

DIOCESE OF NEW ENGLAND – ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA



The Most Blessed TIKHON

*Archbishop of Washington, Metropolitan of All America and Canada
Locum Tenens of The Diocese of New England*

Archpriest John Kreta

Chancellor

60th Diocesan Assembly and Special Nominating Assembly

Dear Clergy, Lay Delegates and observers to the Diocesan Assembly,

As you are aware, this year's Diocesan Assembly will be different than previous years. We will try to complete the Annual Assembly in one day (Friday Oct 27) instead of the usual two days. This is so we can call a special nominating assembly on Saturday (Oct 28) following the Divine Liturgy, to nominate a candidate for the office of Bishop of New England for election by the Holy Synod of the Orthodox Church in America.

For the special assembly it is important to understand that only the Holy Synod bishops can elect and install a bishop for a Diocese. The special nominating assembly is called to ask the Holy Synod to consider the candidate(s) we nominate. It is the prerogative of the Holy Synod to consider our nomination or to reject it. For this special assembly, there is only one candidate for us to consider, Fr. Benedict Churchill, and his background information will be distributed at the beginning of the Assembly on Friday. In this packet, along with the other usual material, you will find the procedures we will take for this special assembly.

For our Annual Diocesan Assembly on Friday, we will need to complete all of our work in one day instead of two. For this reason, all of the reports will be sent to the delegates in advance and all the delegates will be expected to read and digest the reports prior to attending the assembly. This way, instead of reading and reviewing all of the necessary reports there, we can limit our time to only answering questions or seeking clarifications on the reports. Also for this reason, we will be asking that all resolutions and nominations to be sent in prior to the assembly as there will be limited time for the committee to prepare to present at the assembly.

Because this year will have two separate Assemblies, this year's registration process will differ from past assemblies. Clergy and Diocesan Council Members will be expected to attend both assemblies. In some parishes, different lay delegates have been elected to attend the different assemblies, therefore they will need to register for the specific assembly they are elected to

represent their parish. We tried to make this process as easy as possible and to ensure that we are accurate in our credentials for the assemblies, as well as to prepare for the proper number of people for meals.

Here are the Instructions related to delegate and observer forms:

For this year, **clergy and lay diocesan council** member registration forms are first in the packet, please complete the form as usual.

For delegates: Please note that there are three registration forms for your use:

If you are your parish's delegate for both Friday and Saturday, use the form indicating both days.

If you are the delegate for one day, either Friday or Saturday, use the appropriately identified form.

If you are the delegate for Friday and plan to stay on Saturday, please also the Saturday only observer form and enclose a check for \$10.

If you are the delegate for Saturday only, and plan to be an observer on Friday, please complete the Friday only observer form and enclose a check for \$60.

For observers: Please note that there are three registration forms for your use:

If you are planning to be an observer Friday and Saturday, please complete that form and enclose a check for \$70.

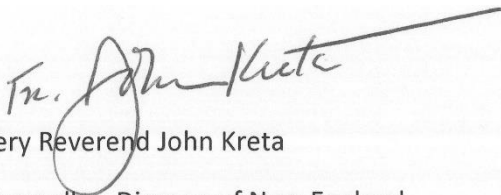
If you are observing only on Friday, please complete that form and enclose a check for \$60.

If you are an observer only on Saturday, please complete that form and enclose a check for \$10.

Please see the forms for hotel information.

May the Holy Spirit guide us in our gathering and planning for the building up of His Holy Church here in the Diocese of New England.

Sincerely in the Lord,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Fr. John Kreta". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Very Reverend John Kreta

Chancellor, Diocese of New England
Orthodox Church in America