November 2, 2026
Protocol 11/011

Archpriest Marcus Burch
Diocese of the South
4222 Wycliff Ave.
Dallas, TX 75219

ORTHODOX CHURCH in AMERICA

P.O Box 31409
Alexandria, VA 22310
516.922.0550
www.oca.org

To the Archpriest Marcus Burch, Chancellor, and the Very Reverend and Reverend Clergy of the Diocese of the South,

Beloved in the Lord,

I am pleased to inform you that the Holy Synod of Bishops of the Orthodox Church in America, at the meeting held at St. Vladimir's Orthodox Theological Seminary in Yonkers, NY, on November 2, 2026, elected His Grace Bishop Gerasim (Eliel) as Bishop of Dallas and the South.

You are to immediately begin to commemorate him as Bishop of Dallas and the South by elevating his name at all Divine Services after that of the Primate of the Orthodox Church in America, as is the approved practice of our Church. The enthronement of Bishop Gerasim will take place on Saturday, November 14, 2026, at St. Seraphim Cathedral in Dallas, TX.

I assure you of my prayers for Bishop Gerasim, and for all the clergy and faithful who have been entrusted to his archpastoral care.

With love in Christ,

+ Tikhon

+TIKHON
Archbishop of Washington
Metropolitan of All America and Canada