

October 21, 2014
Feast of Venerable Hilarion the Great

To the Very Reverend and Reverend Clergy of the Diocese of the Midwest

Dearly Beloved in the Lord:

I am pleased to inform you that The Holy Synod of Bishops of the Orthodox Church in America, at its session held in Oyster Bay Cove, New York, on the Twenty-First day of October in the year of Our Lord Two Thousand Fourteen, elected the Archimandrite Paul (Gassios), as Bishop of Chicago and the Diocese of the Midwest.

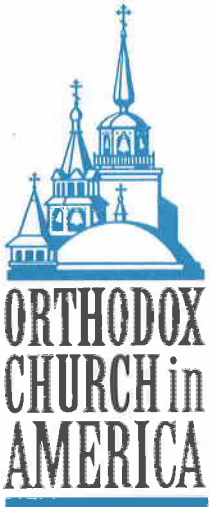
You are to immediately begin to commemorate the Bishop-Elect of Chicago and Midwest by elevating his name at all Divine Services after that of the Primate of the Orthodox Church in America Metropolitan Tikhon, and the *locum-tenens* Bishop Alexander, as is the approved practice of our Church. Archimandrite Paul's new title, as blessed by the Holy Synod, is "Archimandrite Paul, Bishop-Elect of Chicago and the Midwest." The date and place of his consecration to the episcopacy will be determined in due time.

Assuring you of my prayers for Archimandrite Paul, Bishop-Elect, and for all the clergy and faithful who have been entrusted to his archpastoral care, I remain

With love in Christ,



+TIKHON
Archbishop of Washington
Metropolitan of All America and Canada



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