



“The Vibrant Parish – a place to encounter the living Christ”

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Glory to Jesus Christ!

The mission of the Church, founded by Jesus Christ, continues for over two thousand years. While Christ calls men and women to follow him down through the centuries, every generation faces unique challenges in living and proclaiming the “Good News.” The world around us is constantly changing, but we are always called to follow Christ and build the Kingdom of God.

Last September the Bishops of the Ukrainian Catholic Church, while gathered for their synod in Curitiba, Brazil, asked us to reflect on our vocation in the Church, our service and ministry in our parish communities and in society at large. We all know that a vibrant parish provides the ideal place to *encounter the Living Christ*.

This is why I am asking the priests and religious of the Stamford Eparchy to begin preparations for an *Eparchial Sobor* which is scheduled for April 18-20, 2013. This *Sobor*, that is, our own gathering of priests, religious, and faithful of the Eparchy, will give us the opportunity to reflect on our Christian calling and mission in today’s world.

In advance of this important event in the life of our local Church, we are planning a series of gatherings on the eparchial, deanery and local parish level in preparation for the Sobor. I encourage you all to take part in these activities as they take place in your area!

I pray and hope that with renewed vigor we may proclaim the Good News of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and be witnesses of His loving presence to those who search and wish to follow Christ!

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+Paul

Most Rev. Paul Chomnycky, OSBM
Eparch of Stamford