

PASTORAL CHANGES

Official No. 696

July 2025

EPISCOPAL CHANGES

(MOLLARD), Metropolitan Tikhon was appointed as locum tenens of the Diocese of the West, effective July 15, 2025. (Diocese of the West)

(PETERSON), Archbishop Benjamin was retired as Archbishop of San Francisco and the West, effective July 15, 2025. (Diocese of the West)

RECEPTIONS

KAZAK, Priest Alexander was canonically received into the ranks of the clergy of the Orthodox Church in America effective July 24, 2025 by Metropolitan Tikhon. He was transferred to the omophorion of Archbishop Alexander and attached to the Diocese of the South. (Diocese of the South)

ASSIGNMENTS

BLACK, Priest John M was released from his assignment as Rector of St. Michael Church, Jermyn, PA, and from his duties as Administrator of St. Herman of Alaska Church, Shillington, PA, and was assigned Rector of St. Herman of Alaska Church, Shillington, PA, effective July 1, 2025. (Diocese of Eastern Pennsylvania)

CRAGLE, Priest Nicholas was released from his attachment to the Representation Church of St. Catherine the Great Martyr, Moscow, Russia, effective June 16, 2025, and from the omophorion of Metropolitan Tikhon and the roster of Stavropegial clergy. He was transferred to the omophorion of Archbishop Alexei and the Diocese of Alaska, and was assigned Rector of St. Tikhon of Moscow Church, Anchorage, AK, effective July 25, 2025. (Diocese of Alaska)

EARL, Priest Seth was assigned Rector of St. Tikhon Church (formerly St. Tikhon Mission), Chattanooga, TN, where he was previously Priest-in-Charge, effective July 28, 2025. (Diocese of the South)

GRAMA, Protopresbyter Remus was released from his assignment as Parish Priest of the Falling Asleep of the Ever-Virgin Mary (St. Mary) Cathedral, Cleveland, OH, and from his duties as Dean of the Great Lakes Deanery, and granted retirement, effective July 1, 2025. In his retirement, he remains attached to the Falling Asleep of the Ever-Virgin Mary (St. Mary) Cathedral, Cleveland, OH. (Romanian Episcopate)



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ASSIGNMENTS (cont)

KAZAK, Priest Alexander was attached to Annunciation Mission, Jacksonville, FL, effective July 24, 2025. (Diocese of the South)

*PELIN, Priest Cezar was released from his assignment as Parish Priest of St. Varlaam of Moldova Mission, Moncton, NB, effective June 29, 2025, and assigned Parish Priest of the Falling Asleep of the Ever-Virgin Mary (St. Mary) Cathedral, Cleveland, OH, effective July 1, 2025. (Romanian Episcopate)



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(PERMIAKOV), Archimandrite Vasily was released from his assignment at Three Hierarchs Chapel, Yonkers, NY, and from the omophorion of Metropolitan Tikhon and the roster of Stavropegial clergy. He was transferred to the omophorion of Archbishop Benjamin and the Diocese of the West, and assigned as Associate Priest (with the title of Episcopal Vicar) at Holy Trinity Cathedral, San Francisco, CA, effective July 1, 2025. He was subsequently appointed Administrator of the Diocese of the West, effective July 16, 2025. (Diocese of the West)

PISARCHUK, Archpriest Theodore was released from his assignment as Priest-in-Charge of Annunciation Mission, Jacksonville, FL, effective July 28, 2025. All his other duties remain the same. (Diocese of the South)

RUKAVYTSIA, Archpriest Oleksii was assigned Priest-in-Charge of Annunciation Mission, Jacksonville, FL, where he was previously Assistant Priest, effective July 28, 2025. (Diocese of the South)

RUNYON, Priest Peter was released from his assignment as Priest-in-Charge of St. Susanna Mission, Sonoma, CA, effective July 1, 2025. All his other duties remain the same. (Diocese of the West)

RUSK, Priest William was released from his attachment to Holy Trinity Church, Stroudsburg, PA, and assigned Acting Rector of St. Michael Church, Jermyn, PA, effective July 1, 2025. (Diocese of Eastern Pennsylvania)

RUSSELL, Archpriest Lawrence was released from his assignment as Rector of Annunciation Church, Santa Maria, CA, and from his duties as Dean of the Pacific Southwest Deanery, and granted retirement, effective July 15, 2025. In his retirement, he remains attached to Annunciation Church, Santa Maria, CA, with the title of Pastor Emeritus. (Diocese of the West)

SHKURTI, Priest Juxhin was released from his assignment at St. George Cathedral, South Boston, MA, and assigned Acting Priest of St. Thomas Church, Farmington Hills, MI, effective June 1, 2025. (Albanian Archdiocese)

