

# Приходскій листокъ

Свято-Вознесенской церкви

въ городъ Сакраменто

Западно-Американская епархія Русская Православная Церковь Заграницей

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Хиротонія Епископа Өеодосія (Иващенко) Сеаттлійскаго совершилась в воскресенье 7-го сентября, 2008 года въ каоедральномъ соборъ Западно-Американской епархіи въ честь иконы Божіей Матери «Всъхъ скорбящихъ радость».

The consecration of Bishop Theodosius (Ivashchenko) of Seattle was performed on Sunday the 7th of September, 2008 in the Diocesan Cathedral of the Mother of God "Joy of All Who Sorrow."



Слъва на права: Митрополитъ Иларіонъ, епископъ Өеодосія и Архіепископъ Маркъ From left to right: Metropolitan Hilarion, Bishop Theodosius and Archbishop Mark

## Слово при нарѣченіи Архимандритъ ӨЕОДОСІЙ (Иващенко)

Ваше Высокопреосвященство, Владыка Митрополить Иларіонъ, Ваши Высокопреосвященства и Преосвященства, всечестные отцы!

Угодно Господу было, черезъ васъ истинные служители церкви Христовой, возвѣстить мнѣ гряшному свою волю.

Послѣ рѣшенія Синода Зарубежной Церкви о избраніи моей кандидатуры на епископское служеніе, первыми мнѣ вспомнились слова святого праведнаго Іова Многострадальнаго: «то, чего я боялся, то и пришло ко мнѣ» (Іов. 3, 25).

Не имѣющій чѣмъ похвалиться, какъ только немощами своими, какъ буду нести то послушаніе, которое нынѣ отъ Васъ пріемлю. Въ великомъ трепетѣ находится душа моя въ сей часъ. Состояніе сіе подобно тому, которое испытывалъ я 20 лѣтъ тому назадъ, при принятіи монашескаго пострига въ колыбели православія, Дальнихъ Пещерахъ Кіево-Печерской Лавры. Многому я научился находясь въ стѣнахъ этой древней обители Святой Руси, въ одномъ изъ удѣловъ Божіей Матери. Священнослужители и старцы Лавры, пережившіе гоненія и закрытіе обители, служили живой лѣтописью монастыря. Ихъ разсказы утверждали въ вѣря, а язвы свидѣтельствовали объ ихъ подвигахъ и недавнихъ временахъ гоненій.

Благодаренъ я и Кіевской духовной семинаріи, открывшейся въ то время на территоріи монастыря, гдѣ усиліями преподавателей сѣмя Божественной истины сѣялось въ наши души.

Желалъ я послужить Господу въ томъ мъстъ, гдъ призвалъ Онъ меня. Но однимъ представляется намъ наше намъреніе, а инымъ образомъ складывается жизнь. Върно замътилъ одинъ изъ блаженныхъ святителей нашей Церкви, подвизавшійся въ прошломъ стольтіи, епископъ Варнава Бъляевъ: «Человъкъ выбираетъ путь, а Господь направляетъ шествіе».

Так что если и видѣлся мнѣ этотъ путь служенія Господу, то представлялся онъ мнѣ таковымъ, каковымъ описываетъ его преп.Іоаннъ Лѣствичникъ: «Епископства я желаю надъ своимъ сердцемъ» (Слово 28, 51).

Но видимо угодно Господу черезъ Васъ, Бо-

гомудрые Святители, опредълить меня на иное великое служеніе Ему. Не дерзаль бы я принять сіе послушаніе, если бы не чувствоваль, что не моя воля нынъ совершается, а то что Господомъ это предуготовляется.

Вспоминаю слова изъ послъдованія монашескаго пострига, произнесенные намъстникомъ Лавры, во время принятія мною монашества: «Подобаеть убо тебе наченшу путь, ведущій въ Царство Небесное, не возвратитися вспять, не будеши бо управленъ въ царство Небесное, да не предпочтеши убо чесо паче Бога» (Послъдованіе малаго образа).

