



## DIOCESE OF NEW ENGLAND

*54th DIOCESAN ASSEMBLY*

Northfield Falls, VT

**OCTOBER 27-28, 2017**

To the Reverend Clergy, Parish Councils and Faithful of the Diocese of New England,

The 54th New England Diocesan Assembly will convene on October 27-28, 2017, hosted by St. Jacob of Alaska Mission, Northfield, VT. Registration begins on Friday morning at 8:30 A.M. Clergy and Lay delegates are reminded that this is a two-day assembly, and all are expected to be present for the entire assembly.

Details regarding overnight accommodations, registration for the assembly - including delegate accreditation forms and travel details are included in this attachment. In the second attachment please find the draft minutes from the 53rd Diocesan Assembly. Another email, early in September, will contain the proposed budget for 2018. All parishes are receiving this packet in electronic form only.

Please note that the deadline for the rooms is September 27th, the forms and banquet registration are **October 8th**. Please make every attempt to attend the banquet.

As indicated in the Statute of the Orthodox Church in America, the parish lay representative(s) are to be chosen by election — either at a general parish meeting or a parish council meeting, according to local practice. The number of lay representatives corresponds to the number of assigned (not attached) clergy — priests and deacons — in the parish. Vacant parishes may elect and send one (1) lay representative. Accordingly, lay representation to the 54th Assembly is on the enclosed sheet.

In order to send voting delegates to the Diocesan Assembly, parishes must be current with their Diocesan and OCA Fair Share that is at least through the fiscal year ending on August 31, 2017. Please note that lay delegates whose parish fair share is not current will be seated as observers.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

*Alexia Tassmer*



+ Nikon

*Archbishop of Boston New England and the Albanian Archdiocese  
Orthodox Church in America*

**Most Rev. Nikon (Liolin) P.O. Box 149 Southbridge, MA 01550 508-764-3222**  
Email: [bpnikon@aol.com](mailto:bpnikon@aol.com)

August 2017

My Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

It is with great joy that I extend this invitation to you to participate in the 54th Annual Assembly of the Diocese of New England. For many it is a regular occasion and for others it will be a first.

I know that Father Mark Korban and the parishioners of St. Jacob of Alaska Mission are anxiously awaiting and are looking forward to our arrival.

How joyous it is when the whole church gathers, Bishop, Clergy and Laity not only to determine and define our direction and activities for the coming year as "all things must be done in order." Certainly, the business of operating is important but to join together in the celebration of the Eucharistic Liturgy is our greatest joy.

It is in this light that I once again think of our gathering together in the Connecticut Deanery during this beautiful time of year on Friday and Saturday October 27-28 in 2017 for this 54th Annual Assembly as the "Synaxis of the Diocese of New England." Defined by the dictionary "Synaxis" means the gathering of the faithful, especially for the celebration of the Lord's Supper. I know all of you will want to participate in the Eucharistic Liturgy on Saturday Morning.

Included with this package you will find all pertinent information regarding accommodations, schedules, etc. I know that none of us will want to miss out on fully participating in the life of our church.

With my Love, Blessings and Prayers,

*+ Nikon*

Archbishop of Boston, New England and the Albanian Archdiocese

Your Eminence, Reverend Clergy, and Brothers and Sisters of the New England Diocese,

Welcome all of you to St. Jacob of Alaska Mission in what is known as the North Country of Vermont. Hopefully some of the leaves will still be on the trees so you will have the opportunity to see this area in the splendor of Autumn, the last burst of color before the greys and cold of winter.

Our patron, St. Jacob, was born in the Aleutian Islands. After seminary and ordination in Russia, he labored for many years in interior Alaska to bring the fullness of Christ's light to the indigenous peoples. He did this with great love and sensitivity to their history and culture. After his death in 1864, he was largely forgotten outside of Alaska, but the indigenous peoples remembered his loving service and brought him to the attention of the larger Church. He was canonized in 1994, and in that same year in Montpelier, Vermont a first Orthodox liturgy was celebrated in a store front across the street from the hotel in which we will be meeting.

This initial small community requested St. Jacob as their patron and in 2001 purchased a vacant church building in Northfield Falls, just South of Montpelier. We will be celebrating our 25th anniversary in 2019.

