Office of Communications

Orthodox Church in America
Diocese of New York and New Jersey

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Seminarians of Saint Tikhon's Give $1,000 to Diocese of New York and New Jersey Parish Relief Fund

The student community of Saint Tikhon's Seminary announced on 13 May 2010 that they are donating $1,000 toward the newly established **Diocese of New York and New Jersey Parish Relief Fund**. At a tribute dinner honoring His Grace, Bishop +Michael (the newly enthroned Diocesan hierarch) for his nine years' service as Dean of the Seminary, the Student Body President, Todd Justin Mokhiber, stated: "Because of the love and generosity Bishop +Michael has shown to the seminarians at Saint Tikhon's Seminary and to so many others, we -- and our families -- wanted to show our appreciation to him and donate to his new parish relief fund. We challenge others to join us in supporting such a worthy cause."

The **Parish Relief Fund** was announced by Bishop +Michael on May 8th, the day of his consecration to the episcopacy. Responding to the wealth of congratulatory gifts he had received on his consecration, His Grace stated in his remarks at the celebratory banquet that afternoon: "I want to share the abundance of what I have been given. I wish to initiate a fund to assist parishes, struggling financially to be able to properly provide for their priests, with salary subsidy."

On learning of the Saint Tikhon's student body contribution, Bishop +Michael said: "I cannot tell you how moved I am that seminarians, with so little financial means of their own, would be so generous in their kindness. I will always treasure this outpouring of their love, and it will live on in the priests and their families whom they will have helped."

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