



Sunday, September 20, 2020

Gospel: St. Matthew 22:35-46

Tone 6

Epistle: 2 Corinthians 4:6-15

15th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Afterfeast of the Elevation of the Cross / Sunday after Elevation.

SEPTEMBER Bulletin Sponsor:

Father Andrew in memory of His Grace, Bishop John & His Eminence, Archbishop Michael's mother Anna

Liturgical & Events Schedule

TWO WEEK EDITION

Sunday, September 20

9:15 am: Hours followed by Divine Liturgy/
Memorial Sunday / Outdoor Social

Saturday, September 26

4:00 pm: Great Vespers

Sunday, September 27

9:15 am: Hours followed by Divine Liturgy /
Outdoor Social

Wednesday, September 30

6:30 pm: Great Vespers

Thursday, October 1

9:15: Hours followed by Divine Liturgy for Feast of
the Protection of the Theotokos

Saturday, October 3

4:00 pm: Great Vespers

Sunday, October 4

9:15 am: Hours followed by Divine Liturgy / Out-
door Social weather permitting

(NOTE): You must let Fr. Andrew know if you
want to attend any service or the social.
Right now we are allowed 22 people max.
Also, please arrive 15 min prior to any
service



PRAYERS

Due to the stressful, unsettled and unforgiving
times we currently live in, I believe the following
prayers are very much needed in our lives.



Prayer of St. Ephrem

O Lord and Master of my life! Take from me
the spirit of sloth, despair, lust of power, and
idle talk. *(Full Prostration)*

But give rather the spirit of chastity, humility,
patience, and love to Thy servant.
(Full Prostration)

Yea, O Lord and King! Grant me to see my
own transgressions, and not to judge my
brother, for blessed art Thou, unto ages of ages.
Amen. *(Full Prostration)*

O God, cleanse me, a sinner *(12 times)*.
And recite prayer one more time.



The Jesus Prayer

O Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God
have mercy on me, a sinner.

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy
name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done, on
earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily
bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we
forgive those who trespass against us; and lead
us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

**MONTHLY TITHING ONLY
SEPTEMBER
Goal Pledged per month: \$4,600**

Sunday, September 6: \$1,503
Sunday, September 13:

OTHER INCOME FROM SEPTEMBER

Sunday, September 6: \$12 Tomb Candles; \$45 Vigils; \$100 Special collection; \$225 Interest from Anderson Bond; \$100 No Festival; \$10 festival assessment envelopes

Sunday, September 13: \$57 Candles; \$115 Vigils; \$290 Special Collection; \$150 No Festival

**SEPTEMBER CANDLE AND
BULLETIN SPONSORS**

Bulletin: (\$50) Fr. Fr. Andrew in memory of His Grace Bishop John & His Eminence Archbishop Michael's mother, Anna

Chandelier: (\$50) From Joe and Valerie in memory of Rose Haburt

Altar Candles: (\$50) Fr. Fr. Andrew in memory of my my Grandfather Steve Bartek

Candles on the Tomb: (\$25) From Athanasia in memory of her family

Eternal Light & Icon Screen: (25) From Joe & Valerie in memory of Violet Bargdill & LaVerne Schutt

**OCTOBER CANDLE AND
BULLETIN SPONSORS**

Bulletin: (\$50) Open

Chandelier: (\$50) Open

Altar Candles: (\$50) Open

Candles on the Tomb: (\$25) Open

Eternal Light & Icon Screen: (25) Open

Note: If something is already taken and you want to sponsor it, please let Fr know. There can be more than one sponsoring family/individual.

ON-LINE GIVING UPDATE

(These numbers are not reflected in the "Other Income From August.")

Week of September 6-12: \$100

**Archbishop Paul's Travel Schedule:
August 24th to September 21st**

St. Panteleimon, Summit, IL, September 19th to 20th

St. Matthew, Green Bay, WI, September 25th to 27th

St. Paul Church, Dayton, OH, October 2nd to 4th

**Bishop's Council/Diocesan Council, via on line,
Monday, October 5th**

Matthew 22:35-46 (Gospel)

Then one of them, a lawyer, asked Him a question, testing Him, and saying, "Teacher, which is the great commandment in the law?" Jesus said to him, "'You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets." While the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them, saying, "What do you think about the Christ? Whose Son is He?" They said to Him, "The Son of David." He said to them, "How then does David in the Spirit call Him 'Lord,' saying: 'The LORD said to my Lord, sit at My right hand, till I make Your enemies Your footstool'? If David then calls Him 'Lord,' how is He his Son?" And no one was able to answer Him a word, nor from that day on did anyone dare question Him anymore.