We will meet on Friday October 27th in Montpelier at the Capital Plaza Hotel on State Street, across from the Vermont State House. Parking is in the rear of the hotel in the designated spaces only. You will need to get a parking permit for your dash board at the hotel check-in desk. Friday meetings, vespers and banquet will take place at the hotel. Saturday's Hierarchical Liturgy will begin at 8:30am at St. Jacob Church, 376 Vt Rt 12 North in Northfield Falls. It is a 15 minute drive from the hotel. Breakfast and concluding meeting will be held at St. John Roman Catholic Church, 206 Vine St., Northfield, 4 minutes from St. Jacob's.

On behalf of all parishioners at St. Jacob we hope you enjoy your visit. We join you in prayer that the Assembly will be fruitful and pleasing in God's sight.

In Christ,  
Fr. Mark

### **Hotel Information**

Capital Plaza, 100 State Street, Montpelier, VT 05602  
(802) 223 – 5252 for reservations  
Special group rate of \$136 (single) \$146 (double) or \$220 Suite  
per night plus tax *Rate only through September 27<sup>th</sup>*  
Group name “Orthodox Church of America”

***Parking permits are required please obtain at desk and put in car***

### **Driving Directions**

#### **From Hotel to St. Jacob of Alaska Mission 376 Rt 12, Northfield Falls, VT 05664**

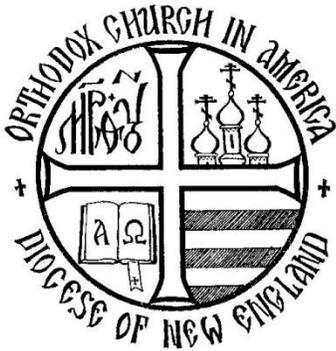
1. Start out going east on State St/US-2 E toward Elm St.
2. Then 0.16 miles
3. Turn right onto Main St/US-2 E/VT-12. Continue to follow VT-12.
4. (Coffee Corner is on the corner.)
5. Then 8.43 miles
6. 376 VT Route 12 N, Northfield, VT 05663-6482, 376 VT ROUTE 12 N is on the left.
7. Your destination is just past Davis Ave.
8. If you reach Falls Trail you've gone a little too far.

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### **Driving Directions**

#### **From St. Jacob of Alaska Mission to St. John RC Church 206 Vine St, Northfield, VT**

1. Start out going southwest on VT Route 12 N/VT-12 toward Falls Trail.
2. Continue to follow VT-12.
3. Then 1.31 miles
4. Turn right onto Vine St.
5. Vine St is 0.1 miles past Parsons Ln.  
If you reach Water St you've gone a little too far.
6. Then 0.20 miles
7. 206 Vine St, Northfield, VT 05663-6751, 206 VINE ST is on the right.  
Your destination is just past North St.



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### **Tentative Schedule**

<u>Time</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
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#### Friday October 27, 2017

8:30 - 10:00 a.m.	53rd Assembly Registration	Capital Plaza
10:00 a.m.	Opening Service of Thanksgiving	Capital Plaza
10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.	1 <sup>st</sup> Plenary Session	Capital Plaza
12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.	Lunch	Capital Plaza
1:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.	2 <sup>nd</sup> Plenary Session	Capital Plaza
5:30 p.m.	Vespers and Confession	Capital Plaza
6:30 p.m.	Social Hour	Capital Plaza
7:00 p.m.	Banquet	Capital Plaza

#### Saturday, October 28, 2017

8:30 a.m.	Divine Liturgy	St. Jacob of Alaska Mission
10:30 - 11:30 a.m.	Brunch	St. John Catholic Church
11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.	3 <sup>rd</sup> Plenary Session	St. John Catholic Church



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### CLERGY (PRIEST/DEACON) REGISTRATION FORM

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE / ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: (    ) \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

PARISH \_\_\_\_\_ CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please RETURN this form by October 8, 2017 to:**

Alexia Tassmer  
95 South Orchard St  
Wallingford, CT 06492

Any questions please call **Alexia** at 203-284-0856 [atassmer@sbcglobal.net](mailto:atassmer@sbcglobal.net)

<p><b>BANQUET</b>- On Friday evening <b>I will attend</b> _____ <b>I will not attend</b> _____ <b>Meal Choice:</b> _____ <b>Stuffed Sole</b>                   _____ <b>Mediterranean Pasta</b></p>
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**\*\*Please note the Hotel Reservations September 27th Deadline!\*\***



