

DRAFT Minutes for the 2012 Diocesan Assembly  
Cathedral of Christ the Savior  
Miami, FL

1 – Diocesan Assembly Plenary Sessions began at 1135 with the singing of “O Heavenly King.”

2 – There was a welcome and introduction by Fr Marcus Burch, the chancellor. The credentials committee reported that the following were in attendance: 37 laymen, 50 clergy, 5 diocesan council members (not otherwise representing a parish), 1 bishop, 19 observers, and 4 cooks. The total-voting members for the assembly is 92 delegates.

3 - Abp Nikon delivered his opening remarks. He emphasized that we must continue to heal in our loss of our beloved Archbishop Dmitri, and that we must continue his legacy of mission. He mentioned that he would like to thank the clergy and faithful for their continued work in the DOS, and that it is his goal to lead us through the election of a bishop. Though there have been some setbacks, he would like a special assembly after October for an election of a bishop as the Episcopal Search Committee continues its work. He also mentioned that he will personally be donating \$1000.00 for the Abp Dmitri memorial chapel in Dallas, and challenges the rest of the diocese to support this project.

Fr Leonid Palceski committed \$500 from Holy Cross Church in Ft Myers, FL.  
Fr Justin Patterson committed \$500 from St Athanasius Church in Nicholasville, KY.  
Fr Robert Royer committed \$500 from Holy Resurrection Church in Augusta, GA.  
Fr Gleb McFatter committed \$500 from St Demetrius Church in Naples, FL.  
Fr Philip Reese committed \$500 from the Cathedral of Christ the Savior in Miami, FL.  
Fr Paul Yerger committed \$500 from Holy Resurrection Church in Clinton, MS.  
Fr Leo Poore committed \$500 from St Anthony the Great Church in San Antonio, TX.  
Fr Thomas Moore committed \$1000 from Holy Apostles Church in Columbia, SC.  
Fr Marcus Burch from St John of the Ladder Church in Piedmont (Greenville), SC, donated \$1000 personally, and committed \$1000 from the parish.

Including the donation from Abp Nikon, \$7500 was pledged for the Abp Dmitri Chapel.

4 –Fr John Filipovich made a motion for the approval of the Diocesan Assembly Minutes from 2011, it was seconded, and there were none opposed.

5 – Chancellors Report – Fr Marcus expressed gratitude to the faithful of Christ the Savior – for their work for this assembly, and for going out of the way for the youth program. He reiterated that all diocesan communication should go through the Dean, Chancellor, to the Bishop. Administration is moving forward to take care of the details and to prepare for an audit of the DOS books and bring continuity to the program. The Episcopal Search Committee is moving forward, please be fiscally prepared for that assembly in the future. It is also important not let the recent distraction distract us from living out our Christian life. We must live the Gospel to the fullest. Each of us has a need to develop and grow our parishes not only in number, but in faith and love for Christ. Our parish is the city around us. I don't want our priests to go hungry, but they should be hungry, and willing to come in and build on the foundation laid.

6 –Treasurers report and budget. Tithes are up 16% over last year. Fr Ernesto then motioned to accept the report. Fr Gleb McFatter then proposed a friendly amendment to the budget. "Inasmuch as the Diocesan Council recognizes the need to prepare the books and records of the Diocese of the South for external, independent audit, on behalf of the Diocesan Council I offer this friendly amendment to the 2012 and proposed 2013 budget of the Diocese of the South, to provide funding of \$20,000.00 for expenses related to the preparation for future external, certified audits." Fr Ernesto called the question; it was seconded, and unanimously passed with the friendly amendment.

7a. The floor was then opened to nominate representatives to the Metropolitan Council. It was pointed out that both Fr Gleb and Judge Lanier are up for re-election. They were both nominated as was Gary Popovich who declined. Fr Ernesto moved to close, it was seconded, and the vote was unanimous.

7b. The following members were nominated to the Diocesan Audit Committee, Christopher Naughton, Mike Mezmar, and Randy Homik.

7c. The following were nominated from the following deaneries to be representatives at the Diocesan Assembly. Appalachian Deanery; Bert Walther. Carolinas Deanery; Dennis. From the Central Florida Deanery; Noel Busch. From South Florida; Gary Popovich. From the Southcentral Deanery Robert Bearer, and from the Southeastern Deanery, Anya Gill.

There was a motion to adjourn the assembly until after lunch by Judge Lanier, it was seconded and passed with a unanimous vote.

The assembly reconvened at 1451 with the singing of "O Heavenly King" and the delivery of the deanery reports, which were highlights including new missions in each deanery.

The second count from the credentials committee was as follows – 49 clergy, 32 Lay delegates, 3 Diocesan Council members, 1 bishop and 10 observers resulting in 84 voters.

A friendly amendment of the DOS bylaws was made by Athanasius (Bert) Walther that the wording in article 1 para 5d.3 be changed to "a 2/3rds majority" instead of an absolute majority. Fr Ernesto motioned to accept as amended, it was seconded and the motion passed 82 – 2.

Fr Thaddaeus made announcements in regards to upcoming administrative tasks.

Fr Marcus mentioned that we are looking to go to Atlanta for the Pastoral Conference in 2012, tentatively scheduled for the 4 – 8. He mentioned that we are also looking at Williamsburg, VA, for the 2012 assembly and that information would be sent out when that was finalized.

Archbishop Nikon then hosted a question and answer session.

Fr David Rucker spoke on the work and opportunities with OCMC. He stressed how essential it was for us to be faithful in Jerusalem, for if we are not faithful in Jerusalem, than we cannot be faithful at the ends of the earth. OCMC is here to help us be faithful at home and in Jerusalem and we should feel comfortable asking for their support in our efforts.

Fr Ernesto Rios motioned to adjourn; it was seconded, and was passed unanimously.

**DRAFT**