PRAYER LIST Updated 9-16

Clergy:

His Beatitude, Metropolitan Theodosius
His Beatitude, Metropolitan Herman
John Duranko (Father's home pastor)
James Gleason (Father's Spiritual Father)
Moses Barry
Joseph Gibson
Gregory Grivna
Emilian Hutnyan
Joseph Von Klarr
Vladimir Lecko
Myron Manzuk
Christopher Phillips
Peter Tutko
John Zabinko
Dc. Paul Gansle
Dc. Gregory Krutcek
Dc. Paul Mitchell
Sub-deacon Wylie Meath

Matushkii:

Pani Patricia Duranko
Virginia Lecko
Maura McCartney
Trudi Richter
Snezanna Ruzic
Sonya Tutko
Margaret Zabinko

Parishioners / & their Family:

John Beadle (Elcishko)
Mandy Braccini (Mazurik)
MaryAnn Cook (Cousin to Twarek's)
John Richard Elchisco
Ruthe Flewelling
Debbie Garnek (Roddie's sister)
Michael Glovinsky (Basil's nephew)
Heidi Golob
Shirley Gresh (Wife of Ernest)
Julia Guzy
Joseph Habegger (Laura brother-in-law)
Nancy Hanon (Cassell)
Barb Heffernan
Charisse Hileman
Alice Jackson (Mazurik)
William Jappsen (Diane T.)
Kris Kollar (Fr.'s cousin)
Betty Kovach
Kristen (Cassell's daughter)
Terri Lariccia (Fr.'s cousin)
David LaValle (Fr.'s cousin)
Helen Lis
Stephanos Loizos
Greg Mazur

Judy Mazurik (Paul Mazurik's)
Child Stella Miller
Katelyn Pipenur (Niece of Jean)
Earl Rindfleisch
Helen Jean Rofkar (Elchisco)
Joe Rose
Sonya Rose
Ron Royhab
Maryann Royhab
Steven Schirtzinger (Soski)
Christy Schutt (Joe's sister)
Dacia Snider (Hileman)
Christi Soski
Peter Truta (Jean H's cousin)
Diane Tryon
Greg Tryon
Tom Twarek
Bob Whitham (Fr's cousin)
Katie and her baby Bodhi
(Cassell's daughter-in-law)
Sarah and her unborn Child
(Laura's daughter)
Brittany And her unborn baby
(Fr's cousin)

Other Requests:

Alexia
Baby Emma (Cassell)
Barb (Cassell)
Brandon (Cassell)
Brendan (From Norwalk)
Delores Danchisen
Layne Demkosky
Paul Demkosky (Fr's friend)
Betty Dubbert (Kovach)
Marge Dziama
Mary Dziak (Twarek)
Matt Essex
Ben Franklin (Laura friend)
James Geisman (Twarek)
Theodore Geletka
(St. Michael Broadview
Heights' choir director)
Brad George (Christi's friend)
Donald Gresh (Basil)
Elliot Joy (Police chief's son)
Andrea Joy (Kovach)
Ann Marie Krynock (timko)
Tommy Leonchik (Fr's friend)
Jake Lipstraw (Twarek)
Mark Ludvik (Guzy)
Mark Masica (Kovach)
Pauline Meath (Fr's friend)

Cole Miller (Cassell)
Doug Millinger (Kovach)
Karen Muzyka (Fr's friend)
Charlie Nowak (Avery's)
Beth Reinhard (Diane friend)
Chris Reinheimer (Bruno's)
Sandy Scafaria (Hileman)
Arby Shenesky (Pastor Bob's sister)
Matthew Sterling (Tyron)
Andrea Szabo (Sonya friend)
Janice Timko
Philip (Andy) Timko
George Timko
Steve Turinsky (Twarek)
Chuck Wiedenhof (Twarek)
Loren Welch
Rachel (Darlene M.)
Mollie & her newborn William
(Fr.'s friend)

Military:

Craig Cassell, Nathan Brown, Alena Grabavoy, Alex, Jake Ellithorpe

Captives:

Metropolitan Paul (Orthodox Archdiocese of Aleppo)
Archbishop John (Syriac Archdiocese of Aleppo)

The UN & IOCC humanitarian aid workers in & around Syria; Those suffering persecution in Iraq, Syria, Israel, Egypt, Ukraine and throughout the world

For Your Prayers

Julia Guzy (97)
1601 Church Rd
Marblehead, OH 43440

Diane Tryon
109 Joslyn Street
Arcadia, OH 44804

Please remember our shut-ins, especially now during this National crisis.

