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Monthly review: NOVEMBER 2018

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At last Romania has a National Cathedral

Consecration ceremony of Romania National Cathedral by Patriarchs of Constantinople, Romania

Sunday, November 25, 2018, His Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew and His Beatitude Patriarch Daniel of Romania officiated the consecration ceremony of the Romanian People's Salvation Cathedral in Bucharest. The idea to build the Romanian People's Salvation Cathedral was launched right after Romania gained its state independence in 1877 but became reality 130 years later during the stewardship of His Beatitude Patriarch Daniel. Following the ceremony, the Chief Secretary of the Holy Synod, His Grace Bishop Varlaam of Ploiesti read out the Synodal Act on the Cathedral's Consecration. ▶



HAH Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew presides over Divine Liturgy at newly-consecrated National Cathedral in Bucharest

On Sunday, November 25, 2018, His Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew presided over the Divine Liturgy concelebrated with Patriarch Daniel and the members of the Holy Synod of the Romanian Orthodox Church on the occasion of the inauguration of the National Cathedral.

Concelebrants for the Divine Liturgy included His Eminence Metropolitan Chrysostomos of Patra, the members of the Holy Synod of the Romanian Orthodox Church, as well as other hierarchs. Two thousand believers attended the service inside the cathedral and other 50,000 outside the building. Also present were state and local officials including PM Viorica Dancila, the State Secretary for Religious Affairs Victor Opaschi and others. ▶



Romanian Heroes commemorated for first time at National Cathedral

The Romanian Heroes were commemorated on Saturday, November 24, 2018, for the first time at the National Cathedral, a memorial church built in their honour as symbol of the country's independence.



His Beatitude Patriarch Daniel presided over the memorial service having as concelebrants the Metropolitans within the Holy Synod. Following the moving solemn moment, His Beatitude explained why he chose to officiate a memorial service before the Cathedral's inauguration to take place.

National Cathedral first patronal feast

His Beatitude Patriarch Theophilos III of Jerusalem and Patriarch Daniel of Romania on Friday, November 30, 2018, concelebrated the Divine Liturgy for the first patronal feast of the newly-consecrated National Cathedral dedicated to Saint Andrew the First Called. Concelebrants for the Divine Liturgy included several hierarchs of the Romanian Orthodox Church.

In his homily delivered after the proclamation of the Gospel, the Patriarch of Jerusalem referred to the life and activity of St Andrew as well as the holy mission of the Church.



Connection between National Cathedral and St John Jacob the New Chosebite explained



A fragment of St John Jacob's holy relics and the epitachelion he wore during his life were offered by the Patriarch of Jerusalem for the National Cathedral.

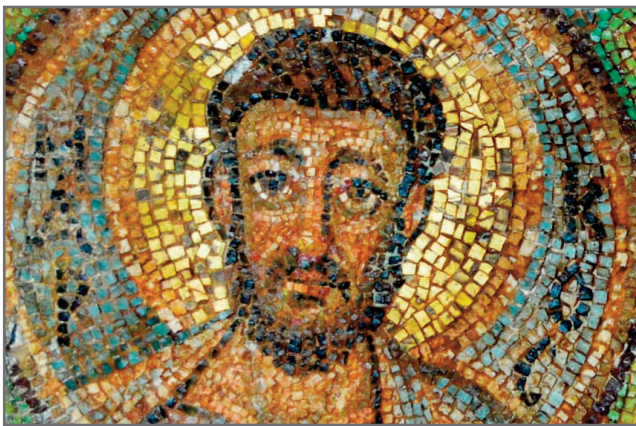
First, his presence in the Romanian People's Salvation Cathedral is justified by the fact that he is of Romanian origin. 'The Holy Romanian in the Holy Land,' as Patriarch Daniel said on Thursday, November 29.

A second fact is that one of the two chapels that will be organized at the basement of the National Cathedral will be dedicated to Saint John Jacob. The Saint's holy relics and epitachelion will be enshrined there. Full story ▶

Protecting children from any violence is essential message of Christianity, says Ecumenical Patriarch

Protecting children from any kind of violence has always been and should remain an essential message of Christianity, His All-Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew has told a gathering at the World Council of Churches (WCC) for World Children's Day.

The patriarch was the keynote speaker at an event involving the WCC and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) on 21 November for World Children's Day at the Ecumenical Centre in Geneva, a gathering in which young people had a key input. ▶



Missing 1600-year-old mosaic returned after four decades

A 1,600-year-old missing mosaic has finally returned to its home in Cyprus, more than four decades after it was looted from a church.

The relic was handed over to the Cypriot Antiquities Department and the Church of Cyprus during a ceremony at the Hague in the Netherlands on Sunday, November 18, 2018. ▶

HAH Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew visits Basilica Media Centre of the Romanian Patriarchate

Saturday evening, November 24, 2018, His All-Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew visited the Basilica Media Centre of the Romanian Patriarchate, meeting with the staff and offering his patriarchal blessings.

"I admire the organization, I congratulate all of you working here, but above all and especially I congratulate His Beatitude my dear brother Patriarch Daniel for inspiring all of you to work for the glory of God and for of the glory of our Holy Orthodox Church. God bless you!", the Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew said on November 24.

The Basilica Media Centre of the Romanian Patriarchate was founded on October 27, 2007, at the initiative of His Beatitude

Patriarch Daniel.

Patriarch Bartholomew arrived in Romania on Friday, Nov. 23, to lead the festivities dedicated to the inauguration of the National Cathedral.



The Romanian Patriarchate's Media Centre include Radio Trinitas, Trinitas TV, Lumina Newspaper, the Basilica News Agency and the Patriarchate's Press Office.

Full story & video on site ▶



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Romanian Patriarch Daniel signs 1918 Great Union Centennial Golden Book

On Wednesday, November 7, 2018, His Beatitude Patriarch Daniel signed the Golden Book of Romania's 1918 Great Union Centennial, entreating God 'to grant us the same love of our country and people as the Great Union founders had.'

This Centennial Book is the replica, over the years, of the Golden Book made in 1929 to mark the celebration of the Great Union of 1 December 2018.

Part of the heritage of the Union Museum of Alba Iulia, the original Golden Book contains the names and signatures of those who formed the Romanian state, who took the commitment to build a modern and democratic country for all of its citizens.



The original Golden Book contains the signatures of King Ferdinand I, Romania's first Patriarch Miron Cristea and other personalities.

The general director of

the Alba Iulia Museum, Gabriel Tiberiu Rustoiu, told that Patriarch Daniel is the second personality to sign the Centennial Book after Romania's President Klaus Iohannis.

As stated by Rustoiu, signatures will be collected until December 1, 2018, when the Centennial Book will be exhibited at the National Museum of Union in Alba Iulia. ▶

Rev. Constantin Necula on Romania's National Cathedral: 'It will change the life of those who constantly seek God'

The National Cathedral 'includes in itself all our defeats and humiliations over the last 100 years. It rises as a victory. It will change only the life of those who constantly seek God with the persistence of the soldiers who know they are defending their family and nation.'

'For the others who are more superficial, it's not the case to change themselves or to find God. This is only the pretext for their ridicule, not their spiritual inner fire urging them to be thirsty for heaven. The Cathedral is the country,' Fr Constantin Necula said in an interview with Agerpres.

In his interview, Fr Necula cautioned that 'we are Romania tired with obsessions,' and recommended to celebrate the 1918 Great Union Centennial 'with fasting and liturgy.'

Full story ▶