Надѣюсь только на силу Божію, которая въ немощехъ совершается. Въ примѣрахъ изъ жизни святителей Церкви нашей ищу себѣ укрѣпленіе. Святитель Іоаннъ Златоустъ, считая себя недостойнымъ пытался избѣжатъ епископской хиротоніи, впослѣдствіи же принявъ ее какъ волю Божію, руководящую всемъ во спасеніе, сталъ Архіепископомъ Константинопольскимъ.

Въ свое время будущій Святитель Николай Миръ-Ликійскій, подвизавшійся на Святой Землѣ и жившій въпещерѣ, недалеко отъгорода Виолеема, желавшій всю свою жизнь тамо провести, услышальголо Божій: «Николай, иди служить народу, если хочешь быть увѣнчаннымъ отъ Меня. Это не та нива, на которой ты имѣешь принести ожидаемый Мною плодъ, но обратись къ людямъ, да прославится въ тебѣ имя Мое».

Діаконъ Григорій, скрывавшійся отъ епископской хиротоніи, былъ найденъ епископами и акрагантійскими клириками въ монастыръ св.Меркурія и затъмъ поставленъ въ епископы города Акраганта.

Въ нихъ, какъ и во многихъ другихъ святителяхъ нашей Церкви особенно проявляется подлинное монашество изъ котораго происходитъ истинное епископство, являющееся добрымъ образомъ созерцательнаго и дъятельнаго служенія на нивъ Господней.

Взирая на сихъ великановъ духа и не имея въ собственной жизни ничего имъ подобнаго, уповаю на помощь Божію. Прошу Господа дать мнъ подвигомъ добрымъ подвизаться и исполнить все то,

что требуетъ святительское служеніе, о которомъ въ Евангеліи сказано такъ: «Внимай себѣ и своему стаду, въ которомъ Духъ Святый поставилъ васъ блюстителями, пасти Церковь Господа и Бога, которую Онъ пріобрѣлъ Себѣ Кровію Своею» (Дѣян. 20, 28).

Словами святого праведнаго Іоанна Кронштадскаго, 100-лѣтіе кончины котораго мы будемъ отмѣчать въ этомъ году, дерзну обратиться ко Господу: «Плѣни меня, Владыко, въ сладкій плінъ Духа Твоего Святаго, да, яко потоки югомъ (Пс. 125, 4) потекутъ слова мои въ Славу Твою и во спасеніе людей Твоихъ. Даруй мнѣ это сладкое и могущественное внутреннее побужденіе излагать свободно на хартіи полноту духовныхъ виденій и чувствъ. Да будетъ языкъ мой тростію книжника скорописца (Пс.44.2) – Духа Всесвятаго».

Съ Апостоломъ Павломъ возблагодарить желаю Господа за Его великую милость: «Благодареніе Богу, Который всегда даетъ намъ торжетвовать во Христъ и благоуханіе о Себъ распространяеть нами во всякомъ мъстъ» (II Кор. 2, 14).

Въ молитвъ своей обращенной къ Покровительницъ рода христіанскаго предъ Пречистыми Ее образами: Всъхъ Скорбящихъ Радости – въ праздникъ которой удостоилъ меня Господъ принятъ святое крещеніе, Курско-Коренной – путиводительницъ Русскаго Зарубежья, Иверской Мироточивой – эсхатологическое значеніе которой неразрывно связано съ монашествомъ, прошу заступничества у Пресвятой Дъвы Маріи.

Сердечнымъ воздыханіемъ святаго праведняго Іоанна Кронштадскаго обращаюсь къ Славней и Пренепорочной Приснодѣвѣ: «Даждь ми, Владычице, чистоту сердечную, простоту сердечную, сыновнюю довѣрчивость и преданность и любовь къ Тебѣ всегда» (Моя жизнь во Христѣ, С. 195).

