



# GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF DENVER

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August 1, 2008  
*Feast of the Procession  
of the Holy Cross*

Protocol 08-17

The Reverend Priests, Deacons and Monastics,  
and the Pious Faithful of  
the Holy Metropolis of Denver

Beloved in the Lord,

The Divine Liturgy is the consummate corporate act of the local Orthodox Christian community. It is the familiar worship of the people of God, and it is at once the offering of their prayer to God and the reception of His grace through word and sacrament.

In our parishes throughout America visitors attend our services, converts grow in knowledge of the faith, and life-long parishioners cultivate their life in Christ. It is therefore absolutely critical that the liturgical services be celebrated properly, fully, and in strict conformity to our Sacred Tradition and the specific rubrics and practices of the Great Church of Christ and our Holy Archdiocese.

Furthermore, since the Divine Liturgy is the primary means of communicating and experiencing the theological truths of the Orthodox faith, any translation from the received text, which is historically based and traditional, must be absolutely precise and accurate.

At the present time the Eparchial Synod is working on a standard Greek text of the Divine Liturgy and the Proskomide for use throughout all parishes in the Archdiocese as the first step in preparing a standard English translation. This coincides with my efforts over the past years to develop the most faithful translation possible for use in the parishes under my omophorion in the English language.

The enclosed Ieratikon includes the Greek texts which our Eparchial Synod has sent to the Holy and Ecumenical Patriarchate for comment and approval. The English text is my translation which I have submitted to the translation committee of the Archdiocese to assist them in their efforts. I am now directing each priest and deacon of this Metropolis to use, without exception, the enclosed provisional text and translation in the celebration of the liturgical services until a standard English translation is released by our Archdiocese.

Moreover, because we have received clergy from other jurisdictions, trained in the various authentic liturgical traditions of the Orthodox Church, and because there are teleturgical differences between generations of students from our own Holy Cross School of Theology, I am further directing each priest and deacon to abide strictly by the rubrical notes contained in the enclosed volume. The established monastic communities should, of course, follow their established and approved Typikon, although I ask that whenever the English language is used, it conform to the text I am giving to you.

I ask that you submit any corrections to typographical, grammatical, and syntactical errors directly to me. I also welcome your inputs regarding the theological precision of this translation.

With Paternal Blessings,

✠ Metropolitan Isaiah of Denver

Enclosure