



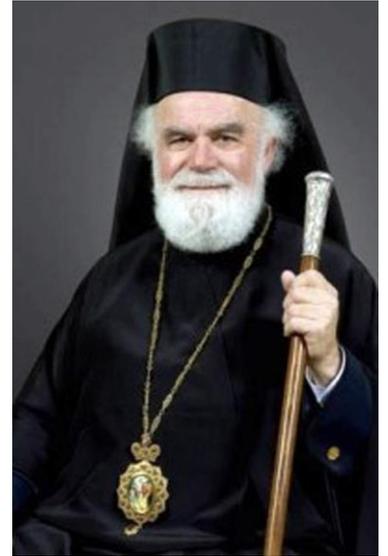
GREEK ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE OF AMERICA
METROPOLIS OF ATLANTA

My Beloved Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I greet you with love in the Name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! As we continue our journey toward Bethlehem, I send prayers and best wishes for a blessed and spiritually uplifting Nativity Season.

This message serves as a joyous reminder that this coming Saturday, December 1st, His Grace Bishop Sevastianos of Zelon will be joining us as the new Auxiliary Bishop of our Metropolis of Atlanta.

The intention for any Metropolis is that the Hierarchy should see his communities at least once per year. However, given that our seventy-four parishes, five monasteries, and two institutions (the St. Photios National Shrine and the Diakonia Retreat Center) make up the largest-sized Metropolis in the United States, it is impossible to create these many Sundays for me to visit you all, with only 52 weeks in a year. Therefore, I consider it a blessing for our Metropolis to have another Bishop to assist me in this important aspect of our spiritual life. (And very soon, you will be able to access His Grace's itinerary of community visits, just as you are able to do with mine, from our Metropolis website.)



Of course, His Grace is also going to undertake the responsibility of the Educational Department of the Metropolis; and I hope and pray for your cooperation as he prepares to plan meetings, workshops and assemblies for our Sunday School teachers and youth workers.

With this information, I close by asking for your prayers: both for Bishop Sevastianos as he takes on his new position, and this new milestone in his life; as well as for myself. For it is only by your prayers that we can fulfill the work of our Lord Jesus Christ, in His Vineyard. I remain,

Paternaly yours with love in the Lord,

+ ALEXIOS
Metropolitan of Atlanta