Къ молитвенной помощи взываю святителей Божіихъ Тихона Задонскаго и Іоанна Шанхайскаго и Санъ-Францисскаго. Труды ихъ являются добрымъ примъромъ для нашего назиданія, а творимыя ими чудеса продолжаютъ укрѣплять въ въръ немощныя души.

Приношу глубокую благодарность всѣмъ, кто направилъ меня на путь монашескаго служенія. Родительницѣ моей обязанъ я тѣмъ, что въ раннемъ возрастѣ позналъ Христа и ее молитвами еще въ юности смогъ опредѣлить свое жизненное призваніе.

Почившихъ наставниковъ моихъ и сродниковъ, старцевъ и старицъ прошу Господа упокоитъ въ селеніяхъ праведныхъ. Ихъ совъты, дерзновен-

ныя молитвы и предсказанія помогли мнъ правильно понимать проявленіе Воли Божіей.

Здравствующихъ духовныхъ помощниковъ пусть укрѣпит Господь силою Своею свыше. Съ благодарностью обращаюсь къ Святѣйшему Патріарху Московскому и Всея Руси Алексію. Съ его благословенія пріемлю сей путь новаго моего служенія.

Приступая со страхомъ работать Господу, прошу Васъ, Ваше Высокопреосвященство Владыка Иларіонъ, молитвенно поддерживающаго меня въ теченіи многихъ лѣтъ, Васъ, Ваше Высокопреосвященство Владыка Кириллъ, наставленіями и духовной помощью которого я пользуюсь всѣ годы моего служенія въ Западно-Американской епархіи. Васъ, Ваши Высокопреосвященства и Преосвященства, имѣющіе особую благодать и васъ, духоносные отцы помолиться обо мнѣ грѣшномъ, дабы служеніе мое было правымъ и вѣра не оскудѣла.

Прошу и васъ дорогіе братья и сестры поминать меня въ своихъ молитвахъ. Пусть они послужать мнѣ добрымъ подспорьемъ въ дѣланіи и служеніи къ которому нынѣ призываетъ меня Господь.

Шествуя за Христомъ, въ назиданіе себѣ избираю Евангельскія слова Апостола Павла: «Внимай въ себя и въ ученіе; занимайся симъ постоянно; ибо, такъ поступая, и себя спасешь и слушающихъ тебя» (I Тим. 4,16). Аминь.

Архимандритъ ӨЕОДОСІЙ 24 августа/6 сентября 2008 г. Санъ-Франциско

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### Борьба со страстями. Св. Праведнаго Іоанна Кронштадтскаго

Съ тъхъ поръ какъ человъкъ отпалъ отъ Бога, онъ, какъ животное, бывшее нъкогда домашнимъ, а потомъ одичавшее, уже неохотно смотритъ на мъсто своего прежняго жительства. Оно больше любитъ мракъ лъса, т.е. здъшняго міра, чъмъ свътъ прежняго мъста, т.е. рая Божія. Человъку трудно соединиться съ Богомъ, а, соединившись, онъ быстро отпадаетъ отъ Него. Ему трудно искренне върить въ Бога и во все, что Богъ открылъ ему.

Смотря на міръ Божій, я вездѣ вижу необыкновенную широту и игривость жизни: въ царствъ животномъ, между четвероногими, между гадами, насѣкомыми, птицами, между рыбами. Теперь спрашивается: откуда теснота и скорби у людей, старающихся жить благочестиво? Въдь Господь вездъ разлилъ жизнь, обиліе, радость и простор. Всъ твари, кромъ человъка, прославляють Творца довольствомъ и игривой радостью. Развъ я не твореніе того же Творца? Разгадка простая: наша жизнь отравляется нашими гръхами и бесплотнымъ врагомъ. Особенно он нападаеть на тъхъ людей, которые подвизаются въ благочестіи. Поэтому истинная жизнь человъка - впереди, въ будущемъ въкъ. Тамъ откроются для него все радости и полное блаженство. Здъсь же онъ изгнанникъ и подъ наказаніемъ. Иногда какъ бы вся природа вооружается на него за его гръхи. Итакъ, не смущаюсь тъмъ, что въ міръ вездъ радость и довольство, а въ тебъ - скорбь. У насъ есть палачъ за гръхъ, который всегда съ нами и бъетъ насъ. Но и для насъ настанетъ радость, только не здѣсь, а въ другомъ міръ.

