Damaskinos addressed the clergy and faithful with a greeting, congratulating them on the patronal feast of the compound.

In turn, Archimandrite Vassian congratulated Archbishop Damaskinos on the feast and asked him to convey words of gratitude to His Beatitude Patriarch Theophilos for his care and love for the compound of the Russian Ecclesiastical Mission in Jaffa.

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