## DIOCESE OF NEW ENGLAND

54th DIOCESAN ASSEMBLY

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**OCTOBER 27-28, 2017**

### DELEGATE / ALTERNATE REGISTRATION FORM

*(Please circle if you are a delegate or an alternate)*

PARISH: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_

*The undersigned has been duly authorized by his/her parish to participate in the 54th Annual Diocesan Assembly of the Diocese of New England.*

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE / ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Rector \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Parish Secretary \_\_\_\_\_

PARISH SEAL

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

Credentials \_\_\_\_\_

**OFFICIAL STATEMENT DELEGATE / ALTERNATE**

I am a member of my parish in good standing. I have received the mysteries of Confession and Communion at least annually for the past three years at my home parish. I am not under ecclesiastical interdict. I am not married outside of the Orthodox Church. I am not living in violation of Orthodox moral standards. I am not a member of any anti-church and/or secret societies (such as Masonic organizations.) I have contributed the required fair share remittances to the Orthodox Church in America and to the New England Diocese.

**Signature of Delegate / Alternate (Circle One)**

**Date**

*(Any departure from the above mentioned qualifications must be explained on a separate sheet of paper by the observer and the Rector and submitted to the Diocesan Bishop (Administrator) through the Credentials Committee for approval by the Bishop or administrator.)*

**Please RETURN this form by October 8, 2017 to:**

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95 South Orchard St  
Wallingford, CT 06492

➤ Any questions please call **Alexia** at 203-284-0856 [atassmer@sbcglobal.net](mailto:atassmer@sbcglobal.net)

**BANQUET- On Friday evening**

**I will attend \_\_\_\_\_ I will not attend \_\_\_\_\_**

**Meal Choice: \_\_\_\_\_ Stuffed Sole  
\_\_\_\_\_ Mediterranean Pasta**

**\*\*Please note the Hotel Reservation September 27<sup>th</sup> Deadline!\*\***



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### DIOCESAN LAY COUNCIL MEMBER REGISTRATION FORM

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE / ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: (     ) \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

HOME PARISH: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Rector \_\_\_\_\_

**Please RETURN this form by October 8, 2017 to:**

Alexia Tassmer

95 South Orchard St

Wallingford, CT 06492

➤ Any questions please call **Alexia** at 203-284-0856 atassmer@sbcglobal.net

**BANQUET- On Friday evening**

**I will attend \_\_\_\_\_ I will not attend \_\_\_\_\_**

**Meal Choice: \_\_\_\_\_ Stuffed Sole**

**\_\_\_\_\_ Mediterranean Pasta**

**\*\*Please note the Hotel Reservation September 27th Deadline!\*\***



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### OBSERVER REGISTRATION FORM

PARISH: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_

*The undersigned observer has been duly authorized by his/her parish to participate in the 54th Annual Diocesan Assembly of the Diocese of New England.*

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE/ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: (    ) \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Rector \_\_\_\_\_

PARISH SEAL

Signature of Parish Secretary \_\_\_\_\_

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

Credentials \_\_\_\_\_

## OFFICIAL STATEMENT OBSERVER

I am a member of my parish in good standing. I have received the mysteries of Confession and Communion at least annually for the past three years at my home parish. I am not under ecclesiastical interdict. I am not married outside of the Orthodox Church. I am not living in violation of Orthodox moral standards. I am not a member of any anti-church and/or secret societies (such as Masonic organizations.) I have contributed the required fair share remittances to the Orthodox Church in America and to the New England Diocese. I certify that the above information is true. I also understand that as an observer, I may not speak or vote on any matter on the assembly floor.

**Signature of Observer** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

(Any departure from the above mentioned qualifications must be explained on a separate sheet of paper by the observer and the Rector and submitted to the Diocesan Bishop (Administrator) through the Credentials Committee for approval by the Bishop or administrator.)

**Please RETURN with the Assembly Fee of \$100.00 per person.**

**Please RETURN this form by October 8, 2017 to:**

Alexia Tassmer  
95 South Orchard St  
Wallingford, CT 06492

➤ Any questions please call **Alexia** at 203-284-0856 atassmer@sbcglobal.net

**BANQUET- On Friday evening**

**I will attend**\_\_\_\_\_ **I will not attend**\_\_\_\_\_

**Meal Choice:** \_\_\_\_ **Stuffed Sole**  
\_\_\_\_ **Mediterranean Pasta**

**\*\*Please note the Hotel Reservation September 27th Deadline!\*\***

The **Assembly Fee** covers all the reports, all meals and the banquet.

**Checks are payable to the DIOCESE OF NEW ENGLAND.**