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FILIPINO FAITHFUL RECEIVE HOLY COMMUNION FOR FIRST TIME IN 2 YEARS



The Orthodox faithful in Cebu, the Philippines, were blessed with the celebration of the Divine Liturgy for the feast of the Entrance of the Theotokos into the Temple on December 4.

Because of the pandemic, this was the first time the local faithful were able to commune of the Precious Body and Blood of Christ in 2 years, reports the Philippines and Vietnam Diocese of the Russian Orthodox Church.

With restrictions on flights between Manila and Cebu being lifted recently for the first time since the start of the pandemic, the head of the Manila Deanery, Hieromonk Alexei (Lapshin), was finally able to visit the parish community in Cebu and serve them the Sacraments.



Services were held there monthly before the pandemic.

“Hopefully, the worst is over, and the parish will recover over time,” the diocese writes. “Perhaps locals will join our Orthodox family, although this requires, of course, the constant presence of a priest and more frequent services. As a rule, the Filipino faithful are quite serious about going to church regularly and participating in the Holy Mysteries.”

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