

September 13, 2022

09/047

His Eminence Metropolitan Nicholas
Metropolitan of Eastern America and New York
First Hierarch of the Russian Orthodox Church Outside Russia
75 East 93rd Street
New York, NY 10128

Your Eminence, Dear Brother and Concelebrant in the Lord's Holy Mysteries,

With joy I congratulate you on your election as the First Hierarch of the Russian Orthodox Church Outside of Russia.

To undertake such a high ministry in the Church is always a weighty matter, and it is perhaps weightier during these times of trouble throughout the world. I assure Your Eminence of my prayers that the Lord might stand with you and lend you strength, illumination, comfort, and guidance as you accept this task from his hand.

The Orthodox Church in America and I as her Primate aspire to a good, God-pleasing relationship in Christ with the Russian Orthodox Church Outside of Russia, so that we Orthodox Christians may be of "of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind" unto the joy of the whole of Church of Christ (Phil. 2:2). As such, I look forward to working together with Your Eminence to foster cooperation and fraternal good relations between the Orthodox Church in America and the Russian Orthodox Church Outside of Russia during the years to come.

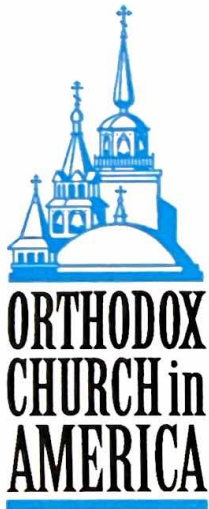
Once again I offer you my heartfelt congratulations and assure you of my fraternal prayers.

Your Brother in Christ,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Tikhon', written in a cursive style.

+ Tikhon

Archbishop of Washington
Metropolitan of All America and Canada



P.O. Box 675
SYOSSET, NY 11791-0675
TEL: 516.922.0550
FAX: 516.922.0954
WEBSITE: WWW.OCA.ORG