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Dear Fathers, Brothers and Sisters,

Christ is Risen!

This year I did not complete my Easter Epistle in time for Pascha. I am doing so now.

I did start writing, but during the sixth week of Great Lent, Archbishop Alypy was hospitalized with pneumonia; he also suffered a repeated stroke. The doctors told me that he was very weak and may not pull through. I held my epistle to await the outcome.

As you all are aware, Vladyka passed away at the age of 92, on the very day of Pascha; truly a blessed repose. The funeral was held in Des Plaines on Bright Tuesday, with five hierarchs officiating. The burial took place on Bright Friday, at Holy Trinity Monastery in Jordanville, as per Vladyka's wishes.

All of his life the late Archbishop Alypy strove for perfection. When he began to study iconography under the instruction of the late Archimandrite Cyprian, he persevered until he developed his abilities to the fullest. When he was given the obedience of teaching Church Slavonic at Holy Trinity Seminary, he compiled a text book, which today is considered the best on the language, and is used throughout the world in many schools.

When the iconographers at Holy Trinity Monastery could not keep up with the orders on icons, it was decided to publish lithographs and laminate them. To fulfill this, Vladyka Alypy took up photography. He strove to learn everything about cameras, film, printing, etc. He created a dark room and developed the pictures himself.

This was true about everything Vladyka Alypy took up, be it woodcarving, gardening, designing crosses for vestments, and much more.

All this leads us to conclude that he also strove for perfection in his monastic life to achieve salvation. May God give rest to his soul with the righteous!

Let us keep Archbishop Alypy in our prayers, and strive for spiritual perfection ourselves.

Truly Christ is Risen!

With Love in the Risen Christ,

+ *Archbishop Peter*

Pascha/Ascension 2019

P.S. The 40th day of Archbishop Alypy's repose falls on the great feast of our Lord's Ascension. I have instructed the fathers to serve a pannikhida, either that evening or, if this is for some reason impossible, on Saturday, 8 June, before Vigil. A plate collection should be made during the pannikhida to erect a tombstone at his grave.