LITURGICAL ATTENDANCE FOR SEPTEMBER

Saturday, September 5: 5 Attended Vespers
Sunday, September 6: 22 attended Liturgy /
19 Communicants (21 parishioners & 1 guest)
Monday, September 7: 11 attended Vespers for
Feast
Tuesday, September 8: 6 attended Liturgy /
5 communicants
Saturday, September 12: 8 attended Vespers
Sunday, September 13: 13 attended Liturgy /
10 Communicants (12 members & 1 guest)
Sunday, September 13: 10 attended Vespers for
Feast Day
Monday, September 14: 7 attended Liturgy /
6 Communicants

SEPTEMBER SPECIAL COLLECTION

“Support Our Seminarians” Campaign

Deacon Matthew McDonald- St Tikhon's- 3rd year
Deacon Peter Simko- St. Tikhon- 3rd year
Payton Saunders- St Tikhon's- 2nd year
Jacob Ponomarenko- St Tikhon's- 2nd year
Matthew- Pings- St Tikhon's- 2nd year
Andrew Prather- St Vladimir's- 1st year

His Beatitude Metropolitan Tikhon Offers a Reflection on the Relocation of the Chancery of the Orthodox Church in America and the Sale of the Current Chancery Property

On Monday, September 14, Archpriest Alexander Rentel, Chancellor of the Orthodox Church in America, made the following statement:

“On Monday, August 31, 2020, I signed a contract with a Long Island realtor to put up for sale the Westwood property, the longtime location of the Chancery of the Orthodox Church in America in Oyster Bay Cove (Syosset), NY. I took this step in accordance

with the motion to do so that was unanimously accepted by the Metropolitan Council at the [beginning of its regular Fall 2020 Session, on Thursday, August 27, 2020](#). The Property Committee of the Metropolitan Council put forward this motion after careful deliberation and study, and after interviewing two local realtors. The Property Committee had immediately begun its work following the adoption of a resolution by the Metropolitan Council at its [regular Spring 2020 Session to make efforts to sell the Chancery property](#). The Holy Synod of Bishops of the Orthodox Church in America confirmed this February resolution of the Metropolitan Council at its [regular Spring 2020 session in May/June](#).

The Metropolitan Council and the Holy Synod had previously considered and discussed the relocation of the Chancery of the Orthodox Church in America and the sale of the property at their meetings in [Spring 2019](#), and again in [Fall 2019](#).

The decision to relocate the Chancery has not been taken lightly, and both the Metropolitan Council and Holy Synod acknowledge the historical significance and emotional ties that the present location and building have had over the last several decades to the faithful of the Orthodox Church in America. Nonetheless, several reasons urged them toward this new direction.

Above all, the sale of the Westwood property is being undertaken so that His Beatitude can move to the territory of his own diocese, the Archdiocese of Washington, where he and his administration will work and become part of the Church life there. When Metropolitan Leonty of blessed memory first moved to the Westwood property in 1958, the property was part of his canonical territory. Indeed, when the building was first acquired, it was projected as a residence for the metropolitan, a place of pilgrimage and other events, and not as the Chancery. The Chancery remained at the Cathedral in New York City. It was only in 1974 that the [Westwood Estate became the official Chancery of the Orthodox Church in America](#).

In the years since, the Holy Synod of Bishops, reflecting the expansion and growth of the Orthodox Church in America, has created new sees and new dioceses, and drawn and redrawn the diocesan boundaries. Among these changes, the Holy Synod changed the see of the Metropolitan from *Con't Pg 6*

