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Patriarch Daniel marks 36 years as bishop, hailed for shaping the Church’s rhythm and ethos

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His Beatitude Patriarch Daniel was congratulated on Sunday at the end of the Divine Liturgy at the Patriarchal Cathedral in Bucharest on the 36th anniversary of his episcopal ordination.

Before delivering the congratulatory message, Patriarchal Auxiliary Bishop Varlaam of Ploiești presented the volume “The Centennial of the Romanian Patriarchate, New Romanian Saints and the Consecration of the National Cathedral Iconography. The Work of the Church in Society in 2025.”

The patriarchal auxiliary bishop highlighted the continuity and fruitfulness of the Patriarch Daniel’s ministry: “These 36 years of episcopal ministry of His Beatitude Patriarch Daniel have set a rhythm and ethos for our Church.”

“A beehive of the Holy Spirit”
He also recalled Patriarch Daniel’s earlier ministry as Metropolitan of Moldavia and Bukovina, referring to the appreciation once expressed by Metropolitan Bartolomeu Anania, who compared the activity of the metropolis to “a beehive of the Holy Spirit.”

“After September 30, 2007, the date of the enthronement of His Beatitude Daniel as Patriarch of Romania, this atmosphere of a beehive of the Holy Spirit was extended to the entire Patriarchate, both at home and abroad,” the patriarchal auxiliary bishop said.

He stressed that the Church’s work has made a visible impact on society, noting that “everyone recognises this prodigious activity carried out day and night, and even those who have no connection with the Church or do not wish to have one inevitably encounter the Church and its work in society at every step.”

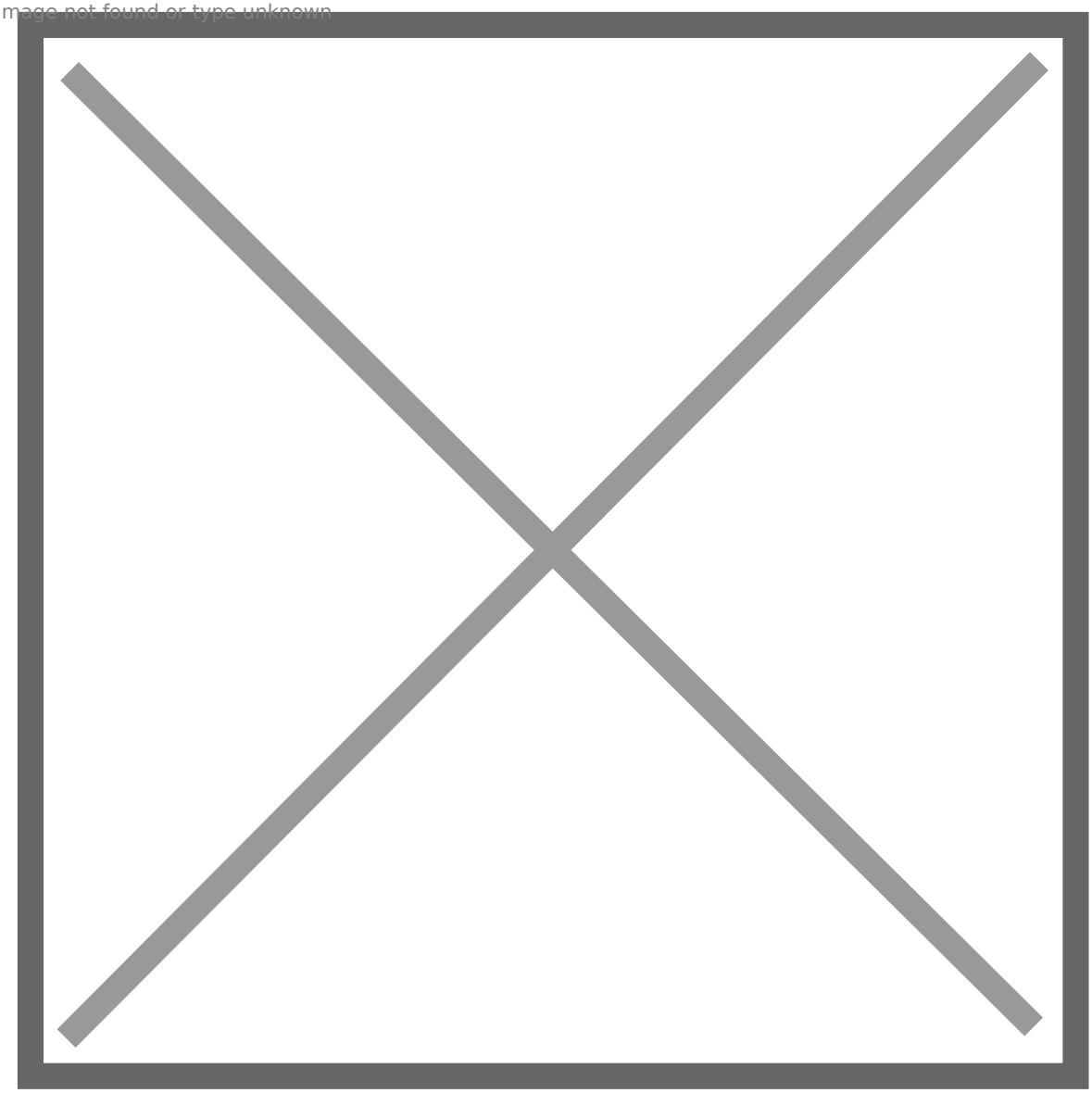
“All social categories have benefited from the special care of His Beatitude Patriarch Daniel, from unborn persons to those who have passed from this world, through the concern shown for their memory,” he added.

A shared ecclesial mission

In his response, Patriarch Daniel thanked those present for their wishes and underlined the communal character of Church ministry, using the symbolic image of a beehive and bees:

“Bees are diligent and generous. Diligent because they gather what is essential, and this diligent work is expressed in generosity through the honeycombs.”

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He said this image reflects the common work of the Church, accomplished through the efforts of all clergy and faithful.

The Patriarch of Romania thanked God for the fruits of ministry and for the involvement of those contributing to ecclesial life: “We thank God for all these works accomplished first of all with His help and through the labor of hierarchs,

priests, deacons, monks and nuns, faithful men and women, and all Church institutions.”

Patriarch Daniel was ordained to the episcopacy on March 4, 1990, at the Metropolitan Cathedral in Timișoara, on the Sunday of Orthodoxy.

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