

## PASTORAL CHANGES

Official No. 703

February 2026

### ORDINATIONS

BIRBILIS, Deacon Nicholas was ordained to the Holy Priesthood on February 15, 2026 by Bishop Gerasim at St. Justin Martyr Church, Jacksonville, FL. He is under the omophorion of Archbishop Alexander and attached to the Diocese of the South. (Diocese of the South)

COMBS, Herman was ordained to the Holy Diaconate on February 2, 2026 by Bishop Vasily on behalf of Metropolitan Tikhon at St. Tikhon of Zadonsk Monastery Church, South Canaan, PA. He is under the omophorion of Metropolitan Tikhon and on the roster of Stavropegial clergy. (Stavropegial)

CROSSMAN, Deacon Seraphim was ordained to the Holy Priesthood on February 8, 2026 by Bishop Gerasim on behalf of Metropolitan Tikhon at St. John of the Ladder Church, Greenville, SC. He is under the omophorion of Metropolitan Tikhon and on the roster of Stavropegial clergy. (Stavropegial)

DANIELS, Deacon Paisios was ordained to the Holy Priesthood on February 2, 2026 by Bishop Vasily on behalf of Metropolitan Tikhon at St. Tikhon of Zadonsk Monastery Church, South Canaan, PA. He is under the omophorion of Metropolitan Tikhon and on the roster of Stavropegial clergy. (Stavropegial)

LOPEZ, Deacon Sergio was ordained to the Holy Priesthood on February 5, 2026 by Archbishop Alexander on behalf of Metropolitan Tikhon at Holy Cross Church, Kernersville, NC. He is under the omophorion of Metropolitan Tikhon and on the roster of Stavropegial clergy. (Stavropegial)

RITCHEY, Andrew was ordained to the Holy Diaconate on February 5, 2026 by Archbishop Alexander on behalf of Metropolitan Tikhon at Holy Cross Church, Kernersville, NC. He is under the omophorion of Metropolitan Tikhon and on the roster of Stavropegial clergy. (Stavropegial)

STIFF, Deacon John was ordained to the Holy Priesthood on February 14, 2026 by Archbishop Michael on behalf of Metropolitan Tikhon at St. Tikhon of Zadonsk Monastery Church, South Canaan, PA. He is under the omophorion of Metropolitan Tikhon and on the roster of Stavropegial clergy. (Stavropegial)



P.O Box 31409  
Alexandria, VA 22310  
516.922.0550  
[www.oca.org](http://www.oca.org)

## ASSIGNMENTS

BOZEMAN, Priest David was released from his assignment at St. Sergius of Radonezh Chapel, Oyster Bay Cove, NY, effective February 15, 2026. While remaining under the omophorion of Metropolitan Tikhon, he was transferred from the roster of Stavropegial clergy to the roster of territorial clergy of the Archdiocese of Washington, D.C., and assigned Associate Priest at St. Nicholas Cathedral, Washington, D.C., effective February 16, 2026. All his other duties remain the same. (Archdiocese of Washington, D.C.)\*

BRETON, Archpriest Gary Joseph was released from his assignment as Rector of the Church of the Annunciation, Brick, NJ, and granted retirement, effective February 23, 2026. In his retirement, he was attached to Holy Spirit Church, Wantage, NJ. All his other duties remain the same. (Diocese of New York and New Jersey)

CHAIKIVSKYI, Priest Bohdan was released from his attachment at St. Athanasius Chapel, Bronxville, NY, and assigned Acting Rector of the Church of the Annunciation, Brick, NJ, effective February 23, 2026. (Diocese of New York and New Jersey)

COMBS, Deacon Herman was attached to St. Tikhon of Zadonsk Monastery Church, South Canaan, PA, effective February 2, 2026. (Stavropegial)

DUJMOVIC, Deacon Nicholas was released from his assignment at Protection of the Holy Mother of God Church, Falls Church, VA, and from the omophorion of Archbishop Nathaniel and the Romanian Episcopate. He was transferred to the omophorion of Archbishop Alexander and the Diocese of the South, and attached to St. John of the Ladder Church, Greenville, SC, effective February 15, 2026. (Diocese of the South)

FRANCHAK, Archpriest Jason was released from his duties as Administrator of SS. Peter and Paul Church, Union Dale, PA, effective February 1, 2026. All his other duties remain the same. (Diocese of Eastern Pennsylvania)

GEANA, Priest Mircea was assigned Rector of Holy Trinity Church, Springfield, VT, where he was previously Acting Rector, effective February 25, 2026. All his other duties remain the same. (Diocese of New England)

KOKHNO, Archpriest George was released from his assignment as Associate Priest at St. Nicholas Cathedral, Washington, D.C., and assigned Rector of Holy Trinity Church, Ashburn, VA, effective February 15, 2026. (Archdiocese of Washington, D.C.)

