

# Orthodox News <sup>SM</sup>

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Orthodox Christian News Service, Inc.

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## **Resolution of the Holy Synod of the Orthodox Church in America concerning the Primate's Discretionary Funds**

The HOLY SYNOD  
of the  
ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA

We, the Holy Synod of Bishops of the Orthodox Church in America, convened in extraordinary session on Monday afternoon, July 26, 1999

An issue has come before us. The issue in question is the Primate's discretionary funds. We, the Holy Synod of Bishops, have reviewed this matter and we find that the Primate, and his predecessors, have always had and maintains full authority over such funds. The Primate has the canonical right to maintain those funds in privacy and confidentiality; not only the privacy of the Primate but also the confidentiality of the donors and the anonymity of the beneficiaries of these funds. The Primate's discretionary funds are used in accord with the wishes and directives of the donors and to promote and advance the Holy Orthodox Church.

It has also come to the attention of the Holy Synod of Bishops that demands have been made upon the Primate to violate the privacy and confidentiality of the discretionary funds in his care. We unanimously exhort the Primate to deny any form of audit, or any other intrusion into the confidential nature of the funds in the care of the Primate and/or the privacy of the Office of the Primate. The confidence of the Holy Synod of Bishops in the Primate of this Church to lead and govern is held without question.

Executed by His Grace, the Secretary of the Holy Synod of Bishops in behalf of all.

/s/

+ SERAPHIM

30 July 1999

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