



■ For the edification and consolation of our brothers and sisters abroad

Missionary Journey to Southern Germany and Austria

Under the protection of St. Rupert,
Apostle of Bavaria and Austria

November 11-17, 2017 (Old Style)

By the Grace of God and with special joy, I had the honor and blessing of accompanying, from November 11 to 17, 2017 (Old Style), our Most Reverend Metropolitan Cyprian, who, with the permission and blessing of His Beatitude, Archbishop Kallinikos and of our Holy Synod, visited our small flock in Southern Germany and Austria for the first time, moved by missionary zeal and love in Christ for our Orthodox brothers and sisters abroad.



Salzburg, Austria

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At the Munich airport, a group of our faithful from Munich and Austria welcomed our Most Reverend Metropolitan with joy and emotion.

During our stay there took place:

a. two Divine Liturgies, the first on Sunday, November 13 (commemoration of St. John Chrysostomos), with the participation of faithful from Munich, Stuttgart, Nuremberg, and Salzburg; and the second on Wednesday, November 16 (commem-



Prayer at the Russian chapel on the site of the Dachau concentration camp.

oration of the Holy Apostle and Evangelist Matthew).

b. two spiritually edifying Synaxes, the first of which took place after the Divine Liturgy on Sunday at a Greek restaurant owned by one of our faithful in Munich, and the second in Salzburg.

During both of these gatherings, His Eminence discussed the following:

- the Life of the Holy New Martyr Catherine of Mandra, Greece;
- the Ecumenical Movement, particularly stressing the ramifications thereof for the Body of the Church;

● the zeal with discernment that should characterize our spiritual life;

● our life in Christ and genuine Christian behavior.

● **H**is Eminence received questions and heard the views of the faithful, in particular those of former Millenarians who had returned to the Orthodox faith and who described their chagrin at the fall of the Orthodox ecumenists.

● **T**he faithful were encouraged to pray and to make personal efforts to find suitable places to build chapels in Munich and Salzburg.

c. We visited the Dachau Concentration Camp, walking through the entire memorial site with inexpressible emotion and praying for those who were unjustly and savagely killed during the Nazi regime.

d. We also visited the Munich cemetery, where we served a Trisagion at the grave of Alexander Schmorell, a member of the anti-nazi resistance group known as White Rose (Weiße Rose), and prayed at the graves of other members of the group.

e. We were give a tour of the historic center of Munich and visited the Church



Prayer at the Russian chapel on the site of the Dachau concentration camp.



Sunday Synaxis

of the Transfiguration of our Lord, built in 1493 and given by King Ludwig I of Bavaria (1825-1848), father of King Otto of Greece, to the Greek Orthodox community of Munich in 1828 (consecration: December 6, 1829).

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We returned home with our baggages heavily laden with the love of our faithful and their fervent desire that our Most Reverend Metropolitan repeat his visit, so as to strengthen and consolidate our small but vibrant community.

We owe many heartfelt thanks to our faithful for their self-sacrificial hospitality and for accommodating us in every way.

Glory and thanksgiving to our Lord and Christ for everything that He has granted us thus far.

We pray that the intercessions of St. Rupert (†March 26, 710), Enlightener of Austria and Bavaria, as well as those of the other holy missionaries of the region, bear abundant fruit, for the edification of our brothers and sisters abroad.



†Father Angelos Mourlas

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**To our God
glory and thanksgiving!**