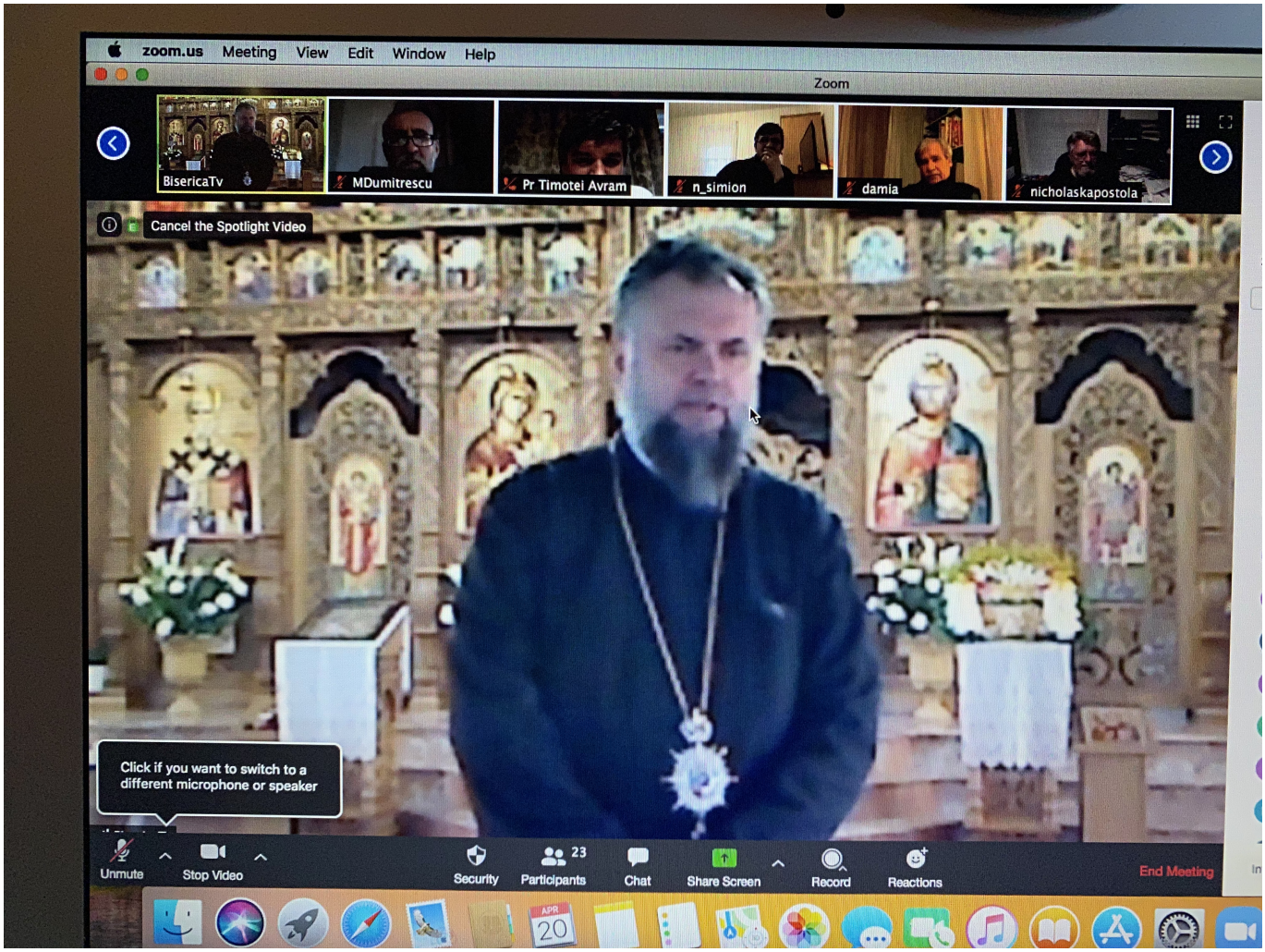
08/05/2020

Online video meetings of HE Metropolitan Nicolae with priests from USA and postponing of the Archdiocesan Congress for September 4-6, 2020



During this time when the stay at home order is still on in most of the states, thus the social interactions being limited, the majority of our parishes started to stream online the religious services. As the shepherd takes care of his sheep likewise the priests take care of the souls of their parishioners, constantly being in touch with them, even online.

Often time even the shepherds need to be looked for and our Metropolitan Nicolae was in contact with every clergy family with encouragements and advices and sometimes with direct help where was needed.

Starting with the Bright Week, every other week HE Nicolae initiated online video meetings with priests of the three Deaneries of the Romanian Orthodox Archdiocese of the United States of America. The first meeting, on Monday of the Bright Week, gave the chance to share the joy of our Lord's Resurrection and then on the following one where discussed some administrative aspects of our Archdiocese.

The second video conference took place on Friday, May 1st, 2020 and 32 priests of our Archdiocese where in attendance. Under the chairmanship of HE Nicolae were discussed some local aspects from our parishes and missions and also was proposed the postponing of the Archdiocesan Congress for September. The most important aspect was the opportunity to see and talk to each other and to take the useful advices from our spiritual father, HE Metropolitan Nicolae. It was decided to **change the date of our Congress for September 4-6, 2020 (Labor Day Weekend)**.

A particularly important aspect was underlined by HE Nicolae during this second video conference: "*It is very important to be next to our faithful during this time. Let us not forget our children as we should have online meetings with them. We should also have Bible Study classes, catechism and spiritual conferences. We can come out of this situation spiritually stronger, if our priests intensify their missions even if they would have to adopt the online tools.*"

The meeting concluded with the chanting of the troparion of Resurrection in several languages: English, Spanish, Russian, German, Italian and Greek.

Source