



The Most Reverend Archbishop DAVID  
Chancery & Office of the Archbishop

[www.doaoca.org](http://www.doaoca.org)

November 4, 2020  
Saint Abercius the Wonderworker  
Bishop of Hieropolis, Equal of the Apostles

To the Dearly Beloved, Clergy, Monastics and Faithful of the Diocese of Alaska,

Glory be to Jesus Christ! Glory Forever!

*“Greater love hath no one than this, than to lay down one’s life for his friends...”*

*John 15:13*

I write you in the spirit of this “greater love” with a request as His Eminence Archbishop David continues to lay down his life for our salvation while fighting a very aggressive cancer. Over the year’s Vladyka David has shepherded us toward a deeper healing in Christ by putting our needs ahead of his own. Much like Blessed Matushka Olga, who’s 41st anniversary of repose we observe this coming Sunday. Since arriving in Alaska, Vladyka has inspired and led the process that we pray will lead, in God’s time, to Blessed Olga’s formal canonization in the Church.

Acknowledging his critical medical condition, Vladyka David is once again providing for us by requesting Bishop Alexis (Trader) be appointed as Administrator of the Diocese of Sitka and Alaska. His Beatitude Metropolitan Tikhon has granted this effective November 3, 2020. Archbishop David remains our ruling hierarch.

Vladyka David’s choice of Bishop Alexis is for good reason. His Grace is already known and beloved by the clergy of Alaska. Last Autumn he nourished us spiritually at our clergy retreat in Anchorage and traveled to Kodiak to pray at the relics of St. Herman, meet the seminarians and make a late season pilgrimage to Spruce Island. While it will take some time for His Grace to acclimate to our unique extremes in Alaska, I share Vladyka David’s confidence that he will acclimate and direct us well. I will work directly with His Grace as he administers the diocese remotely due to the pandemic. Arch-pastoral visits will begin when safely possible.

Which brings me to my request. We as a diocese are committed to financially supporting our Hierarch not just because it is the right thing to do but because this “greater love” is an expression of our gratitude and love for Vladyka David, his children and grandchildren. Their sacrifice these last seven years has allowed us to have an Archpastoral Shepherd who’s love and care for us continues to be a well-spring of healing in our parishes, our homes and our communities.

Additionally, we as a diocese commit ourselves to caring for the needs of Bishop Alexis who, at the direction of His Eminence, will care for our souls and our diocese during this difficult time. This places us in a unique stewardship position for the time being; concurrently providing financially for two hierarchs. As stewards entrusted with what God has given us, this immediate investment in our well-being is also an investment in the future well-being of our diocese. It is a loving reflection of our gratitude to God Who continues to faithfully provide for us who live and labor in these remote lands of the North.

Would you consider a generous love offering to the Diocese of Alaska to help us financially meet these needs?

The Diocesan Council anticipates expenses totaling, \$60,000.00 above and beyond our annual operating budget for the fiscal year 2021. Online giving will be available early next week at: [www.doaoca.org](http://www.doaoca.org)

Donations can also be mailed to:

Please make checks payable to: Diocese of Alaska

PO Box 210569  
Anchorage, AK 99521

Quyana!

Thank you!

Your servant,

Archpriest Innocent Dresdow

Chancellor | Diocese of Sitka & Alaska

Administrative Appeal