September Celebrations

Anniversary	Birthday	
3- Frank & Crystal Batura 11- David & Roddie Mazurik / Wayne & Heidi Golob 13- Sam & Angie Dardovski / Fr. Peter Zarynow (priestly anniversary) / Tom & Jean Hileman 15- Nikki & Sean Williams 19- Zach & Amber Twarek 24- Mike & Diane Tryon 9-28-1990: Retired Bishop Lazar of Ottawa	1-Denny Bird 2- Julia Guzy 3- Lynn Basala 5-Chico Elcisko 8- Zach Twarek 11- Fr. John Beskid / Brian Lucas 14- Debbie Perman / Chris Baxter 15- Walter Litzie Sr 16- Tommy Leonchik 17- Wyatt Schlotterer	18- Fr. David Lis 19- Cooper Kowal 20- Fr. Matthew Moriak 20- Charisse Hileman 22- Pani Bethany Mihaly 23- Rita Mazur 25- Nikki Twarek / Noah Adamcio / Michael Litzie 26- Jim Basala, Amber Twarek / Greg Twarek 30- Jaxson Monschein / Jack Kovach
NAMESDAY		
9-9: Retired Metropolitan Theodosius 9-30: Archbishop Michael of NY & NJ		
<i>If there are those names to be added or removed, please contact Fr. Andrew. He would like to list all members of your family Orthodox and non-Orthodox.</i>		

OTHER NEWS

Bishop's Council, Monday, October 5th, at 1 PM, central time

Diocesan Council, Monday, October 5th, at 6 PM central time

Diocesan Assembly, Thursday, October 8th, 5 PM via Zoom or Go-to-My-Meeting

Diocesan and Bishop's Councils, November 30th to December 2nd, Burbank, IL

40 DAY REMEMBRANCE

September 6: Detective Tanisha from AL

September 13: 9 Marines killed in boating accident

September 27: Tim Nash / Police officer Rasheen from Detroit

October 4: Matushka Mary Maksimoff / Matushka Janet Mihalick / Sergeant Ricardo from P.R. / Army paratrooper who died in training accident

October 11: Police officer Tamarris St. Louis / Police officer Brian from AZ / Police officer Corporal Bryant from Detroit / Police officer from Cleveland / Det. From Clevel;and / Captain Stanley from GA / Trooper Thomas from MA / Police officer Sean from NJ

October 18: Police officer Luis from NE / Cody from the Army division of the military / 3 National guardsmen from TN / Deputy Sheriff from NC / Lisa Monak

September Reposed

1- His Eminence Bishop Nikon (2019)
 2- David Douglas (2015)
 4- John Mataleska (1986); 4- Archpriest John Grandziuk (1947) Former Pastor
 5- Archpriest Michael Dziama (1944) Former Pastor
 6- Anna Dahulich (2017)
 14- Archpriest George Breyan (2009) Former Pastor; Mary Kamiotis (2017)
 15- Steve Bartek (1962) (Grandfather); Peter Rindfleisch (2006)

16- John George Mazurik (1997)
 18- Bernie Labouda (2018); 18- Stephen Sature (2004)
 20- Nora Bird (2017)
 21- Joseph Mazur (2002)
 27- Michael Ittescu (1968); Alison Pickney (2017); Karen Milano (2017)
 28- William Felenchak (1977)
 30- Bishop John Martin (1984)
 George Mazur (1937)
 George Mazurik (1940)

National Chancery to move con't

New York to Washington, in order to be in accord with the ancient tradition in which the Metropolitan of a local synod resides in the capital city. This move has had the result that His Beatitude does not reside currently in his diocese, which is a canonical requirement. This relocation, in other words, is a natural development in the life of the Orthodox Church in America, as His Beatitude moves to the principal city of this country.

Currently, the task at hand toward meeting this goal is the sale of the Westwood property in Long Island. The next phase will be the relocation to the Washington, DC, area. As the current Chancery property also serves as the archives facility as well as the residence of His Beatitude, the relocation must be thought of as consisting of three interrelated parts:

- the acquisition of living quarters for His Beatitude,
- the establishment of appropriate Chancery administrative offices, and,
- the relocation of the archives to a more suitable location.

In addition to having His Beatitude reside within his canonical territory, the preservation of the precious archives, the patrimony and great treasure of the record of life of the Church in North America requires its relocation to an appropriate place. The archives simply cannot remain indefinitely in the basement of a summer house, which is a mansion to be sure, but which was built for late-Spring and summer, not for all four seasons. A 2016 assessment of the present location of the archives concluded that even if the space was shored up in the best way possible, it would only represent a temporary fix. Something would still have to be done.

Finally, while the primary reasons for the sale and relocation of the Chancery are grounded in ecclesiology, the continued growth of our Church, and the preservation of the archives, there are other important factors. The current property is 14.5 acres, and the Chancery itself only uses less than 0.5, but the Church is required to maintain all of it, the house, landscaping, the driveway, etc. If the Chancery were to remain at this location, the current building would require work **Con't Pg 7**

Respect Life Ornament Sale Fundraiser

NOTE: Father Andrew is on this Board as the Orthodox Representative. I do have this ornament if anyone is interested.) If interested please respond ASAP.

