

DIOCESE OF NEW ENGLAND – ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA



The Most Blessed TIKHON

*Archbishop on Washington, Metropolitan of All America and Canada
Locum Tenens of The Diocese of New England*

Archpriest John Kreta

Chancellor

June 19, 2020

Archpriest Marc Vranes
Holy Trinity Orthodox Church
414 Valley Street
Willimantic, Connecticut 06226-2008

Dear Father Marc,

Christ is in our midst!

I have carefully reviewed your proposal of June 19, 2020 for moving towards the gradual re-opening of the sacramental life at Holy Trinity Orthodox Church. With this letter, you are blessed to enter Phase 1, Stage 1, as outlined in the Synodal Directives of May 1, 2020.

Beginning Sunday, June 21, you may celebrate the Divine Liturgy with a maximum of 17 people as outlined in your proposal, also ensuring that all the safety precautions described are followed. Anything beyond this, both in terms of types of services and numbers of parishioners will require the re-submittal of a formal proposal.

With respect to the distribution of the reserve sacrament at the conclusion of Divine Liturgy, my preference is that you keep the chalice “open” at the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy (that is, hold off on “sweeping” the particles from the paten as you normally would do after the communion of the faithful) and commune those who come in later a staggered manner from the chalice itself.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+TIKHON
Archbishop of Washington
Metropolitan of All America and Canada

cc: Archpriest John Kreta,
Archpriest Alexander Rentel,
Barry Migyanko,
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