



METROPOLIS  
OF CHICAGO

*The* ENTHRONEMENT *of*

HIS EMINENCE  
METROPOLITAN  
NATHANAEL

*of*  
CHICAGO





Photo by Dimitrios Panagos



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ANNUNCIATION CATHEDRAL  
Chicago, Illinois

*Saturday, March 24, 2018*



## ENTRANCE OF HIS EMINENCE METROPOLITAN NATHANEL OF CHICAGO

### *Third Mode*

*Choir:* It is proper to bless you, Theotokos, ever blessed, most pure, and Mother of our God. More honorable than the Cherubim and beyond compare more glorious than the Seraphim, without corruption you gave birth to God the Word. We magnify you, the true Theotokos.

*Deacon:* Master, bless.

*Metropolitan:* Blessed is our God, always now and forever and to the ages of ages.

*Choir:* Amen.

*Deacon:* Master, God grant you many years.

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us. (3)

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

All-holy Trinity, have mercy on us. Lord, look graciously on our sins, Master, forgive us our transgressions. Holy One, examine and heal our weaknesses, for your name's sake.



Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,  
now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name. Thy  
Kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses  
as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not  
into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

*Metropolitan:* For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the  
glory of the Father, and the Son and the Holy Spirit,  
always now and forever and to the ages of ages.

*Choir:* Amen.

### *Plagal Fourth Mode*

*Choir:* Blessed are You, O Christ our God, who made all wise  
fishermen your apostles, sending down upon them the Holy  
Spirit and, through work drawing the world into your net,  
glory to you who loves mankind.

### *Plagal Fourth Mode*

When the Most High came down and confounded tongues of men at Babel,  
He divided the Nations. When He dispensed the tongues of fire, He called all  
to unity, therefore and with one voice we glorify the Most Holy Spirit.

### *First Mode*

The Holy Spirit provides all: overflows with prophecy: fulfills the Priesthood:  
and has taught wisdom to the illiterate. He has revealed the fishermen as  
theologians. He brings together all the laws of the Church. Wherefore, O  
Comforter, equal to the Father in Substance and the throne, glory to you.



### *Fourth Mode*

Today is the summary of our salvation, and the revelation of the age-old mystery. For the Son of God becomes the Son of the Virgin, and Gabriel announces the good news of grace. Therefore, let us join him, and cry aloud to the Theotokos: “Rejoice, Maiden full of grace! The Lord is with you.”

### *Plagal Fourth Mode*

Christ, beholding your open soul and your divine manner, O holy Nathanael, as Creator He proclaimed: Behold an Israelite in whom there is no guile. Thus, through His presence, you were revealed to be a servant and holy Apostle to all.

### *Plagal Fourth Mode*

To you, the Champion Leader, we your flock dedicate a feast of victory and of thanksgiving as ones rescued out of suffering, O Theotokos; but as you are one with might which is invincible, from all dangers deliver us, that we may cry to you: Hail, O Bride unwedded.

## DOXOLOGY

### *Third Mode*

Glory to you who have shown us the light. Glory to God in the highest, on earth peace, good will among people.

We praise You, we bless You, we worship You, we glorify You, we give thanks to You for the splendor of Your glory.

Lord King, heavenly God, Father almighty: Lord only begotten Son, Jesus Christ and Holy Spirit.

Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father; You take away the sins of the world. Have mercy on us, you who take away the sins of the world.

Accept our prayer, you who are enthroned at the right hand of the Father, and have mercy on us.

Extend your mercy to those who confess you.



Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us. (3)

*Deacon:* Have mercy on us, O God, according to your great mercy, we pray to you, hear us and have mercy.

*Choir:* Lord, have mercy. (3)

*Deacon:* Again we pray for all pious and Orthodox Christians.

*Choir:* Lord, have mercy. (3)

*Deacon:* Again we pray for our Archbishop Nathanael, who with divine assistance is charged with the responsibility to care for the Holy Metropolis of Chicago and that he may become an assistant and helper to Christ, the Chief-Shepherd.

*Choir:* Lord, have mercy. (3)

*Metropolitan:* Again we pray for our Archbishop and Patriarch Bartholomew and for all our brotherhood in Christ.

*Choir:* Lord, have mercy. (3)

*Deacon:* Again, we pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation and protection of the servants of God, all pious and Orthodox Christians who dwell or travel in this Eparchy, the Council Members, Trustees, Benefactors, Stewards, and Dedicated Workers of every Sacred Institution and Noble Educational and Philanthropic Center, and for all our brethren gathered in this Divine Service.