ASSIGNMENTS (cont)

*SKHULUKHIA, Priest Nicholas was assigned Acting Priest of St. Nicholas Church, Jamaica Estates, NY, effective June 26, 2026. (Albanian Archdiocese)

SOKOLOV, Archpriest Kirill, in addition to his other duties, was appointed Acting Dean of the Pacific Southwest Deanery, effective July 15, 2025. (Diocese of the West)

TAYLOR, Priest Justin was assigned Associate Priest at Annunciation Church, Santa Maria, CA, where he was previously attached, effective July 1, 2025; subsequently, he was assigned Acting Rector of the same, effective July 15, 2025. (Diocese of the West)

TIMPKO, Deacon Feodor was released from his attachment to St. Nicholas Cathedral, Fort Wayne, IN, effective July 11, 2025, and released from the omophorion of Archbishop Alexander and the Bulgarian Diocese. He was transferred to the omophorion of Archbishop Alexei and the Diocese of Alaska, effective July 25, 2025, and awaits assignment. (Diocese of Alaska)

THOMPSON, Priest Dave, was released from his attachment to St. Tikhon of Zadonsk Monastery Church, South Canaan, PA, and from the omophorion of Metropolitan Tikhon and the roster of Stavropegial clergy. He was transferred to the omophorion of Archbishop Benjamin and the Diocese of the West, and assigned Acting Rector of St. Susanna Mission, Sonoma, CA, effective July 1, 2025. (Diocese of the West)

VASILE, Priest Lucian was assigned Parish Priest of St. Varlaam of Moldova Mission, Moncton, NB, where he was previously attached, effective June 29, 2025. (Romanian Episcopate)

VUTOV, Archpriest Ivaylo was attached to Église de la Vierge de Diveyevo, Rawdon, QC, effective July 3, 2025. (Archdiocese of Canada)

*WATERS, Archpriest Paul was released from his duties as Priest-in-Charge of St. Thomas Church, Farmington Hills, MI, and remains assigned to the same. (Albanian Archdiocese)

YORK, Priest Daniel was assigned Associate Priest at St. Seraphim of Sarov Cathedral, Santa Rosa, CA, where he was previously attached, effective July 1, 2025. (Diocese of the West)



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ON LOANS

*SKHULUKHIA, Priest Nicholas was received On Loan from the Georgian Apostolic Orthodox Church in North America to serve under the omophorion of Bishop Nikodhim, effective June 26, 2025. (Albanian Archdiocese)

RETIRED

GRAMA, Protopresbyter Remus was granted retirement, effective July 1, 2025. (Romanian Episcopate)

(PETERSON), Archbishop Benjamin was granted retirement, effective July 15, 2025. (Diocese of the West)

RUSSELL, Archpriest Lawrence was granted retirement, effective July 15, 2025. (Diocese of the West)



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SUSPENDED

KOLB, Priest Timothy, who was on a leave of absence, was suspended from all priestly functions, effective July 1, 2025. (Diocese of Alaska)

DEATHS

KUCYNDA, Archpriest Paul, in his retirement, reposed on July 9, 2025. (Diocese of New York and New Jersey)

NICHOLAI, Priest George reposed on July 17, 2025. (Diocese of Alaska)

PARISHES

Archdiocese of Canada

Change to mission station status, effective July 7, 2025.

St. Seraphim of Sarov Mission, Cape Breton, NS, is now known as St. Seraphim of Sarov Mission Station, Cape Breton, NS, effective July 7, 2025.

Presentation of the Mother of God in the Temple Mission, Montréal (Verdun), QC, is Presentation of the Mother of God in the Temple Mission Station, Montréal (Verdun), QC, effective July 7, 2025.

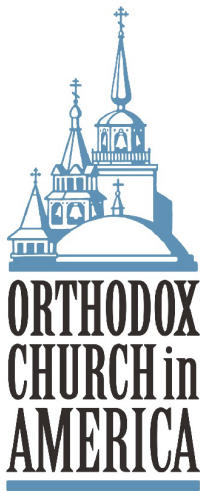
Mission name change, effective July 8, 2025.

St. Nikolai, Bishop of Zhitsa Mission, Whitehorse, YT is now known as St. Nikolai, Bishop of Zhicha Mission, Whitehorse, YT, effective July 8, 2025.

Diocese of the South

Elevation to full parish status, effective July 28, 2025.

St. Tikhon Mission, Chattanooga, TN, was elevated to full parish status and is now known as St. Tikhon Church, Chattanooga, TN, effective July 28, 2025.



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(NOTE: * indicates non-OCA clergy.)

Approved for distribution:

//signed September 15, 2025//

Archpriest Alessandro Margheritino
Chancellor of the OCA