

On 14-26 August 2017, on the invitation of Most Reverend George, Mitropolitan of Kitros, Katerini, and

Русская версия: Знакомство с древней Пиерией

Greek version: Συνάντηση με την αρχαία Πιερία

Representatives of the divinity school of the Russian Orthodox Church visited Greece within <u>the cooperation program</u>

between Nicholo-Ugreshskaya Theological Seminary and the University Ecclesiastical Academy of Thessaloniki, and thanks to the invitation of the President of the Academy Metropolitan George.

For guests from Russia the host party had prepared a wonderful program, which successfully combined the educational and leisure elements. The group stayed in the social center of the Metropolis in the Svoronas town near Katerini. The participants of the trip were provided here with comfortable conditions and excellent meals. Also Greek language classes were organized here for the students of the seminary. The classes were conducted by Eleni Pavlidi, the head of the Greek-Russian cultural center named after Anton Chekhov.

During the visit teachers and students joined together in many Divine services in various temples and monasteries of the Metropolis. In order to get acquainted with the history, culture and unique nature of Ancient Pieria, as well as with the life of the Metropolis, numerous guided tours were organized for the guests. It was made possible by courtesy of the Administration of the Nome Pieria, which provided the group with the minibus. The group from Russia was accompanied on the visit by the student of the Academy of Thessaloniki Miltiadis Itsios

, who had just passed a part of the course at the Nicholo-Ugreshskaya seminary under the "Erasmus+" program.

The visit to Ancient Pieria greatly impressed all travellers. In the conclusion of the visit, the representatives of the Nicholo-Ugreshskaya seminary expressed their deep gratitude to Most Reverend George and his assistants, who offered very cordial hospitality and paid loving attention during their long journey.

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