*Choir:* Lord, have mercy. (3)

*Deacon:* Again we pray for this holy church and this city, and every city and land, will be protected from violence, pestilence, famine and earthquake, flood and fire, against the sword and enemy invasion, civil strife and sudden death; that our good and loving God will be merciful and gracious to the voice of our prayers to turn back all violence and evil sought against us and deliver us from His impending righteous chastisement and have mercy on us.

*Choir:* Lord, have mercy. (3)



*Deacon:* Again we pray that the Lord our God will hear the voice of the prayers of us sinners and have mercy on us.

*Choir:* Lord, have mercy. (3)

*Metropolitan:* Hear us, O God, the Redeemer, the hope of all to the ends of the earth or far away at sea, and show mercy on us O Master, towards our sins and have mercy on us. For you are a merciful and loving God, and to You we offer glory: to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and always, and to the ages of ages.

*Choir:* Amen.

## DISMISSAL

*Metropolitan:* Glory to you, O God, glory to you.

May Christ our true God, who sent the all-Holy Spirit as tongues of fire upon His holy Disciples and Apostles, through the intercessions of His most Holy Mother, the power of the precious and life giving Cross; the protection of the honorable bodiless Powers of heaven; the intercession of the venerable and glorious Prophet and Forerunner Baptist; of the holy, glorious and praiseworthy apostles, the holy glorious, and triumphant martyrs; our holy and God-bearing Fathers; the holy and righteous ancestors of God, Joachim and Anna, our Father among the saints Theonas, Archbishop of Thessalonika, whose memory we commemorate today, and all the saints have mercy on us and save us for He is a good, merciful and loving God.

*Choir:* O Lord, protect our Master and Hierarch, for many years.

*Metropolitan:* Through the prayers of our holy fathers, Lord Jesus Christ, have mercy upon us and save us.

*Choir:* Amen.

*Clergy:* Through the prayers of our holy Master, Lord Jesus Christ, have mercy upon us and save us.

*Choir:* Amen.

*Deacon:* Let us attend.





# PATRIARCHAL PROCLAMATION



## Protocol No. 245

Very reverend priests, monastics and all clergy, honorable Trustees, distinguished and blessed Christians of the Most Holy Metropolis of Chicago of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America, our beloved children in the Lord: may the grace and peace of God be with you, through our prayers, blessings and Lenten forgiveness.

Let it be known by you all that, even as your Holy Metropolis remained unprotected, the Mother, Holy and Great Church of Christ, in its love and deserved obligation to you, was concerned about addressing this matter. Therefore, along with our Holy and Sacred Synod, we proceeded in accordance with the recommendation of the Holy Eparchial Synod of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America to the election and restoration of a capable and promising Hierarch for this eparchy in order that its ecclesiastical administration and pastoral ministry may be properly and beneficially undertaken in Christ.

Wherefore, in our venerable Patriarchal Church of the Holy and Great Martyr St. George the Trophy-Bearer, and with our Patriarchal exhortation and consent, the Holy and Sacred Synod, at the invocation of the All-Holy Spirit, the source of all offices, voted canonically for the purpose of selecting and declaring the worthiest of three candidates presented to assume the hierarchical protection and pastoral authority of your Eparchy. Among the three, we promoted and elected the Very Reverend Archimandrite Nathanael Symeonides, a man of



sound and solemn character, well trained in spiritual matters, with religious and secular education, disciplined in thought and aptitude, with worthy experience in ecclesiastical issues and circumstances in his hitherto long, tested and honored service to the Church, thereby elevating him as the genuine and canonical Metropolitan of the Holy Metropolis of Chicago of the Holy Archdiocese of America.

Thus, through this Patriarchal and Synodal Letter, we proclaim this to all of our beloved and blessed Christians in the Holy Metropolis of Chicago, even as we pray for and paternally bless, as well as exhort and ecclesiastically declare that you henceforth receive and recognize the Most Reverend Nathanael, our dearly beloved brother and concelebrant in Christ, as Metropolitan of Chicago and your authentic, legal and canonical Hierarch, the evangelical shepherd and spiritual father of you all, customarily commemorating his name in every divine sacrament and service, while adhering to and abiding by his hierarchical directive and counsel as pertaining to your spiritual benefit and preservation of our ancient dogmas and traditions.

In wholeheartedly bestowing upon all of you our Patriarchal and paternal blessing, we pray that you and your families may always receive the abundance of gifts from our Lord and Savior, the Giver of all good things, whose grace and boundless mercy we entreat upon all of you.

