

ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA
DIOCESE OF NEW YORK AND NEW JERSEY
OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR
109 Grand Street – Jersey City, NJ 07302

September 1, 2019

Dear Reverend Father and Parish Council,

His Eminence, Archbishop MICHAEL, in conjunction with the Diocesan Council, has scheduled the Annual Diocesan Assembly, to be convened on Thursday, October 31 and Friday, November 1, 2019, at Holy Trinity Orthodox Church, 369 Green Avenue, East Meadow, NY 11554, phone (516) 483-3649. Day One of the event will consist of the formal business of the Diocesan Assembly itself; Day Two will consist of workshops for clergy and lay leaders of our parishes. Lay delegates to the Assembly are strongly encouraged to stay for Day Two and attend the educational workshops designed specifically for them.

On Day One, an invited guest presentation will be offered by Bill Marianes, host of the “Stewardship Calling” Podcast on Ancient Faith Radio (www.ancientfaith.com). Mr. Marianes’ presentations at our Diocesan Parish Council Conferences in June 2019 were very well received, and we look forward to his return to our Diocese. Also addressing the Assembly and fielding questions will be the newly confirmed Chancellor of the Orthodox Church in America, Archpriest Alexander Rentel.

Two Day Schedule

The Divine Liturgy opening the Assembly is on Thursday, October 31, at 9:00 a.m. Registration is from 8:00 a.m. to 8:45 a.m. and during lunch. The Assembly will begin at 1:00 p.m. On Friday, November 1, a Molieben will be served at 9:00 a.m., followed by breakfast and educational symposia for both clergy and laity. The agendas for both days will be published shortly.

Credentials

Every parish is responsible for submitting a registration fee of \$150 to cover the Assembly expense. Each parish is assessed the \$150 fee whether or not it sends a delegate. Fees cover Assembly registration, meals, and the cost of the mandatory Continuing Clergy Education provided on the second day of the Assembly. The observer fee is \$25. Checks are payable to: The Diocese of New York and New Jersey.

In order for lay delegates to be seated at the Assembly, annual parish financial obligations must be current for the parish for the year 2018.

As stated in the Diocesan By-Laws, the Assembly shall consist of the Archbishop, members of the Diocesan Council, members of the Auditing Committee, the senior priest of the Diocesan Cathedral, assigned priests and deacons of each parish, *ex-officio*, and an equal number of lay delegates elected by their respective parish meetings or parish councils.

As per the By-Laws, retired priests residing in the Diocese have the right to attend and the right of consultative voice, but are without the right to vote.

Observers

A member of the Diocese in good standing with the Archbishop and the parish and with the approval of the parish priest, and who has registered according to the established procedures, has the right to attend the Assembly as a non-voting observer.

Resolutions

Any proposed resolutions for the Assembly are to be submitted in writing to Very Rev. Joseph Lickwar, 109 Grand Street, Jersey City, NJ, 07302 by September 16, 2019.

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Elections

The 2019 Assembly Agenda will include the elections of Diocesan District Deans, Members of the Diocesan Council, Diocesan Representatives to the Metropolitan Council, and Diocesan Auditors. Each is to serve for a term of three years.

The Diocesan Council consists of appointed positions and elected positions. The positions elected by the Diocesan Assembly are one clergy and one lay member from each of the three Deaneries, and one clergy and one lay representative from the Diocese to the Metropolitan Council. District Deans are members of the Diocesan Council; they are elected by and from among the rectors of the Deanery and confirmed by the Archbishop.

Nominations will be received for one priest and one lay member from each Deanery to the Diocesan Council, and for Diocesan Clergy and Lay Representatives to the Metropolitan Council. Nominations may be submitted in writing to my office on or before **September 16th**. Nominations from the floor of persons present will also be accepted at the Assembly.

Appointed Members Presently Serving:

Fr. Joseph Lickwar (Chancellor)
Janet Van Duyn (Diocesan Treasurer)
Marie Giokas (NY State Deanery Lay Delegate)
Presently there are two positions appointed by the Archbishop which are not voting members of the Council:
Vice-Chancellor / Personal Secretary: Fr. David Cowan
Diocesan Secretary: Fr. Matthew Brown

Elected Members Presently Serving:

Fr. Alexey Karlgut (Dean, New York State Deanery)
Fr. Wiaczeslaw Krawczuk (Dean, New York City Deanery)
Fr. Gary Breton (Dean, New Jersey Deanery)
Fr. Peter Olsen and Dn. Alexander Anderson (NY State Deanery)
Fr. Martin Kraus and George Elia (NYC Deanery)
[The NJ Deanery Clergy and Lay Delegate positions are vacant, with the exit of Fr. Igor Kseniuk and Mat. Mary Breton.]
Archimandrite Joseph (Hoffman) (Clergy Representative to Metropolitan Council, non-voting)
James Kornafel (Lay Representative to Metropolitan Council, non-voting)

Nominations will be received for Diocesan Auditors. The present Diocesan Auditors are Igumen Joseph (Hoffman) and Deacon David Maliniak. The third Auditor position is vacant with the falling-asleep in the Lord in 2018 of William Rentz.

All those listed above who presently serve in elected, voting Diocesan Council offices are eligible for nomination and re-election.

Under separate cover via email, you will receive registration forms for delegates and observers, required reports, the 2019 Assembly Agenda, Resolutions submitted for the 2019 Assembly, Minutes from the 2018 Assembly, and the 2020 Proposed Diocesan Budget.

Accommodations

Arrival Date is Thursday, October 31, 2019 and Departure Date is Friday, November 1, 2019.

Accommodations are available at the Red Roof Inn Westbury, NY 11590, at the rate of \$109, plus tax. Call (516) 794-2555 for reservations and reference **DIOCESE OF NEW YORK AND NEW JERSEY**. The cut-off date for reservations is **October 1, 2019**.

The Assembly Agenda, reports, proposed budget and previous minutes will be made available. Please contact me should you require additional information.

In Christ,

Mitred Archbishop Joseph Lickwar

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