

Orthodox Church in America DIOCESE OF THE MIDWEST

Office of the Chancellor

January 11, 2011 Ven. Theodosius the Great, the Cenobiarch No. 2

Beloved Clergy, Monastics, and Faithful of the Diocese of the Midwest,

In support of the Archbishop Job Memorial Mission Trip to Project Mexico the Diocesan Council, Deans and administrator of the Diocese of the Midwest have designated February, 2011 as Diocesan Mission Month. The project is a unique way to honor our beloved Archbishop and support our 115 diocesan missionaries who will build in his memory.

Preparation for the trip began months ago with prayer, fundraising, study and some hands on practice. The primary goal of our missionaries is to help construct homes for needy families in Mexico honoring our beloved Archbishop Job. Please keep the missionaries in your prayers as they prepare for and serve at Project Mexico (http://www.projectmexico.org) July 12-18, 2011.

The whole diocese is invited to participate in this memorial mission trip with prayers and financial donations. Parishes will take special collections for the project throughout the month of February. Your prayers and financial support will make this project truly a diocese-wide effort.

"Adopt a Missionary" is another way to participate. For \$1200.00 (the estimated cost for each participant's travel and building supplies) you, your group, club or parish can adopt a missionary. If interested, please contact Matushka Ruth Yavornitzky, trip coordinator at (248) 852-9574 or ruthyav@hotmail.com ("Adopt a Missionary" in the subject line) for information about adopting a missionary.

Please act now. Your prayers are always welcome and needed, but February 2011 is the only occasion that you will have to financially participate in this memorial mission trip because payments are due shortly after. It would be precious to the Archbishop's memory for all of his spiritual children to share in this awesome opportunity.

Thank you for your prayerful consideration. May Archbishop Job's memory be eternal!

With love in Christ,

Archimandrite Matthias Bishop-Elect of Chicago

Administrator of the Diocese of the Midwest

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Enclosures: 1

Enclosure 1

Instructions for priests and treasurers:

Dear Parish Priests and Treasurers,

Please take collections during the month of February, and account within your own parish for the donations as necessary for tax purposes. A church check with the total donations to be made out to **St. Mark Church** and forwarded to:

St. Mark Church Missions Month 400 W Hamlin Rd Rochester Hills, MI 48307

Please do this as soon as possible after February 27, 2011 as the missionaries' final payments are due March 15, 2011.

Questions? Call or email Matushka Ruth Yavornitzky, trip coordinator at (248) 852-9574 or ruthyav@hotmail.com

Thank you for your help. Ruth