Minutes of the Extra-Ordinary Diocesan Assembly
of
The Diocese of Philadelphia and Eastern Pennsylvania

The Special Assembly of the Diocese of Philadelphia and Eastern Pennsylvania of the Orthodox Church in America, was held on February 19, 1981, at Holy Resurrection Orthodox Cathedral in Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

PLENARY SESSION

After Divine Liturgy, served by His Beatitude Metropolitian THEODOSIUS and, His Grace Bishop HERMAN; and short break, the Assembly was opened at 12:30 with the singing of "The Grace of the Holy Spirit...".

CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

Fr. Joseph Gallick presented the Assembly with the Credentials Report.
The Session registrations were as follows:

Hierarchs		1
Clergy		36
Lay Delegates		37
Diocesan Council Members		2
Auditors		2
	Total:	78

ELECTION OF ASSEMBLY OFFICERS

Fr. Rodion Kondratick acted as Chairman for the election of the Special Assembly Officers. The following were submitted by the Nominating Committee, and were unanmously elected to the indicated positions:

Clergy Vice-Chairman	Fr. John Kuchta
Secretary	Fr. Samuel Garula
Lay Vice-Chairman	Dr. Alexander Pianovich
Lay Secretary	Mr. Kenneth Bernstein

TELLERS

Clergy Tellers:	Fr. David Lisko
	Fr. Vladimir Petorak
Lay Tellers:	Mr. Steve Pelak
	Mr. Sam Polifka

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AGENDA

His Beatitude, Metropolitan THEODOSIUS reviewed the instructions concerning the "Instructions concerning the Election of the Ruling Bishop". He corrected Item #15 to read:

"...date and place of the consecration and/or installation of of the new bishop..."

Copy of these instructions are included in these minutes.

ADDRESS OF THE METROPOLITAN

His Beatitude addressed the Assembly, stating the election of a ruling bishop was not the same as political elections. He stressed, quoting from Ephesians 4:11, 12, the election of a bishop should be guided by the Holy Spirit, as all are called into specific roles in the Church.
Copy of this message is included.

NOMINATION OF CANDIDATES

His Beatitude announced, that the name of His Grace Bishop HERMAN, Bishop of Wilkes-Barre, had been placed into nomination by the special Diocesan Council, for the position of Bishop of Philadelphia and Eastern Pennsylvania. This special council was convened on the 40th day commemoration of the falling asleep of Archbishop KIPRIAN.
At this time, nominations were accepted from the floor. The name of Fr. Thomas Jones was placed into nomination by Mr. Krenitsky.
There were no other nominations from the floor and the nominations were closed.

ELECTION OF THE RULING BISHOP

The tellers passed out the first ballot, and the voting took place during the singing of "O Lord, save Thy people.".
The first ballot was counted and His Beatitude announced that His Grace Bishop HERMAN had, by an overwhelming majority, been elected as the Bishop of Philadelphia and Eastern Pennsylvania. The results were as follows:

Bishop HERMAN:	66
Fr. Thomas Jones:	11
Void:	1
Total:	78

His Beatitude noted that the name, of Bishop HERMAN, would be placed before the Holy Synod for confirmation at the Spring Session on March 17, 1981. At that time, Bishop HERMAN would become the ruling Bishop of the Diocese. Until then, His Beatitude would remain in Locum Tenens.
Copy of His Beatitude's announcement is included in these minutes.

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INSTALLATION OF THE RULING BISHOP

The schedule for the installation of the ruling Bishop was given by His Beatitude, and is included with these minutes.

MESSAGE FROM THE BISHOP-ELECT

His Grace Bishop HERMAN addressed the Special Assembly. Copy of his address is included with these minutes.

ADJORNMENT

Mr. John Russin motioned the Special Assembly be adjourned. Motion was seconded by Fr. David Lisko. Motion carried.
His Beatitude concluded the Assembly with a Molieben service.

Respectfully submitted,

Father Samuel Garula
Clergy Secretary

Mr. Kenneth Bernstien
Lay Secretary

Approved by: + Metropolitan Theodosius

Date: March 1, 1981