In the year of the Lord, 2018,  
in the month of February, on the 7th day

✙ Kyrillos P. Pavlou, Patriarch



## ADDRESS

His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios  
Geron of America

## ENTHRONEMENT ADDRESS

His Eminence Metropolitan Nathanael  
of Chicago

## POLYCHRONION

*Choir:* Grant length of days, O Lord God, to the Most-Eminent and God-Chosen Metropolitan Nathanael of Chicago. O Lord, preserve him, unto many years, unto many years, unto many years.





## BIOGRAPHY



**H**is Eminence Metropolitan Nathanael (Symeonides) of Chicago is of Pontic and Asia-Minor ancestry, and was born in Thessaloniki, Greece (1978). He is the third child of Irene and Vasilios Symeonides. He received his early education from the Greek American Institute of the Zoodochos Peghe Parish of the Bronx, NY. He later graduated from Hellenic College (BA, 2000) and from Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology (MDiv, 2003). He earned an STM (2003) in Christian Ethics and a ThD (2007) in Bioethics from Boston University. Fr. Nathanael has also studied the History and Ethics of Public Health at Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health.

He has served as a guest professor of Orthodox Christian Ethics and Bioethics at Fordham University, Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology, and Saint Vladimir Theological School. He has authored numerous articles in theology and bioethics. He has delivered a series of presentations to clergy of the Archdiocese and to regional pan-Orthodox clergy associations.



Metropolitan Nathanael is a brother of the historic monastery of St. George Epanosifis in Crete, Greece. He was ordained a deacon (2003) and a presbyter (2010) by His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios of America. Prior to his ordination to the episcopacy, His Eminence served as the Deacon to Metropolitan Methodios (2003-2006); Deacon to the Archbishop (2006-2010); presiding priest of the Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church, NYC (2010-2013), and interim-pastor of the Holy Resurrection Church of Brookville, NY and the Saints Constantine and Helen Cathedral of Brooklyn, NY. As a parish priest in Manhattan, Metropolitan Nathanael developed a unique urban ministry, *Orthodox Professionals in Action* (OPA), which provided over 400 young professionals the opportunity to minister to the most vulnerable in society.

From September 2013-March 2018, His Eminence served as the Director of the Office of Inter-Orthodox, Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America. In this capacity, he managed and cultivated relationships between the Archdiocese and numerous religious organizations, think tanks, non-governmental organizations, and Permanent Missions to the United Nations. He also served as Director of the Archdiocesan Committee on Science and Technology (AACST).

His Eminence coordinated the Archdiocesan commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of the March on Selma (2015), and represented the Archdiocese on the National Council of Churches (NCC) Special Task Force to End Racism in America. He serves as a member of a special non-partisan and interreligious working group in



Washington, D.C., which seeks to advance religious freedom and pluralism in the Middle East. He is also a member of Tanenbaum's Communications Committee. During his tenure at the Archdiocese, Metropolitan Nathanael also served as the Executive Assistant to the Chairman of the Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops of the USA and on the Assembly's Secretariat. His Eminence also established a Graduate Fellowship Program that provided graduate and post-graduate students the opportunity to serve the Church at the United Nations.

In 2016, Metropolitan Nathanael attended the Holy and Great Council of the Orthodox Church and assisted the press office of the Ecumenical Patriarchate.

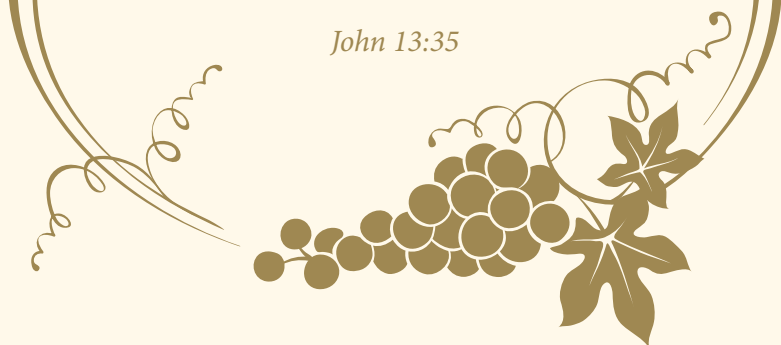
On February 7, 2018, the Holy and Sacred Synod of the Ecumenical Patriarchate unanimously elected him Metropolitan of Chicago, succeeding His Eminence Metropolitan Iakovos of blessed-memory. He was ordained a Bishop on March 17th in the Holy Cathedral of the Holy Trinity, New York, and was enthroned on March 24th in the Holy Cathedral of the Annunciation, Chicago. ❖





BY THIS ALL PEOPLE WILL KNOW  
THAT YOU ARE MY DISCIPLES,  
IF YOU HAVE LOVE FOR ONE ANOTHER.

*John 13:35*







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