

**RESOLUTION TO THE 2012 DIOCESAN ASSEMBLY,
DIOCESE OF NEW YORK AND NEW JERSEY**

Submitted by the Parish Council of Holy Trinity Russian Orthodox Church, Yonkers, NY

**IMPLEMENTING A CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE PREVENTION
TRAINING PROGRAM IN THE DIOCESE**

WHEREAS the Policies, Standards, and Procedures of the Orthodox Church in America on Sexual Misconduct (“PSP”), adopted by The Holy Synod of Bishops on April 2, 2003 states the following:

Section 7.04. ***Additional Duties and Responsibilities:*** (a) The Office for Review of Sexual Misconduct Allegations shall, as soon as practicable, develop uniform prototype forms and instructions for use in parish ministry to implement these *Policies, Standards, and Procedures*. The forms and instructions, and any amendments thereto, shall be forwarded to diocesan hierarchs, who may make any reasonable modifications, and shall distribute them to parishes and missions within their dioceses and require their use.

Section 13.01. ***Mandatory Training:*** (a) Each diocese shall develop and implement a child sexual abuse prevention training program that must be completed by every person subject to the requirements in paragraph 11.02 of these *Policies, Standards, and Procedures*. A program also shall be developed for voluntary Sunday School teachers, which may be more condensed.

And WHEREAS the Diocesan Administration has endeavored to ensure that all of its parishes comply with the PSP, asking each Parish Council to sign written certification stating that we have read the PSP and that we “will fully and at all times comply with and perform those duties and obligations”;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Diocesan Assembly of New York and New Jersey will take whatever measures are necessary, with the blessing of the Bishop, to ensure reasonable financial resources for the Diocesan Administration to implement this resolution, providing child sexual abuse prevention training opportunities at such Diocesan and Deanery-wide events as annual Parish Council conferences, clergy conferences, Church School teacher training conferences, and in other such appropriate venues, so that we as the faithful of this God-beloved Diocese may avail ourselves of every opportunity to protect the children of our parishes from harm, and so that we may maintain an environment where those desiring to teach, guide, and assist our children in their Christian formation may also be protected and encouraged in their ministries.