Твердо помни, что ты - двойственный человѣкъ: одинъ - плотскій, больной страстями и ветхій. Его надо умерщвлять и не преклоняться передъ его настойчивыми грѣховными требованіями. Другой - духовный, новый, Христа ищущій, Христомъ живущій и въ Немъ обрѣтающій покой и жизнь. Как требованія того человѣка нужно всѣми мѣрами презирать, потому что исполненіе ихъ убійственно для души, такъ требованія послѣдняго надо всѣми мярами исполнять, потому что они ведутъ къ вѣчной

жизни. Возьми на себя трудъ на дълъ исполнять то, что ты понялъ.

Познай человъкъ свою душевную бъду и постоянно съ усердіемъ молись Спасителю, чтобы Онъ спасъ и тебя. Не говори въ себъ: "Я безопасенъ, мнъ нътъ надобности о чем-то беспокоиться." Это-то и бъда, что ты, будучи въ величайшей бъдъ, не видишь ее. Твоя бъда - это твои гръхи.

Какъ я поврежденъ гръхомъ! Что-нибудь худое и нечистое легко приходитъ на умъ и тутъ же откликается въ сердцъ, а доброе и святое часто только мыслится и говорится, но не чувствуется. Увы мнъ! До сихъ поръ зло ближе къ моему сердцу, чъмъ добро. Только подумал что-либо худое, и тотчасъ готовъ сдълать его, и сдълал бы, если бы страхъ Божій или обстоятельства не удерживали меня. А добро часто только желается внутреннимъ человъкомъ, но совершить его не хватаетъ ни силъ, ни воли (Рим. 7:18, 19). Часто задуманное доброе дъло откладывается въ долгій, долгій ящикъ.

Большая часть людей добровольно носить въ своемъ сердцѣ сатанинскую тяжесть, но такъ привыкла къ ней, что даже и не чувствуютъ ее. Иногда, впрочемъ, злобный врагъ удесятеряетъ въ нихъ свою тяжесть, и тогда они унывають, ропщуть и даже хулять имя Божіе. У людей вѣка сего обыкновенное средство развъять внутреннюю тяжесть - это зрълища, вечера, карты, танцы. Но послъ нихъ скука и томленіе сердца возвращаются съ еще большей силой. Какъ много людей, которые оставили Господа, Источника воды живой, и выкопали себъ поврежденные колодцы, которые не могутъ удержать воду (Іерем. 2:13). Только когда люди обращаются къ Богу, съ ихъ сердца спадаетъ тяжесть грѣха, и они начинаютъ понимать причины своей неудовлетворенности, а также какъ бороться съ ней

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#### The inner battle

St. John of Kronstadt

'The enemy of the human race began to subject me to various temptations from the very first days of my pastoral service. First of all, he began to instill in me a sort of unaccountable fear during the performance of the sacrament of baptism and the Divine Liturgy, and later began to make me waver through mental conflict. Then I understood that only through constant and never-ending vigilance over myself and never-ending prayer could I fight against this hidden and unremitting foe; I began to try, as deeply as possible, to know myself, i.e., my soul, my nature, my infirmities and failings. So that this vigilance after myself should be constant, I began to keep a diary from the very first days of my service. To the present time I set myself as a rule to write down everything (outstanding in my spiritual life) — and that inner battle, which I wage with myself— and the bitterness of defeat from the side of the prince of darkness, and the sweetness of victory, and that blessed aid which the Lord gives me in the battle. At times, as I read through my diary and, as it were, look back upon myself, I can clearly see whether I am moving forward, have stopped in my advance, or have even retreated. Consequently, I consider the keeping of the diary of such importance, that I try not to miss even a single day without making at least the briefest of remarks. By always watching after myself and coming to know myself more and more, I also come to realize my own helplessness in all respects without the aid of God's grace, especially in the defeat of evil, and through this you arrive at humility, at submission to God's will, which is blessed and perfect always and in everything, and you also learn to regard other people as well with love, with sympathy, with a readiness to help them always and in everything.

