

## The feast day of Saint John the Baptist in Novi Sad

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**His Grace Bishop Irinej of Backa celebrated his patron saint on 20 January 2020, on Saint John's Day.**

Bishop Irinej of Backa officiated the Holy Hierarchal Liturgy with the concelebration of Their Graces Bishops Pahomije of Vranje, David of Krusevac, Arsenije of Nis, Heruvim of Osek-Polje and Baranja and Isihije of Mohacs; Archimandrites Jovan (Radosavljevic) and Prokopije (Tajar), clergy and deacons from many dioceses of the SOC, in the church of Saint George in Novi Sad.

During the Holy Liturgy, Bishop Irinej ordained monk Justin (Zivanic) into the rank of hierodeacon. After the Holy Liturgy, in the premises of the Church Community of Novi Sad, Bishop Fotije of Zvornik-Tuzla blessed the slava gifts – cake and wheat.

The Slava gathering was attended by His Excellency Archbishop Luciano Suriani,

Apostolic Nuntio of the Holy See to Serbia; Mr. Igor Mirovic, President of the Provincial Government; Mr. Milos Vucevic, Mayor of Novi Sad; Mr. Miroslav Ilic, *Assistant to Provincial Secretary of Culture, Public Information and Relations with Religious Communities*; Prof. Dr. Dragan Stanic, President of the Matica Srpska, as well as by many other prominent people.

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