

June 30, 2005

His Eminence
The Most Reverend JOB
Archbishop of Chicago and the Midwest
927-933 North LaSalle
Chicago, IL 60610

Master, bless!

Your Eminence:

I have received your letter of June 23, 2005, in which, on behalf of the Diocesan Council of the Diocese of Midwest, you request that a thorough and clear presentation of all the financial records of the church, with precise explanations of every part of the income and expenses to date, be made available to all those present at the upcoming All-American Council.

His Beatitude, Metropolitan Herman, having received a copy of your letter, has asked that I respond to Your Eminence and thank you and the members of your diocesan council for your attentiveness to the welfare of all aspects of our Church's life, including its finances. However, His Beatitude has noted that, since the budget, financial records, and income and expenses pertain to the Metropolitan (cf. The Statute of The Orthodox Church in America, Article V, Section 4), and that the requested information is provided to the members of the Metropolitan Council for review, it would be inappropriate for these matters to be presented to the All-American Council without the prior approval of the Metropolitan Council and the blessing of the Holy Synod. The All-American Council is given the not of reviewing or making other determinations concerning the budget, but of determining the manner in which it is financed and assuring that it can be implemented.

As you know, the budget is reviewed regularly by His Beatitude, Metropolitan Herman, and twice annually by the Holy Synod, the Church Administration Committee, and the Metropolitan Council. Thorough attention is given to the budget before final approval and implementation. Because the Metropolitan Council is provided with all pertinent information concerning the Church's budget, any questions relating to the budget of The Orthodox Church in America, answers can be directed to the diocesan representatives on the Metropolitan Council, who are encouraged to provide reports at each diocesan council meeting and diocesan assembly.

It is also to be noted that figures relating to income and expenses have been included in the Fair Share report that has been distributed to all registered All-American Council delegates and observers.

Asking a remembrance in your archpastoral prayers, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Protopresbyter Robert S. Kondratick
Chancellor

cc: The Holy Synod
The Metropolitan Council