"In order to quell everything unclean and injurious within myself and to be always ready to appeal to God, I always try to keep a double watch over my heart and to quell all unclean desires immediately as soon as I notice them. The main thing here is not to permit the sinful thought or desire to take hold (fasten) in the soul, to take possession of the mind, heart and all your being, and to put them on the rock of faith and God's commandments. When the unclean desire or emotion is but arising, then it is much easier to extirpate it and to subdue it within you, than later, when it becomes deeply rooted. The task of ceaseless inner battle with oneself is at first extremely difficult, because this battle is with a cunning, perfidious and experienced foe — the devil. He employs all possible means to subjugate man; defeated in one case, he immediately employs another way, finer yet. That is why one must keep a vigil over

oneself without fail..."

Here St. John's speech was interrupted by one of the listeners:

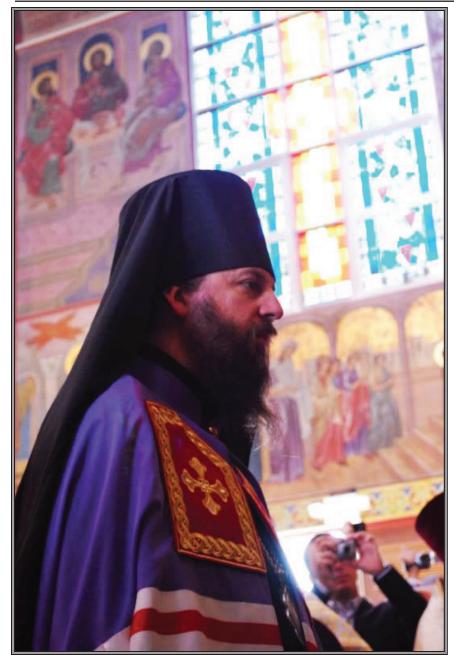
'Teach us, most honored Batiushka, how to behave in those cases when all efforts to repulse the enemy from oneself, to defeat him within oneself, come to nothing. Then despondency sets in involuntarily, the will becomes weakened and one loses heart during work. Would it be the correct method of battle in this case if one tries not to pay attention to the suggestions of the enemy, to spit upon him, so to speak?"

#### St. John animatedly replied:

"Yes, quite so, that is exactly how you should act: you must, by diligently calling the name of Jesus Christ, with hidden, deep repentance, overthrow the hidden enemies; do not pay them any attention, do not concern yourselves with them, and you must consider everything they suggest to be a harmful dream. You must never become despondent during strong temptations. The Lord is always close to help us and is ready at the first call of His Name to protect and repulse our invisible foes. 'And call upon Me in the day of trouble,' says He through the Prophet, 'I will deliver thee, and thou shalt glorify Me.'"

"Allow me to ask you again, Batiushka: often one is forced to experience an extremely heavy feeling at the sight of victorious evil. How and with what can one defeat this type of despondency within oneself?"

"Indeed, one experiences an extremely heavy feeling at the sight of victorious evil; I also have to experience a similar state often. Moreover, there is the awareness that even pastoral fervor is helpless here — one often has to concede. In these cases one can find comfort in the knowledge that this phenomenon is but temporary, permitted by God's Providence with special aims, known only to God, and that sooner or later evil will be defeated and goodness will be victorious. Also in these cases one must strengthen oneself by prayer. But do not for a single moment forget how merciful the Lord is, and how quick to hear, that He always bends His ear to our prayer and very swiftly fulfills our requests and helps us, if we completely surrender ourselves to His holy and perfect will."



