

Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA

Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople Metropolia Center - Office of the Consistory

† Antony, Metropolitan

† Daniel, Archbishop and **Consistory President**

28 March, 2024

Holy Martyr Nicander of Egypt (302)

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Mailing Address: P. O. Box 495

South Bound Brook, NJ 08880

Shipping Address: 135 Davidson Avenue Somerset, NJ 08873

Telephone: 732-356-0090

Telefax: 732-356-5556

Website: uocofusa.org

E-Mail:

consistory@uocofusa.org UOCofUSA@aol.com VladykaDaniel@aol.com

St. Sophia Seminary: 732-469-7555

Museum: 732-356-0132

Cultural Center: 732-469-1018

Rev. Fr. Oleg Kravchenko

Members of the Parish Board of Administration

of Assumption of the Virgin Mary

Ukrainian Orthodox Church

1301 Newport Ave. Northmapton, PA 18067

Beloved brother in the Holy Priesthood Fr. Oleg and faithful of Assumption of the Virgin

Mary Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Northampton, PA:

May the peace and grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all!

I write you today with a heart full of love and understanding, acknowledging the considerations within the parish communities of our Holy Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA regarding the transition to the Revised (Julian) Ecclesiastical calendar.

With thoughtful consideration, and after careful reflection and guided by the spirit of unity, I extend my archpastoral blessings to those parish communities of our Church that contemplate this adjustment.

I hereby offer my support and blessing for lowering the threshold from 75% to 60%, recognizing the importance of flexibility in decision-making. I pray that this adjustment facilitates a greater sense of harmony among the parish communities of our Holy Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA, fostering a spirit of cooperation and shared commitment.

I am also writing you this letter in response to your communication with my office dated 28 March, 2024.

Having received a blessing from the Council of Bishops of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA, the Consistory is pleased to inform you that your request to change Ecclesiastical Calendar to New Julian (revised) Calendar has been approved.

On behalf of your Eparchial bishop - His Eminence Metropolitan Antony, I hereby formally notify you that with this important change to ecclesiastical parochial life of the parish you are to begin your new Ecclesiastical Year on April 23, 2024 - the feast of Holy Glorious Great-martyr, Victory-bearer and Wonderworker George (303).

Dear Fr. Oleg and parishioners of Assumption of the Virgin Mary parish community, I prayerfully look forward to my next visit to the parish family.

For now, let us continue to offer our intercessory prayers for the people and nation of Ukraine.

May the Holy Spirit guide our parish communities as we navigate these changes, and may our Holy Orthodox Faith continue to be a source of strength and inspiration for all.

With an abundance of blessings and in Christ's love,

+Daniel,

By the Grace of God Archbishop and President of the Consistory of the UOC of the USA