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Orthodoxy in Northern Europe: Bishop Macarie meets catechumens preparing for Baptism on Pascha



His Grace Bishop Macarie of Northern Europe met last week with young catechumens of various nationalities who are preparing to receive Holy Baptism in the Romanian Orthodox Church on the Feast of the Resurrection of the Lord.

During the week, His Grace Macarie catechized several Danish catechumens in Odense, Denmark.

On Saturday, while celebrating the Divine Liturgy and the commemoration of the departed at the Ålesund Parish in Norway, he also welcomed other catechumens of diverse backgrounds into the local Orthodox community.

At Ålesund, the bishop delivered another catechetical teaching, reminding the faithful that in the early Church, Great Lent was the traditional period of preparation for catechumens, culminating in Holy Baptism during the Paschal Vigil.

Testimonies of the Catechumens
The Facebook page of the Romanian Orthodox Diocese of Northern Europe published the testimonies of some of the catechumens preparing for Baptism.

Andreas, 22, Colombia: “I was adopted by a Norwegian family as a child, but I was not raised in the faith. Now I am preparing intensely for the Sacrament of Holy Baptism, and I pray to God to make me worthy to receive it at the Divine Service of the Holy Resurrection.”

Sofus, 18, Denmark: “I started reading Church history and thought I might become Catholic. Then I realized that Orthodoxy is the Church of the beginnings, the true Church.”

The young Dane searched for an Orthodox church near him in Odense and found the Romanian parish there.

“I attended my first service and felt welcomed. So far, I have been participating in

services for about three months, and now I am a catechumen, waiting to receive Baptism on Holy Pascha.”

Mikkel, 16, Denmark: “I have always believed in God, but I never did much about it. Later, I started searching more when I felt I was somehow drawing closer to Him. I explored various social media platforms and discovered the Orthodox faith.”

Convinced that Orthodoxy is the true faith, he sought out an Orthodox community near him and found the Romanian parish in Odense.

The parish in Ålesund, Norway, is located at Kirkegata 33A, and the Odense Parish in Denmark is located at Møllevænget 2, 5610, Assens.

Photo: Facebook / Episcopia Europei de Nord

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