# Nominee's Address Bishop Theodosius (Ivashchenko) of Seattle

On September 6th, 2008, at the Cathedral of the Mother of God Jov of All Who Sorrow, His Eminence Metropolitan Hilarion celebrated the Rite of Nomination of Archimandrite Theodosius (Ivashchenko) as Bishop of Seattle, in concelebration with His Eminence Archbishop Mark of Berlin and Germany and His Eminence Archbishop Kyrill of San Francisco and Western America, His Grace Bishop Gabriel of Montreal and Canada, His Grace Bishop Michael of Geneva and Western Europe, His Grace Bishop Peter of Cleveland, and His Grace Bishop John of Caracas.

At the end of the Rite of Nomination, Archimandrite Theodosius delivered the following address:

Your Eminence Metropolitan Hilarion, Your Graces, most honored fathers!

It has pleased the Lord that, through you, the true ministers of the Church of Christ, He declare His will to me, a sinner. What can my mouth utter; and is it possible for human imperfection in general to comprehend the economy of God?

After the resolution of the Council of Bishops of the Russian Church Abroad concerning my election as candidate for the episcopal ministry, the first things that occurred to me were the words of the holy and righteous Job the Muchsuffering: "...that which I feared, the same hath overtaken me" (Job 3:25).

Having nothing wherein to boast save my infirmities alone, how will I bear the responsibility I will now receive

from you? At this time, my soul is seized with great trepidation. This state is like that which I experienced twenty years ago, when I received the monastic tonsure in the cradle of Orthodoxy, the Far Caves of the Lavra of the Caves of Kiev. I studied much while I was within the walls of that ancient monastery of Holy Russia, one of the estates of the Mother of God. The clergy and elders of the Lavra, who had survived persecutions and the liquidation of the monastery, served as its living chronicle. The accounts they related confirmed me in my faith, and their wounds bore witness to their struggles and the recent era of persecutions.

I am also grateful to the Kiev Theological Seminary, which opened at that time on the grounds of the monastery, and where, through the efforts of the instructors, the seed of the divine Truth was sown in our souls.

I desired to serve the Lord in that place, to which He had called me. But while our intention suggests one thing, life determines otherwise. Well did Bishop Barnabas (Belyaev), one of the blessed hierarchs of our Church who struggled in the last century, say: "Man chooses the path, but the Lord directs his steps."

And so, even though I envisioned this path of service to the Lord, He set for me one such as is described by St John of the Ladder: "I desire ovesight [episcopacy] over my own heart" (Discourse 28:51).

Yet apparently it pleases the Lord, through you, divinely wise hierarchs, to appoint for me another great service to Him.

I would not dare take this responsibility upon myself if I did not feel that it is not my will that is being done, but that this is being prepared by the Lord.

I remember the words of the Rite of the Monastic Tonsure, which were read by the abbot of the Lavra when I received the tonsure: "It behooveth thee, who art setting out on the path which leadeth to the kingdom of heaven, not to turn back; for thou wilt not be guided toward the kingdom of heaven if thou wilt prefer aught to God" (Rite of Tonsure to the Lesser Schema).

I trust only to the power of God, which is made perfect only in weaknesses.

I find strength for myself in the examples of the holy hierarchs of our Church:

Considering himself unworthy, St John Chrysostom strove to avoid episcopal consecration, and later, having accepted it as the will of God that guides all toward salvation, he became Archbishop of Constantinople.

And St Nicholas of Myra in Lycea, who struggled in the Holy Land and lived in a cave not far from the town of Bethlehem, and who desired to spend his whole life there, heard the voice of God: "Nicholas, go and serve the people if thou desirest to be crowned by Me. This is not the field in which you will produce the fruit I am expecting; but turn to the people, that My name may be glorified in thee" (Life of St Nicholas).

