



His Grace Bishop LONGIN



His Eminence Archbishop MELCHISEDEK, His Grace Bishop Dr. MITROPHAN, and His Grace Bishop LONGIN

by Milos Rastovic

On August 13, 2016, the Diocesan Council and the faithful of the Serbian Orthodox Diocese of Eastern America honored His Grace Bishop Dr. MITROPHAN at the St. Elijah Serbian Orthodox Church in Aliquippa, Pennsylvania. Hierarchical Divine Liturgy followed by a testimonial banquet to honor the Bishop's 25 years of faithful and devoted service to God, the Eastern American Diocese, and the Serbian Orthodox Church.

The Liturgy was served by His Grace Bishop LONGIN, Diocese of New Gracanica-Midwestern America of the Serbian Orthodox Church with the presence of priests of the Eastern American Diocese of the Serbian Orthodox Church. The St. Elijah Choir performed as part of the Liturgy with a standout vocal performance by George Milosh.



Gifts for His Grace Bishop MITROPHAN from the Diocesan Clergy

The post-Liturgy testimonial banquet was held at the St. Elijah Serbian Orthodox Church Center in the honor of His Grace Bishop Dr. MITROPHAN. Milan Mrkal, Diocesan Council Vice-President, served as the Master of Ceremony. He made opening remarks, welcomed all of the guests and introduced the head table.

On behalf of the Board of the Serb National Federation, John Martich, President of the Serb National Federation, expressed gratitude to His Grace Bishop Dr. MITROPHAN for His serving in the Eastern American Diocese for the last 25 years. President Martich stressed that "yours is not an easy job, especially when you had to

deal with people like me. However, you survived and we are both better people because we are dedicated to our Christian Orthodox faith. You will work soon in a new position in the Serbian Orthodox Diocese of Canada and we express best wishes in your new position. Živeo nam mnogo ljeta."

Mary Lynn Ricci, President of the Serbian Singing Federation; Mildred Radovick, President of Diocesan Federation of Circles of Serbian Sisters; Jovana Zaremba, Representing Campers and Counselors of St. Sava Camp Shadeland; Dusan Kolundzic, Representing the Diocesan Council; Protosbyter-Stavrophor Dragoljub C. Malich, Episcopal Deputy, Diocese of Eastern America; His Eminence Archbishop MELCHISEDEK, Diocese of Pittsburgh and Western, PA, Orthodox Church in America, and His Grace Bishop LONGIN, Serbian Orthodox Bishop of New Gracanica-Midwestern America, all expressed their gratitude to His Grace Bishop Dr. MITROPHAN for serving in the Eastern Diocese, reminding us of His great personality, dedication to God, and His thoughts guided by the Holy Spirit.

Before the closing prayer by His Grace of Bishop LONGIN, the Diocesan Clergy presented gifts to His Grace Bishop Dr. MITROPHAN which He respectfully accepted.

His Grace Bishop Dr. MITROPHAN will have new duties in the Serbian Orthodox Diocese of Canada. We wish Him the best. God Bless Him.



Aleksandar Petrov, editor of Serbian Section of the American Srbobran, and Dr. Nenad Janicijevic



His Grace Bishop Dr. MITROPHAN, His Grace Bishop LONGIN, and Father Branislav Golic

# 25 YEARS



Milan Mrkal, Master of Ceremonies and Diocesan Council Vice-President



John Martich, President of the SNF





# *Eastern American Diocese of the Serbian Orthodox Church*

