

# **MOTION TO ADOPT THE REVISED BY-LAWS OF THE DIOCESE OF NEW YORK AND NEW JERSEY**

**Whereas**, Article XVIII of the Statute of the Orthodox Church in America, adopted by the All American Council meeting in Atlanta, Georgia, on July 21, 2015, states: “Dioceses, parishes, monasteries, institutions, offices, and organizations of the Orthodox Church in America shall review their governing documents and administrative practices and conform them to this Statute;” and

**Whereas**, the existing By-Laws of the Diocese of New York and New Jersey have been reviewed, with revisions having been made to bring them into compliance with the Statute of the Orthodox Church in America, and which revisions have been reviewed by canonists and Diocesan legal advisors; and

**Whereas**, on May 17, 2017, in accordance with the Diocesan By-Laws, these proposed Revised By-Laws were approved by the Diocesan Council for distribution to all of the Diocesan Parishes for their review and input, in anticipation of their presentation at and approval by the Diocesan Assembly on November 1, 2017; and

**Whereas**, on May 22, 2017 His Eminence MICHAEL, Archbishop of New York and New Jersey, sent a letter to the parishes of the Diocese announcing the introduction and distribution of the proposed Revised Diocesan By-Laws, and His Eminence noted that the proposed Revised Diocesan By-Laws were to be presented for discussion at the Diocesan Parish Council Conferences, which, indeed, took place; and

**Whereas**, in the above-cited letter, His Eminence, Archbishop MICHAEL, further informed the parishes that any questions or desired changes relating to the proposed Revised Diocesan By-Laws must have been submitted to the Diocesan Chancery no later than September 15, 2017; and

**Whereas**, upon its effective date and approval by the Diocesan Assembly, the proposed Revised Diocesan By-Laws shall become the Diocesan By-Laws and will replace and supplant all previous versions which shall then be repealed;

**IT IS HEREBY MOVED** that the Revised Diocesan By-Laws, having been distributed to all Diocesan parishes, and with the approval of the Diocesan Council, and the blessing of Archbishop MICHAEL, and duly presented before the Diocesan Assembly, be adopted by the Diocesan Assembly of the Diocese of New York and New Jersey, convened in plenary session on November 1, 2017, At Saints Peter and Paul Orthodox Church in Endicott, New York, under the omophorion of His Eminence MICHAEL, Archbishop of New York and New Jersey.