



The HOLY SYNOD  
of the  
ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA

September 10, 2019

Very Rev. Archpriest John Kreta, Chancellor  
OCA Diocese of New England  
c/o All Saints of North America Mission  
75 Hospital Hill Road  
Sharon, Connecticut 06069-2010

Very Reverend and dear Father John:  
Christ is in our midst!

It is in my capacity as the Secretary of the Holy Synod of Bishops of The Orthodox Church in America that I write to inform you of some of the decisions that were made at our meeting by teleconference on Tuesday, September 3, 2019.

At that meeting, it was agreed that due to the falling asleep in the Lord of His Eminence, the Most Reverend NIKON, Archbishop of Boston, New England and the Albanian Archdiocese of The Orthodox Church in America, and in accordance with the canons of the Holy Orthodox Church and Article VIII, Section 5 of the Statute of the Orthodox Church in America, the Holy Synod declare vacant the office of the Bishop of the Diocese of New England.

Further, in accordance with the canons of the Holy Orthodox Church and Article IV, Section 2 of the Statute of the Orthodox Church in America, His Beatitude, Metropolitan TIKHON decided that he himself will serve as the Locum Tenens for the Diocese of New England, effective September 3, 2019.

I would ask that you please officially and publicly convey these decisions of the Holy Synod to all the clergy and faithful of the Diocese of New England through your office as Diocesan Chancellor, upon receipt of this letter.

With deepest sympathy to you all,

*+ Michael*

+ MICHAEL  
Archbishop of New York and New Jersey  
Secretary of the Holy Synod of Bishops