

Statement from the Very Reverend John Kreta – Chancellor, Diocese of New England, Orthodox Church in America

September 1, 2019

Dear Reverend Fathers, Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

It is with profound and extreme sorrow but with joyful hope in the general resurrection, that I share with you the news of the passing from this life to life eternal of His Eminence, Archbishop NIKON. His Eminence passed away this morning at 11 am at his new residence. Our prayers that our Good Lord will comfort and strengthen his Brothers Fr. Arthur and Jim and their families during this difficult time of grief. As funeral arrangements are made they will be announced.

May our Good Lord accept into His Heavenly Kingdom, His faithful servant, the ever memorable Archbishop Nikon and make his Memory to be Eternal.

With Love in the Resurrected Christ,
Archpriest John Kreta
Chancellor
CT Deanery

Statement from Michael Gregory – Lay Chairman, Albanian Orthodox Archdiocese, Orthodox Church in America

September 1, 2019

It is with deep regret that I learned of Archbishop Nikon's passing earlier today.

The Albanian Orthodox Archdiocese in America is, at its heart, a family.

Today we lost our spiritual father. For the past 16 years he guided us with a steady hand, through ups and downs, always taking a measured approach to every situation.

He exhibited the best traits of a true leader - the ability to listen and the ability to act decisively.

We saw him not only as our bishop, but as one of us. A son of St. Nicholas in New York, his life would be one of service to others. That service included his fifty years as a priest and concluded with his significant contributions as our bishop as well as bishop for the New England Diocese of the Orthodox Church in America.

The ultimate compliment we can offer Archbishop Nikon is that he proved himself a worthy successor to Metropolitan Theofan S. Noli. They shared many things in common, not the least of which was the deep reverence and respect they commanded from our parishioners. They both now guide us from above.

On behalf of the Albanian Orthodox Archdiocese in America, I extended our deepest sympathies to Archbishop Nikon's brothers, V. Rev. Arthur Liolin and James Liolin, and their families.

I perjetshem kujtimi!

Michael A. Gregory
Lay Chairman
Albanian Orthodox Archdiocese in America