Gregory the Deacon, who fled from hierarchal consecration, was discovered by the bishops and the clergy of Agrigentum in the Monastery of St Mercurius and was then made bishop of that city.

In them, as in many other holy hierarchs of our Church, is glorified the genuine monasticism from which the true episcopacy proceeds, and which stands as a good model of contemplative and active service on the field of the Lord.

Looking to these spiritual giants, but lacking anything similar in my own life, I put my trust in the help of God. I ask the Lord to grant that I may fight the good fight and fulfill all that is needful for the hierarchal ministry, of which the Gospel says this:

"Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Spirit hath made you overseers, to feed the Church of God, which He hath purchased with His own blood" (Acts 20: 28).

And I dare to address to the Lord the words of the holy and righteous John of Kronstadt,, the centennial anniversary of whose repose we will mark this year:

"Bind me, O Master, in the sweet captivity of Thy Holy Spirit, that for Thy glory and the salvation of Thy people I may pour forth my words like streams of the south" (Psalms 125: 4), "Grant me the sweet and mighty interior conviction to set forth freely, as on a scroll, the fullness of spiritual visions and sensations. Let my tongue become as the pen of a swiftly writing scribe" (Psalms 44: 2), the most Holy Spirit.

With the Apostle Paul I wish to give thanks to the Lord for His great mercy:

"Now thanks be unto God, Who always causeth us to triumph in Christ, and maketh manifest the savor of His knowledge by us in every place" (II Corinthians 2:14).

In my own prayer, which is offered up to the Protectress of the Christian race before her all-pure images—the Joy of All Who Sorrow, on whose feast day the Lord vouch-safed that I receive holy baptism, the Kursk-Root Icon, the Directress of the Russian Diaspora, the myrrh-streaming Iveron Icon—the eschatological significance whereof is bound up inviolably with monasticism, I ask the help of the All-Holy Virgin Mary.

I address the glorious and All-Immaculate Evervirgin with the heartfelt sighing of the holy and righteous John of Kronstadt: "O Mistress, grant me purity of heart, simplicity of heart, filial trust, commitment and love for thee always" (My Life in Christ, p. 195).

I call to my assistance in prayer the holy hierarchs of God Tikhon of Zadonsk and John of Shanghai and San Francisco. Their labors are a good example for our edification, and the miracles wrought by them continue to strengthen souls weak in the faith.

I offer my deepest thanks to all who directed me to the path of monastic service. To my mother I am indebted because at an early age I came to know Christ, and through her prayers I was able, while yet a youth, to determine my vocation in life.

I ask the Lord to grant rest to my departed guides and relatives, the elders and eldresses, in the mansions of the righteous. Their counsels, bold supplications and prophecies helped me to understand aright the manifestation of the will of God.

My spiritual helpers who are still alive may the Lord strengthen with power from on high.

I offer my gratitude also to His Holiness Patriarch Alexy of Moscow and All Russia. It is with his blessing that

I set out on this path of my new service.

As I take up my work for the Lord with fear—Your Eminence, Vladyka Hilarion, who have supported me with your prayers over the course of many years; Your Grace, Vladyka Kirill, by whose instructions and spiritual assistance I have benefited all the years of my ministry in the Diocese of Western America; Your Graces, who have special grace within you; and you, Spirit-bearing fathers—I beseech you to pray for me, a sinner, that my service will be upright and my faith will not prove lacking.

I also ask you, dear brethren and sisters, to remember me in your prayers. Let them serve me as a goodly support in the work and service to which the Lord is now calling me.

Following after Christ, I choose the evangelical words of the Apostle Paul for my own edification: "Take heed unto thyself, and unto the doctrine; continue in them: for in doing this thou shalt both save thyself, and those who hear thee" (I Timothy 4:16). Amen.

http://www.synod.com/synod/eng2008/9ennarecheniye.html

# Parish Rilleti

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