

MEMORANDUM:

**TO THE CLERGY & LAITY OF THE DIOCESE OF NEW YORK AND NEW JERSEY
ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA**

FROM: DIOCESAN SEARCH COMMITTEE

SUBJECT: Extraordinary Diocesan Assembly

August 31, 2009

Holy Assumption Church

Clifton, New Jersey

26 August 2009

Very Reverend and Reverend Fathers, and Faithful of the Diocese,

Glory to Jesus Christ!

Today we are forwarding to you, via email, audio interviews conducted with the nominees for the high office of Diocesan Bishop whom we will present for your consideration and election at the upcoming Extraordinary Diocesan Assembly. It is our hope and prayer that these interviews – an opportunity to hear the nominees speak to us – will be helpful in meeting your desire to know the thoughts of each nominee regarding topics and issues that have been raised and communicated to us from clergy and laity within our diocese. We strongly urge and expect all clergy receiving the audio interviews to share them with their lay delegates and all interested parishioners. The interviews are also available on the diocesan webpage: <http://nynjoca.org>

We look forward to this historic gathering of delegates representing our parishes, and those attending as observers. Our work as your search committee, by the grace of God, is coming to a conclusion. Now, the work of the people of God in our Diocese regarding this matter is to be accomplished. With faith, hope, and love, let each of us make ready for the task ahead. It is time for us to manifest, whatever the outcome of discussion, debate, and vote, that conciliarity is more than a slogan or theory among us – that it is truly our desire and our maturing reality.

On Monday, August 31st we will begin with the celebration of the Divine Liturgy at 9:00 a.m. followed by brunch and the convening of the Assembly.

This Sunday, please offer prayers and supplications during the Divine Liturgy in your parishes for the safe and peaceful travel of all who will sojourn to the Assembly, those nominated for election, and for the grace of the Holy Spirit to be upon those who shall be given the most solemn responsibility of discerning and fulfilling the will of God in all we shall accomplish together on this truly extraordinary occasion.

Your brothers in Christ,

The Members of the Search Committee

Archpriest Joseph Lickwar	(Diocesan Chancellor)
Archpriest Alexey Karlgut	(Dean, New York State Deanery)
Archpriest Samuel Kedala	(Dean, New Jersey Deanery)
Archpriest Wiaczeslaw Krawczuk	(Dean, New York City Deanery)