
SAINT PETER THE ALUET ORTHODOX CHURCH

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16th November, 2025 (NS)

His Eminence, the Most Reverend Andrew

Archbishop of Pavlovskoye and Rockland
95 Elm Street
Elmwood Park, NJ 07407

Your Eminence,

Vladyka Bless!

It is with great lamentation that I write you to ask for a canonical release from under your omophor. After your visit here and the discussions that you had with many here as well as with myself there has been much confusion and many people unsettled. I have numerous concerns, but the most important one is the change of your prior stance toward other True Orthodox churches. When I asked you on November 9th if you believed that ROAC was the only Orthodox Church left your answer amounted to a yes. You further stated without supporting evidence that the GOC-K is heretical. As I told you at the end of our conversation, I take issue with this stance. I do not believe that the GOC-K is free of issues, however that is far from heresy based upon my experience and many others. My point is that I cannot bring myself to instruct people in your current stances. Not wishing to cause myself to be disobedient to you and risk causing you temptation, I am asking to be granted a canonical release to His Eminence, Metropolitan Demetius.

For me, this is neither a condemnation of you or of ROAC, nor is it a lack of my gratefulness for your decades of guidance and help. I am truly heartbroken since I believe that you will see this as a betrayal. However, it is because I wish not to betray you that I submit this request. I pray that in time this rupture will be healed and that the love of Christ will overcome all obstacles.

I will of course make arrangements to return your antimension and chrism at your convenience.

Asking for your prayers and archpastoral blessings,

Fr. Mark Templet

Unworthy Archpriest Mark Templet