

January 13, 2014

His Beatitude RASTISLAV
Archbishop of Presov
Metropolitan of the Czech Lands and Slovakia

Your Beatitude,

Dear Brother and Concelebrant:

I cordially greet Your Beatitude and wholeheartedly congratulate you on your election as Metropolitan of the Czech Lands and Slovakia.

Our two Churches have traditionally enjoyed a strong relationship. Many of the faithful of the Orthodox Church in America have ties of kinship with faithful of your Church. Members of our Holy Synod have visited the Czech Lands and Slovakia during the past decades and also during recent years. We honor and celebrate St. Alexis Toth, canonized by our Church, who led so many faithful people to the Holy Orthodox Faith after their arrival in the United States as immigrants. We remember that Fr. Alexis was a seminary teacher in Presov before he immigrated to America.

Your Beatitude, in July 2013 it was a joy to be with you on the pilgrimage from Moscow to Kiev to Minsk in celebration of the 1025th Anniversary of the Baptism of Rus. I look forward to the continuation and strengthening of the relationships between our sister Churches. Through the prayers of the holy confessor and defender of the Orthodox Faith, Saint Alexis Toth, may the Lord grant you strength and wisdom in your holy ministry.

With love in the Lord,

Your Brother and Concelebrant,



†TIKHON
Archbishop of Washington
Metropolitan of All America and Canada



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