



ORTHODOX BISHOP OF WESTERN AMERICA
ПРАВОСЛАВНИ ЕПИСКОП ЗАПАДНОАМЕРИЧКИ
OF THE SERBIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH IN NORTH AND SOUTH AMERICA

Ep. No. 81/July 25, 2018

Beloved Clergy, Parish Councils, Diocesan Council & Auditing Board, and SKSS of the Western American Diocese,

“... keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.” - Ephesians 4:3

Each year the clergy and leaders of our parishes gather for our annual Assembly which provides us with the opportunity to learn and grow in our faith, gain new insights into the ministries and programs offered by our Diocese, and take an active role in the governance of our Church.

The 2018 Diocesan Assembly will be held at 11:30 a.m. on Saturday, September 1st at the Saint Sava Mission in Jackson, California. The Assembly will be held in conjunction with Diocesan Days which will begin on Friday, August 31st at 1:00 p.m. and conclude on Sunday, September 2nd at 3:00 p.m. The Annual Diocesan Council meeting will be held on Friday, August 31st at 4:00 p.m.

As specified in the Constitution, Article 21 point 3, and Uniform Rules and Regulations, each parish is expected to have one elected delegate in attendance at the Assembly. Please make sure your parish has elected one delegate to ensure full participation from your parish. If you have not already done so, please complete and return the enclosed Credentials Form. A detailed agenda and registration material will be provided no later than 15 days prior to the convening of the Assembly.

The Assembly of the Diocese is comprised of:

1. The Bishop
2. Active Clergy, both orders
3. Presidents of all Church-School Congregations or their Alternates
4. Members of the Diocesan Council
5. Members of Auditing Board
6. One Elected delegate from each Church-School Congregation
7. Two representatives of the Federation of Circle of Serbian Sisters of the Diocese

Should the President of the Church-School Congregation also be a member of the Diocesan Council, the Vice President of the Executive Board may represent the Church-School Congregation at the Diocesan Assembly.

This Assembly will explore the significance of the upcoming Jubilee of the Serbian Orthodox Church, the 800 years of autocephaly, its historical significance, and its impact on our future. We will also share information on the growth and expansion of our Diocesan Ministries which are flourishing thanks to the efforts of the Diocesan Council.

I look forward to the active participation of all our communities. Please come with an open mind and an open heart, ready and willing to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ and be a beacon of God's love in your parishes.

With Love in Christ,

BISHOP OF WESTERN AMERICA