The Immaculate Conception / St. Joseph (IC/SJ) Respect Life Ministry is holding an ornament sale for this year's fundraiser in lieu of a gathering, due to the current limitations on large events. Proceeds from the fundraiser will be used to offset the cost of the bus to send 50 pilgrims to the annual March for Life, in Washington, DC in January.

This beautiful customized ornament is perfect to be displayed for Christmas, or, year-round. You may purchase an ornament for \$10 from the following Church Parish Offices: St. Joseph, Immaculate Conception, St. Mary's Byzantine and Holy Assumption Orthodox, or from Madame Rosie's Boutique or Victory Coffee & Company. Additionally, you may contact Lori Kiser, 419-708-9826 or any Respect Life Ministry member to obtain yours. Don't forget, these treasures will make excellent gifts as well. Thank you for your support of the unborn and our ministry's efforts to protect all life.



TENTATIVE READERS

Sunday, Sept. 20: Tim
Sunday, Sept. 27: Joe
Thursday, Oct 1: Tim
Sunday, Oct. 4: Terri

TENTATIVE SINGING

Sunday, Sept. 20: Natalie & Susan
Sunday, Sept. 27: Natalie & Tim
Wednesday, Sept 30: Natalie & Susan
Thursday, Oct 1: Natalie & Tim
Sunday, Oct 4: Natalie & Fred

VIGILS - 9-13

Basil Glovinsky(6) In loving memory of Jean’s Birthday (Sept 14); In loving memory of Lisa Monak; Health and recovery to Diane; Health and recovery to Michael Glovinsky; Birthday blessings to Julia (Sept 12)

Tim Glovinsky (1) In birthday memory of Mom

Susan Guzy (4) Special intentions

Laura Kovach (4) God's healing to everyone battling or suffering during the COVID-19 pandemic; God's blessings of peace and healing for our country; For healing or health of Sarah and her unborn baby, Betty, Betty, Julia, Andrea, Mark, Jim, Dana, Bodhi, Steve, Brian, and Justin; Anniversary blessings for Joe and Margi

Sandy Martin (1) Special intentions

Jim Mazur(2) In memory family and friends; For health of family and friends

Diane Tryon (1) In loving memory of Aunt Jeannie on her birthday; Recovery to good health to Michael Glovinsky

Twarek (9) In memory of Lisa Monak; Anniversary blessing to Nikki & Sean(9/15); Birthday blessings and good health to Wyatt(9/17); Anniversary blessings to Zach & Amber(9/19); Health of Sarah, Jewel and Natalie and their unborn babies; Health and recovery of Laura; Health and recovery of Ron, Mary, JC, Loren, Sonya, David; For the health of Julia, Tom, Sarah, Jason, Nancy, Margi & Joe, Betty, MaryAnn & Bob, Judy, Chuck, Steve, Bohdi, Liz, Joe, Diane, Stella, Jake, Helen; Special intentions

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and upgrades that have been conservatively estimated at around \$400,000. The work—rewiring of electricity, shoring up the basement, drainage issues, etc.—that this amount of money would cover is absolutely necessary, but represents only a bare minimum of what is needed to be done. In other words, the amount does not cover the cost of a whole host

of other issues involved in repairing and upgrading a house that was built as a luxurious summer cottage, and maintaining the 14.5 acres it sits on.”

In what follows, His Beatitude Metropolitan Tikhon has offered a reflection addressed to the whole Church, [“On Stewardship and the Chancery of the Orthodox Church in America,”](#) which further addresses the relocation of the Chancery of the Orthodox Church in America and the sale of the current Chancery property.

On Stewardship and the Chancery of the Orthodox Church in America

“In my booklet, *Of What Life Do We Speak: Four Pillars for the Fulfillment of the Apostolic Work of the Church*, I define the second pillar, stewardship, as the “application of our spiritual life to the realities of the fallen world” (page 31). Stewardship often has to do with financial matters but it includes our care for other human beings, for the environment, and for the patrimony of our Church. In a very concrete way, all the institutions of the Orthodox Church in America, from the Holy Synod to Diocesan Councils, monasteries, and seminaries, are given the sacred task of safeguarding the spiritual, material, and financial treasures of the Church. In other words, we are all called to be good stewards of the gifts that God has entrusted to our care. This same sacred task falls to me, as Primate of our local Church. In this, I am grateful to be assisted by the Holy Synod, by my Chancellor and Chancery Office and by the various bodies, such as the Metropolitan Council, that are appointed to assist me.

