

## PASTORAL CHANGES

Official No. 700

November 2025

### RECEPTIONS

TAIT, Deacon Stephen was canonically received into the ranks of the clergy of the Orthodox Church in America effective November 3, 2025 by Metropolitan Tikhon. He was transferred to the omophorion of Archbishop Alexander and attached to the Diocese of the South, where he awaits assignment. (Diocese of the South)

### ASSIGNMENTS

DYL, Deacon Antony was granted retirement, effective November 2, 2025. In his retirement, he remains attached to Transfiguration of Christ Cathedral, Denver, CO. (Diocese of the West)

GONCHAROV, Priest Dmitrij was released from his attachment to St. Nicholas Cathedral, Fort Wayne, IN, and assigned Priest-in-Charge of SS. Cyril and Methody Church, Granite City, IL, effective November 21, 2025. (Bulgarian Diocese)

LIABOTIS, Archpriest Stelio, in addition to his other duties, was appointed Dean of the Atlantic Canada Deanery, effective November 6, 2025. (Archdiocese of Canada)

MELNYK, Archpriest Anatoliy, continues as Dean of the Quebec Deanery, formerly known as the Quebec and Atlantic Provinces Deanery, effective November 6, 2025. All his other duties remain the same. (Archdiocese of Canada)

\*PALANCEANU, Archpriest Danut was released from his assignment as Parish Priest of St. George Church, Canton, OH, and assigned Parish Priest of SS. Cleopa and Paisie Mission, Salt Lake City, UT, effective November 1, 2025. (Romanian Episcopate)

RODGER, Priest Symeon was granted retirement, effective November 7, 2025. In his retirement, he was attached to Église de la Vierge de Diveyevo, Rawdon, QC. (Archdiocese of Canada)

ROTH, Priest Nicholas was released from his attachment to St. Mark Church, Bethesda, MD, and assigned Acting Rector of St. John the Theologian Mission, Fairfax Station, VA, where he was previously Administrator, effective November 17, 2025. (Archdiocese of Washington, D.C.)



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**ASSIGNMENTS (cont)**

SOOT, Archpriest Stephen E, in addition to his other duties, was assigned Priest-in-Charge of St. Jacob of Alaska Mission, Bend, OR, effective November 9, 2025. (Diocese of the West)

STRANGE, Priest Ignatius was released from his assignment as Rector of St. Jacob of Alaska Mission, Bend, OR, and from the omophorion of Bishop Vasily and the Diocese of the West. He was transferred to the omophorion of Archbishop Alexander and the Diocese of the South, and assigned Priest-in-Charge of St. Ephraim the Syrian Mission Station, Longview, TX, effective November 9, 2025. (Diocese of the South)

WESCHE, Archpriest Paul, in addition to his other duties, was assigned Priest-in-Charge of All Saints of North America Mission, Bemidji, MN, effective November 12, 2025. (Diocese of the Midwest)

WILSON, Priest Joel was released from his attachment to St. Thomas the Apostle Church, Springfield, MO, and was assigned Rector of Annunciation of the Virgin Mary Church, Saint James, MO, where he was previously priest-in-charge when it was a mission, effective November 12, 2025. (Diocese of the Midwest)

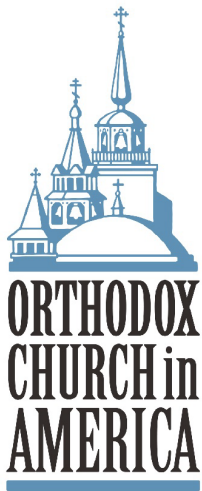
WINSLER, Priest Joseph, in addition to his other duties, was assigned Priest-in-Charge of St. Tikhon Chapel, Omaha, NE, effective November 4, 2025. (Diocese of the Midwest)

WOJCIK, Archpriest Bartholomew was released from his attachment to St. Mary's Cathedral, Minneapolis, MN, and was assigned Rector of St. Nicholas Church, Pella, IA, where he was previously priest-in-charge when it was a mission, effective November 12, 2025. (Diocese of the Midwest)

**RETIRED**

DYL, Deacon Antony was granted retirement, effective November 2, 2025. (Diocese of the West)

RODGER, Priest Symeon was granted retirement, effective November 7, 2025. (Archdiocese of Canada)



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### **SUSPENDED**

SMITH, Priest Andrew M was suspended from all priestly functions, effective November 7, 2025. (Diocese of the West)

### **DEPOSED**

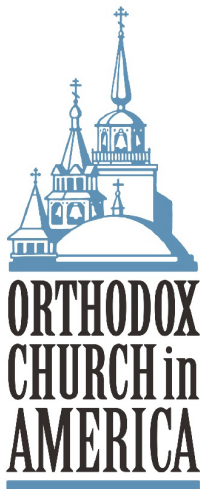
\*CAPSA, Priest Constantin Iustin was deposed from all sacred functions of the Holy Priesthood and his name was removed from the ranks of clergy of the Orthodox Church in America, by the Holy Synod of Bishops of the Orthodox Church in America, effective November 12, 2025.

