



Епархія Чикагская и Средне-Американская
Русская Православная Церковь Заграницей

Diocese of Chicago & Mid-America
Russian Orthodox Church Abroad

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March 6/19, 2018

42 Martyrs of Ammoria

Dear Father Rectors,

Christ is amongst us!

We regret to inform you that Rassaphore Monk Seraphim (Surkov-Basilson), a member of the Resurrection Skete in Fridley, Minnesota, reposed in the Lord on Sunday, March 18, 2018. He was 82 years of age. Fr. Seraphim's 40th day will be April 26. Archbishop Peter asks that Fr. Seraphim be commemorated at all Divine Liturgies and memorial services in all parishes of the diocese during this time.

Sadly, because Fr. Seraphim did not have a will, we will be unable to bury him for several weeks. The process mandated by Minnesota law for those without a will must be followed. A search for relatives must be made, and then there will be a court hearing to determine the disposition of the remains.

Given the unfortunately situation with Fr. Seraphim, we have revised the requirements for documents required for each clergyman's diocesan file. In preparation for the triannual Diocesan Assembly slated for Chicago this June we urge each of you to see to it that you have provided all the following to the diocese:

- An autobiography
- Your clerical resume (when you were ordained, which parishes you have served, awards you have received, other pertinent information)
- Your ordination paperwork
- Copy of any secular and church educational diplomas
- Copy of your baptismal certificate
- Copy of your marriage certificate (if applicable)
- Copy of your passport or any type of official identification
- Copy of your visa paperwork (if applicable)
- A passport sized color photo - renewed every 10 years
- NEW – Copy of your will (recommended for married clergymen – mandatory for celibate clergymen)

Please contact me or your Dean with questions.

In Christ,

Archpriest Gregory Joyce
Secretary, Diocese of Chicago & Mid-America
734-649-5746