MARGHERITINO, Archpriest Alessandro was released from his duties as Rector of St. Sergius of Radonezh Chapel, Oyster Bay Cove, NY, and appointed Administrator of the same, effective February 15, 2026. While remaining under the omophorion of Metropolitan Tikhon, he was transferred from the roster of Stavropegial clergy to the roster of territorial clergy of the Archdiocese of Washington, D.C., and assigned Cathedral Dean of St. Nicholas Cathedral, Washington, D.C., effective February 16, 2026. All his other duties remain the same. (Archdiocese of Washington, D.C.)

MIKITISH, Priest John was released from his attachment at All Saints of America Church, Alexandria, VA, and attached to St. Nicholas Cathedral, Washington, D.C., effective February 15, 2026. (Archdiocese of Washington, D.C.)

NEAL, Archpriest Innocent, in addition to his other duties, was appointed Administrator of SS. Peter and Paul Church, Union Dale, PA, effective February 1, 2026. (Diocese of Eastern Pennsylvania)

NICOLAI, Archpriest Michael was released from his duties as Chaplain of St. Herman Orthodox Theological Seminary, Kodiak, AK and from his assignment as Associate Priest at All Saints of Alaska Chapel, Kodiak, AK, and suspended, effective February 4, 2026. While suspended, he was attached to St. Sophia Church, Bethel, AK. (Diocese of Alaska)

POWELL, Priest Ambrose, in addition to his other duties, was assigned Priest-in-Charge of St. Olga Mission, St. Johnsbury, VT, effective February 20, 2026. (Diocese of New England)

RITCHEY, Deacon Andrew was attached to St. Tikhon of Zadonsk Monastery Church, South Canaan, PA, effective February 5, 2026. (Stavropegial)

SCRATCH, Archpriest Sebastian was released from his assignment at St. Peter the Aleut Church, Calgary, AB, and attached to Église de la Vierge de Diveyevo, Rawdon, QC, effective February 28, 2026. (Archdiocese of Canada)

VÁZQUEZ, Priest Esteban was released from his assignment as Rector of St. Panteleimon Church, Summit, IL (now St. Panteleimon Chapel, Summit Argo, IL), and attached to SS. Peter and Paul Church, Burr Ridge, IL, effective February 18, 2026. He was also appointed Administrator of St. Panteleimon Chapel, Summit Argo, IL, effective February 18, 2026. All his other duties remain the same. (Diocese of the Midwest)

WASUTA, Priest Zachary was assigned Rector of Holy Resurrection Church, Berlin, NH, where he was previously Acting Rector, effective February 25, 2026. (Diocese of New England)

\*WATERS, Archpriest Paul, who was On Loan to the Albanian Archdiocese from the Patriarchal Parishes in the USA (Moscow Patriarchate), was released from his assignment at St. Thomas Church, Farmington Hills, MI, and from the omophorion of Bishop Nikodhim and the Albanian Archdiocese, and returned to the omophorion of Bishop Matthew and the Patriarchal Parishes in the USA (Moscow Patriarchate), effective February 3, 2026.

WOJCIK, Archpriest Thaddeus, in his retirement, was released from his attachment at Holy Trinity Church, Saint Paul, MN, and attached to St. Nicholas Church, Pella, IA. (Diocese of the Midwest)

### **ON LOANS**

\*WATERS, Archpriest Paul, who was On Loan to the Albanian Archdiocese from the Patriarchal Parishes in the USA (Moscow Patriarchate), was released from the omophorion of Bishop Nikodhim and the Albanian Archdiocese, and returned to the omophorion of Bishop Matthew and the Patriarchal Parishes in the USA (Moscow Patriarchate), effective February 3, 2026.

### **SUSPENDED**

HILL, Archpriest George was suspended from all priestly functions, effective February 3, 2026. (Stavropegial)

NICOLAI, Archpriest Michael was suspended from all priestly functions, effective February 4, 2026. (Diocese of Alaska)

### **DEATHS**

(MAJOROS), Archimandrite Luke reposed on February 12, 2026. (Archdiocese of Canada)

(SIGRIST), Bishop Seraphim, in his retirement, reposed on February 7, 2026. (Stavropegial)

## PARISHES

### Diocese of the Midwest

*Change of status from parish to chapel, effective February 18, 2026.*

St. Panteleimon Church, Summit, IL, was reduced to the status of a chapel, effective February 18, 2026, and is now known as St. Panteleimon Chapel, Summit Argo [sic], IL.

### Diocese of New England

*New mission, effective February 20, 2026.*

St. Olga Mission, St. Johnsbury, VT  
Meeting at: 1265 Main Street  
St. Johnsbury, VT 05819-2697  
Priest-in-Charge: Priest Ambrose Powell

**NOTE: \* indicates non-OCA clergy.**

Approved for distribution:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Fr. Alessandro Margheritino". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

//Signed March 21, 2026//  
Archpriest Alessandro Margheritino  
Chancellor of the OCA