



SERBIAN PATRIARCH

P. No. 2203
13 November 2024
Belgrade

UNOFFICIAL TRANSLATION

**HIS EMINENCE,
METROPOLITAN OF EASTERN AMERICA AND NEW YORK,
ADMINISTRATOR OF THE DIOCESE OF CHICAGO AND MID-AMERICA,
FIRST HIERARCH OF THE RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH OUTSIDE OF RUSSIA,
KYR NICHOLAS
NEW YORK**

Your Eminence,

Dear brother and concelebrant in Christ,

We received with sorrow the unexpected news of the passing of our brother and longtime friend, Archbishop Peter (Lukianov). We have known Vladyka Peter for over 40 years, ever since our meeting at the Faculty of Theology in Belgrade. We studied under great teachers such as Metropolitan Amfilohije (Radović) and Bishop Atanasije (Jevtić). Peter often visited Saint Justin (Popović) in Ćelije, the nuns of the Vavedenje Monastery in Belgrade, and the Miljko's Monastery by the Morava River. He cherished visiting places where his spiritual ancestors had practiced asceticism.

His love for his Russian Church and people opened his heart to all other Orthodox peoples, especially the Serbian Orthodox Church and our people. Our newly reposed brother grew up with a spirit of love for the Serbian people and Church, inherited from great figures of the Russian diaspora, like Saint John of Shanghai.

Bishop Peter participated in the enthronement of Patriarch Irinej of blessed memory, as well as in Our enthronement. Only a few weeks ago, he concelebrated with Us at the consecration of the new Bishop of Kostajnica Serafim.



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Indeed, he was among the few from other Local Orthodox Churches who frequently visited Serbia and represented the Russian Orthodox Church at all major events of the Serbian Orthodox Church over the past twenty years and more.

We pray to the Risen Lord to grant rest to the noble soul of the newly departed Archbishop Peter, where there is no pain, sorrow, or sighing, but life everlasting. May he praise the Lord Jesus Christ in His eternal Kingdom alongside his teachers, Saint John, Metropolitan Laurus (Škurla), Metropolitan Amfilohije, Archbishop Anthony (Medvedev), and Bishop Atanasije.

Memory eternal!

With fraternal love,

SERBIAN PATRIARCH
Porfirije