

---

# **METROPOLITAN COUNCIL of the ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA**

**MINUTES**  
2025 Special Session

**Wednesday, May 21, 2025**  
Conducted by video conference



*These draft minutes are subject to approval at a subsequent meeting of the Metropolitan Council*

## **PARTICIPANTS**

### **CHAIRMAN**

His Beatitude Metropolitan Tikhon

### **CHURCH OFFICERS (*EX OFFICIO*)**

Archpriest Alessandro Margheritino, *Acting Chancellor & Secretary*  
Andrew Smith, *Treasurer*

### **MEMBERS ELECTED BY THE ALL-AMERICAN COUNCIL**

|                               |                       |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Archpriest Justin Patterson   | Elizabeth Mikhalevsky |
| Archpriest Lawrence Margitich | Lynnell McFarland     |
| Archpriest Christopher Foley  | Alexis Liberovsky     |

### **DIOCESAN REPRESENTATIVES**

#### **Albanian Archdiocese**

Hieromonk Danaks (Rhodes)

#### **Bulgarian Diocese**

Deacon Bogdan Popescu

#### **Diocese of Eastern Pennsylvania**

|                                  |               |
|----------------------------------|---------------|
| Archpriest Raymond Martin Browne | Danalisa Radu |
|----------------------------------|---------------|

#### **Diocese of the Midwest**

|                       |              |
|-----------------------|--------------|
| Archpriest John Baker | Basil Kochan |
|-----------------------|--------------|

#### **Diocese of New England**

|                          |                |
|--------------------------|----------------|
| Archpriest Patrick Burns | David Zavednak |
|--------------------------|----------------|

#### **Diocese of the South**

|                           |                |
|---------------------------|----------------|
| Archpriest Peter Robichau | Joshua Godbold |
|---------------------------|----------------|

#### **Archdiocese of Washington**

|                         |                 |
|-------------------------|-----------------|
| Deacon Matthew Prentice | Gregory Honshul |
|-------------------------|-----------------|

#### **Diocese of the West**

Archpriest Andreas Blom

**Archdiocese of Western Pennsylvania**

Priest John Parker

Rebecca Danchenko

**ABSENT**

Archpriest David Garretson (*Diocese of New York/New Jersey*)

Archpriest Maxim Isaac (*Diocese of Alaska*)

Archpriest Gregory Scratch (*Archdiocese of Canada*)

Deacon Anthony Lekanof (*Diocese of Alaska*)

Donna Dimitri (*Albanian Archdiocese*)

Kevin Duffy (*Diocese of the West*)

Jonathan Pageau (*Archdiocese of Canada*)

Daniel Ralich (*Bulgarian Diocese*)

Mitchell VanDuyn (*Diocese of New York/New Jersey*)

**Guests**

Mark Hamilton (*OCA General Counsel*)

**A. Opening Prayer**

His Beatitude Metropolitan Tikhon led the meeting participants in prayer at 4:02 PM to open the Special Session of the Metropolitan Council conducted by video conference.

**B. Call to Order**

With His Beatitude's blessing, Archpriest Alessandro Margheritino called the meeting to order.

**C. Agenda (attached) Introduction & Roll Call**

Fr. Margheritino reviewed the attached agenda for the meeting and conducted the roll call. He stated that a quorum of members was present.

**D. Metropolitan's Remarks**

Metropolitan Tikhon conveyed paschal greetings to all and noted that this is a second special session with a single item on its agenda.

**E. Endorsement of OCA Chancellor candidate**

Fr. Margheritino was excused from the meeting during deliberation of this matter. His Beatitude reiterated the contents of his recent letter to the Metropolitan Council and noted several additional considerations in nominating a new chancellor. He also indicated that a nominee for a new OCA Secretary would be named soon. After the motion below was made, questions and wide-ranging discussion ensued, mostly regarding the position of chancellor and his responsibilities.

**E.1. MOTION POPESCU/BROWNE - In accordance with Article V, Section 7.1. of the Statute of the Orthodox Church in America, to endorse for confirmation**

**by the Holy Synod the Metropolitan's selection of the Archpriest Alessandro Margheritino as Chancellor of the Orthodox Church in America. CARRIED with 17 (seventeen) votes in favor, 3 (three) votes opposed, and 2 (two) abstentions.**

His Beatitude indicated that he confirms the vote and would submit the nominee to the Holy Synod for confirmation.

**F. Adjournment**

**F.1. MOTION PRENTICE/MIKHALEVSKY – To adjourn the Special Session. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Metropolitan Tikhon thanked the Council for its work and closed the meeting with prayer at 5:08 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Alexis Liberovsky,  
Recording Secretary