

MINUTES FROM THE SPECIAL ASSEMBLY OF THE DIOCESE OF THE SOUTH
CHRIST THE SAVIOUR ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL, MIAMI LAKES, FL
FEBRUARY 16, 2015

The Assembly gathered for a molieben at 1:14PM

At the conclusion of the molieben at 1:39pm, the church was cleared and the delegates were readmitted and validated by the tellers. The count of both clergy and lay delegates was confirmed.

At 2:03, Archpriest Marcus C Burch called the meeting of the special assembly to order with the singing of "O Heavenly King." One item was on the agenda, to nominate a candidate for hierarch for the Diocese of the South.

His Eminence, Archbishop Nikon addressed the delegates.

Fr Marcus Burch asked the body for an approval of the Presidium.

Archbishop Nikon President

Fr Marcus Burch and E.R Lanier as clergy and lay vice chairs

Maureen Jury, Fr Joseph Lucas, Fr. Nicholas Roth as Secretariat

Noel Busch, Fr David Bozeman, and Fr John Cox as Credentials committee

Fr Jason Foster, Greg Hayda, Fr Nikolay Miletkov, Bert Walther as tellers

Fr Ernesto Rios moved to accept the Presidium and Fr Peter Smith seconded
There was no discussion and motion passed unanimously.

At 2:11pm, the Credential committee submitted their report:

109 total delegates

63 clergy delegates

46 lay delegates

18 observers

St Tikhon's mission choir of 7 singers

73 votes would constitute a 2/3 majority; 55 votes a simple majority

54 parishes and missions represented and 8 Diocesan Council members

At 2:12pm, vice chair E.R Lanier reviewed the nomination procedure as defined in the DOS by-laws with the delegates.

The names of candidates vetted by the Holy Synod was distributed prior to the Assembly by the chancellor.

There is to be no debate and no discussion of the candidates during the Assembly. Blank ballots are to be distributed. Delegates are to write one name on the ballot. Ballots containing more than one name are invalid and will not be counted. If a candidate receives 2/3 of the nominating votes, then his name will be forwarded to the Holy Synod as the DOS nominee for bishop.

Judge Lanier then reviewed the process if no one candidate received 2/3 of the nominating votes.

Fr. Antonio Perdomo from Pharr TX asked if spelling errors would invalidate a ballot. Judge Lanier indicated that if the intent is clear, then the ballot would be valid.

At 2:18pm Fr. Marcus Burch then reviewed the list of vetted candidates for the delegates:

Bishop Ireneu (Duvlea)
Bp Daniel (Brum)
Archimandrite Alexander (Pihach)
Archimandrite Gerasim (Eliel)
Igumen Calinic (Berger)

Ballots were distributed at 2:19

The St Tikhon choir sang during the voting and the tallying of the votes at 2:23pm.

At 2:33pm, Fr. Marcus Burch announced the report of the Tellers, that Archimandrite Gerasim Eliel had received a clear more than 2/3 majority and his name would be sent in nomination to the Holy Synod of Bishops.

The voting results were:

| | |
|-------------------------|----|
| Archimandrite Gerasim | 81 |
| Archimandrite Alexander | 18 |
| Igumen Calinic | 2 |
| Bishop Daniel | 1 |
| Invalid ballots | 3 |
| Did not vote | 4 |

At 2:34pm, Fr Marcus then announced tentative dates for the reinterment of Archbishop Dmitri's remains on Friday May 8th, followed by the consecration and enthronement of a new hierarch on Saturday May 9th, 2015.

The next Diocesan Council meeting will take place during the All-American Council, July 20 through 25th.

A 2:40 a motion to adjourn was made by Fr Michael Zaparyniuk, Jr, and seconded by Fr Stephen Freeman. The council adjourned at that time.