



ВОСТОЧНО-АМЕРИКАНСКАЯ ЕПАРХИЯ
Русская Православная Церковь Заграницей

EASTERN AMERICAN DIOCESE
Russian Orthodox Church Outside of Russia

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№: 10.58.22

October 1/14, 2022

Protection of the Most Holy Theotokos

Beloved in the Lord fathers, brothers, and sisters!

I sincerely thank you for your congratulations on the election of my unworthiness as First Hierarchy of the Russian Church Abroad, for your prayers, kind words, and well-wishes.

“By the Lord are the steps of a man rightly directed” (Psalm 36:23), says the Psalmist. From henceforth, great responsibility for the entirety of the Russian Church Abroad lies upon me, and successfully completing this lofty service is impossible without grace-filled strength and illumination from the Lord, by the prayers of its bishops, clergy, and flock.

In accordance with the precepts of the founding fathers of our Church and my predecessors – Metropolitans Anthony, Anastassy, Philaret, Vitaly, Laurus, and Hilarion – I will strive with all of my might and with God’s aid to faithfully preserve the purity of the Orthodox Faith, to always keep the clergy and faithful in my thoughts and prayers, and to be, as were my preceptors, *a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth (II Timothy 2:15).*

I wish you all bodily strength, spiritual peace, Heavenly wisdom, and God’s unflinching mercy and aid in your labors on behalf of the Holy Church and Her children, on whom I invoke God’s blessing.

I would like to remind you of these upcoming dates of note in our Diocese:

This year marks 40 years since the Montreal Iveron Icon of the Mother of God began streaming myrrh, 25 years since the martyric death of José Muñoz Cortés, and 15 years since the “Hawaiian” Iveron Icon of the Mother of God began streaming myrrh.

On October 16/29 and 17/30, a number of parishes in our Diocese will carry out an annual pilgrimage to Holy Trinity Monastery in Jordanville, New York.

October 21/November 3 (the feast day of Venerable Hilarion, Schemamonk of the Kiev Caves), will mark the namesday of the ever-memorable Metropolitan Hilarion. Hierarchal Divine Liturgy will be celebrated in Holy Trinity Monastery in Jordanville at 6:00 AM. A panihida will be served at Metropolitan Hilarion’s gravesite at 1:00 PM.

From October 27/November 9 through October 31/November 13, the 29th Annual North American Church Musicians’ Conference will be held in Holy Dormition Convent “Novo-Diveevo” and Holy Virgin Protection Church in Nyack.

November 27/December 10 will mark the feast day of the Kursk Root Icon of the Mother of God and the patronal feast of the Synodal Cathedral of the Sign in New York City.

I invite the clergy to concelebrate and your parishioners to join us in prayer.

With love in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Metropolitan of Eastern America & New York". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Metropolitan of Eastern America & New York
First Hierarch of the Russian Church Abroad