GANTT, Archpriest Samuel, in his retirement, was deposed from all sacred functions of the Holy Priesthood and his name was removed from the ranks of clergy of the Orthodox Church in America, by the Holy Synod of Bishops of the Orthodox Church in America, effective November 12, 2025.

IVANOV, Deacon Mikhail was deposed from all sacred functions of the Holy Diaconate and his name was removed from the ranks of clergy of the Orthodox Church in America, by the Holy Synod of Bishops of the Orthodox Church in America, effective November 12, 2025.

NICORI, Priest John was deposed from all sacred functions of the Holy Priesthood and his name was removed from the ranks of clergy of the Orthodox Church in America, by the Holy Synod of Bishops of the Orthodox Church in America, effective November 12, 2025.

SMITH, Priest Andrew M was deposed from all sacred functions of the Holy Priesthood and his name was removed from the ranks of clergy of the Orthodox Church in America, by the Holy Synod of Bishops of the Orthodox Church in America, effective November 12, 2025.



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## PARISHES

### Archdiocese of Canada

*City/region change*, effective November 2025.

St. John in the Wilderness Orthodox Sanctuary, Birchdale, BC now has the following address:

180 Birchdale Way  
Kaslo, BC V0G 1M0

It is now known as St. John in the Wilderness Orthodox Sanctuary, **Kaslo**, BC.

*New deanery*, effective November 6, 2025.

The Quebec and Atlantic Provinces Deanery has been divided into the Quebec Deanery and the newly formed Atlantic Canada Deanery. The Atlantic Canada Deanery encompasses the provinces of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Newfoundland, and Prince Edward Island. Archpriest Anatoliy Melnyk, formerly dean of the Quebec and Atlantic Provinces Deanery, is now the dean of the Quebec Deanery, while Archpriest Stelio Liabotis has been newly appointed as dean of the Atlantic Canada Deanery.

The following have been moved to the Atlantic Canada Deanery:

Hermitage of the Annunciation, Watford, NS  
Holy Lady of Vladimir Mission Station, Portugal Cove-St. Philip's, NL  
St. Seraphim of Sarov Mission Station, Glace Bay, NS  
St. Vladimir, Prince of Kiev Church, Halifax, NS

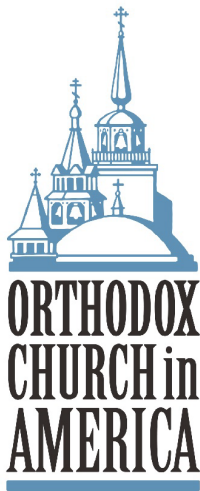
### Diocese of the Midwest

*New chapel*, effective November 4, 2025.

St. Tikhon Chapel, Omaha, NE  
(a dependency of St. John of Kronstadt Church, Lincoln, NE)  
Priest-in-Charge: Priest Joseph Winsler

*Elevation to mission*, effective November 12, 2025.

All Saints of North America Chapel, Bemidji, MN, was elevated to mission status, effective November 12, 2025. It is now known as All Saints of North America Mission, Bemidji, MN.



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**PARISHES (cont)**

*Elevation to mission*, effective November 12, 2025.

St. Herman of Alaska Chapel, West Bend, WI, was elevated to mission status, effective November 12, 2025. It is now known as St. Herman of Alaska Mission, West Bend, WI.

*Elevation to parish*, effective November 12, 2025.

Annunciation of the Virgin Mary Mission, Saint James, MO, was elevated to parish status, effective November 12, 2025. It is now known as Annunciation of the Virgin Mary Church, Saint James, MO.

*Elevation to parish*, effective November 12, 2025.

St. Nicholas Mission, Pella, IA, was elevated to parish status, effective November 12, 2025. It is now known as St. Nicholas Church, Pella, IA.

Romanian Episcopate

*New mission*, effective May 30, 2025.

SS. Cleopa and Paisie Mission, Salt Lake City, UT  
Parish Priest: Archpriest Danut Palanceanu\* (assigned November 1, 2025)

(NOTE: \* indicates non-OCA clergy.)

Approved for distribution:



//signed February 1, 2026//

Archpriest Alessandro Margheritino  
Chancellor of the OCA



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