Many of you are aware of discussions that have taken place, beginning last year, concerning the location of the Chancery of the Orthodox Church in America. Those discussions led to the adoption by the Metropolitan Council, in February of this year, of a resolution to begin the process of selling the current Chancery property and to secure appropriate locations for the residence of the Metropolitan, for the chancery offices, and for the archives of the Orthodox Church in America, a decision confirmed by the Holy Synod at its Spring session. The fiduciary responsibilities of the Metropolitan Council are clearly enumerated in the Statute but those responsibilities are not narrowly restricted to financial issues but touch more broadly on the spiritual principles of stewardship. The members of the Metropolitan Council, ***Con’t Next Page***

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as well as the members of the Property Committee which I appointed to study all aspects of a potential move, have been faithful in following these spiritual principles, even as they tackled the complex realities of finances and real estate.

I initiated these discussions after a long period of prayer and reflection and I continue to consider every step of this process as an exercise in stewardship. Many of you will recall previous debates about the relocation of the Chancery, discussions that were often undertaken during a time of crisis, of distrust, and of financial instability. By God's grace, much of the fog of this previous atmosphere has been dispelled by the hard work and good will of many faithful and dedicated individuals in our Church. I am confident that our Church is now in a healthier position to consider more carefully some of the legitimate questions that have been raised in the past, and to accomplish this in a spirit of unity and genuine care for the health, stability, and growth of our Church. During my eight years as your Metropolitan, I have been striving to approach all questions, such as the location of the Chancery, with gratitude, with discernment, and with hope.

I have gratitude for the present Chancery property, which cannot be reduced to just a building and just land, but is rather an expression of the history and legacy of the Orthodox Church in America, particularly over the last 50 years of our existence as an autocephalous Church. The walls of the Westwood building have echoed with many forms of ecclesiastical drama but have also provided the physical space for momentous ecclesiastical actions, significant decisions, and the articulation of visions. They have been blessed by the presence of prayerful figures such as Metropolitan Leonty and have served as the place for historic events, such as the signing of the [agreement of autocephaly on March 31, 1970](#) by Metropolitan Iriney and Metropolitan Nikodim. The building has not always served as the location of the Chancery, nor has the Primate always resided there. Since my own election as Primate in 2012, I have maintained my residence here and have been thankful for the peaceful and beautiful surroundings, which have offered me a

In that context, these past eight years have provided me with an opportunity for prayerful discernment with respect to the future trajectory the Orthodox Church in America. I made a modest attempt at articulating a vision for this trajectory in my Four Pillars booklet and I am ever more convinced that the time has come to implement that vision, which is not my personal vision but that of the Church. The four pillars are expressions of broad themes concerning what we ought to do as the Church in North America. But at the same time we need to know how to accomplish this so as to give concrete expression to those themes, to become doers of the word, not just hearers. One small way we can accomplish this is through the present process of relocating the Chancery. There are many practical and financial reasons that have argued for such a relocation and these are legitimate reasons that are part of this discussion. However, the primary reasons that I am advocating for are the canonical and ecclesiastical reasons: I am the Archbishop of Washington, DC but I do not currently reside in my canonical territory. While I am grateful to His Eminence, Archbishop Michael, for his invitation to visit any of his local parishes, the reality remains that I and the Chancery reside on the territory of another diocese. This is more significant for me because I am, as it were, separated from my own flock. While I do not feel that I have neglected the clergy and faithful of the Archdiocese of Washington, there is no denying that my pastoral oversight is limited by the physical distance that separates us.

Certainly, my responsibilities to the broader Church as Primate will always make it difficult to adequately minister to my local flock. Nevertheless, I am convinced that my primatial responsibilities are currently limited by my isolation from my flock and that a carefully thought out relocation will be one concrete measure that will be spiritually, emotionally, and physically beneficial for the Orthodox Church in America. This is what offers me hope, in spite of the potential complexity of this process. I know that our monastics, clergy, and faithful will not accept anything less than a glorious, honorable, and dignified solution to every aspect of this transition. There will undoubtedly be challenges that arise but we will navigate those challenges in the same way that the missionaries, founders, builders, and saints of our venerable Church have always navigated them: with faith in God, trust in their fellows, and humble perseverance.

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