



Архієреєвскій Синодъ Русской Православной Церкви Заграницей
Synod of Bishops of the Russian Orthodox Church Outside of Russia

75 East 93rd St., New York, NY 10128

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Beloved in the Lord brothers and sisters,

On this wonderful holiday of Thanksgiving, we Orthodox Christians often list all the things for which we are grateful to the Lord: health, a loving family, employment... This year, we would like to remind you of an old Russian saying: "Glory to Thee, O Lord, for all that I have, and thrice glory to Thee for all that I have not" - the problems and trials facing our neighbors, both here in America and in every country with our parishes. Let us remember those who do not have enough money to live on, or whose families to not share with us the joy of a life in Christ.

Today, on Thanksgiving, we ask you to support our Church by making a generous donation to the Fund for Her Assistance - for assistance to the Church Abroad. For more than half a century, this organization has supported our clergy in need, our youth, who chose to live their lives in the Church, and those suffering from natural disasters. Our Church is small, and we will only survive if we make every effort to support one another and those in need.

Even a small donation of 10 dollars will help a poor family send their child to St. Herman Conference, will buy bread for one of our priests in need, will pay a week's salary of one of our Church members in Haiti, Uganda, or Indonesia. We humbly ask you to be generous and help our Holy Church with your contribution to the Fund for Assistance! May all those in need who receive our aid pray alongside us for their benefactors, saying, "Glory to Thee, O Lord, for the kindheartedness of our parishioners!"

I call down upon you God's blessing,

Metropolitan of Eastern America & New York
First Hierarch of the Russian Church Abroad





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ENCYCLICAL
TO ALL CLERGY OF THE RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH OUTSIDE OF RUSSIA IN
THE USA

Dear in the Lord reverend fathers,

As you know, our Russian Church Abroad can afford to provide her selfless clergy neither a salary, nor a pension, nor medical insurance. The Church is supported by a small number of lay organizations, one of which is the Fund for Assistance to ROCOR. For 53 years now, they have aided our clergy, and over the course of just the last few years, the FFA has covered the costs of medical insurance for several clergy families, and has helped pay for medical care, funerals, and more. In addition, the FFA has provided financial aid to our youth and to ROCOR missions around the world.

The Fund for Assistance asks financial aid for itself only once a year – on Thanksgiving. We sincerely ask that you do all that you can to inspire your parishioners to help the FFA. None of us knows when we may be in need of help from this wonderful Fund.

We hereby decree that all parishes of the Russian Church Abroad in the United States of America are to read aloud the attached encyclical from the ambo on the nearest Sunday to Thanksgiving Day, and hold a plate collection on behalf of the FFA.

We ask that gathered donations be sent to:

Fund for Assistance to ROCOR
75 East 93rd Street
New York, NY 10128

With love in Christ,

Metropolitan of Eastern America & New York
First Hierarch of the Russian Church Abroad

