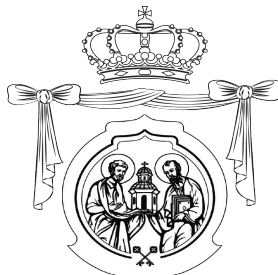


His Eminence
The Most Reverend
Metropolitan JOSEPH

The Right Reverend
Bishop THOMAS



Archbishop of New York and
Metropolitan of
All North America

Diocese of Oakland, Charleston,
and the Mid-Atlantic

**ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN ARCHDIOCESE
OF NORTH AMERICA**

November 20, 2020
Gregory of Decapolis

The Rt. Rev. Bishop LONGIN (Krco)
Serbian Orthodox Bishop of New Gracanica-Midwestern America
Episcopal Headquarters
New Gracanica Monastery
P.O. Box 371
Grayslake IL 60030

Your Grace Bishop LONGIN and beloved brother Hierarchs of the Serbian Orthodox Church in North, Central and South America,

May God grant you many years!

On behalf of myself and all of the clergy and faithful of the Diocese of Oakland, Charleston, and the Mid-Atlantic, I want to express my condolences on the falling asleep in the Lord of His Holiness IRINEJ, Archbishop of Pec, Metropolitan of Belgrade-Karlovci and Serbian Patriarch. His Holiness' vast and enduring ministry to the Orthodox Church will be felt for generations and continue to bear good fruit in the Vineyard of our Lord. We extend our sympathies and offer our prayers for the repose of His Holiness Patriarch IRINEJ. May you and all the faithful of the Serbian Orthodox Church take great comfort in the words of the Holy Apostle Paul:

"O Death, where is your sting? O Hades, where is your victory?" ... But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. (1 Corinthians 15:55, 57)

May his memory be eternal!

Yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bishop Thomas".

Rt. Rev. Bishop THOMAS (Joseph)
Auxiliary Bishop, Diocese of Oakland, Charleston, and the Mid-Atlantic

Cc: The Rt. Rev. Bishop MITROPHAN (Kodic)
The Rt. Rev. Bishop MAXIM (Vasiljevic)
The Rt. Rev. Bishop IRINEJ (Dobrijevic)
The Rt. Rev. Bishop KIRILO (Bojovic)

"The disciples were first called Christians in Antioch" (Acts 11: 26)

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