His Grace Bishop Timothy (Bakakos) of Hexamilion Ordained to the Episcopacy

LOMBARD, IL, December 7, 2020 – <u>The Right Reverend Timothy Bakakos</u>, Chancellor of the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Chicago, was ordained to the Episcopacy on Saturday, December 5 at the Cathedral of Saints Constantine and Helen in Merrillville, Indiana.

His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros of America presided at the service alongside Metropolitan Alexios of Atlanta, Metropolitan Nathanael of Chicago, Metropolitan Ilia of Philomelion, and Bishop Sebastian of Zelon. The celebration was livestreamed, in compliance with restrictions related to the COVID-19 pandemic, and will be made available through social media channels.

During his official address, Bishop Timothy thanked everyone involved in his ordination, including the Hierarchs of the Holy Eparchial Synod of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America and the volunteers who assisted in the ordination festivities: "Realizing the pandemic that our country and world have faced these past many months, I am thankful for the prayers of those members of the Eparchial Synod who are able to be here in person today." His Grace also expressed his commitment to Christ and the faithful of the Metropolis of Chicago: "Our purpose as Church leaders, is to bring our faithful closer to Christ, assisting them in small, successive steps toward salvation. With God's blessing, that is and will continue to be my mission."

Metropolitan Nathanael stated: "I am grateful to His All-Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew and the Holy and Sacred Synod of the Ecumenical Patriarchate for electing Bishop Timothy to the high office of the Episcopacy. Having him at my right hand, I join my brother Hierarchs in proclaiming him Axios!"

His Grace Bishop Timothy will continue to serve as Chancellor of the Metropolis with the added responsibility of assisting Metropolitan Nathanael with his Archpastoral ministry.

View photos from Bishop Timothy's ordination here.

About the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Chicago

Tracing its roots back to 1923, the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Chicago is the diocese of Greek Orthodox faithful in Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, Wisconsin, northern Indiana, and southeastern Missouri, consisting of 58 parishes and two monastic communities. The Metropolis is one of nine regions in the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America and is presided over by His Eminence Metropolitan Nathanael. The general offices of the Metropolis are temporarily located in Lombard, Illinois. For more information and to get involved, visit our website, join a Strategic Planning Team, and sign up to receive Metropolis news.

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