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Archdiocese of America allows each individual Metropolitan leeway in reopening parish Churches



The Archbishop of America, His Eminence Elpidophoros, on Thursday convened the Holy Eparchial Synod via video-conference, in order to discuss and decide on a process for the reopening of Greek Orthodox parishes throughout America. During the meeting, hierarchs expressed solidarity and empathy for the pain and loss felt by the Faithful of late, especially the loss of a traditional Holy Week and Pascha.

It was decided that each Metropolitan would be responsible for the reopening of his local parishes in accordance with local health and public safety guidelines, which may vary significantly within an individual Metropolis.

It was further decided that the celebration of sacraments and other services would be allowed in accordance with the same local health and public safety mandates.

Speaking after the meeting, the Archbishop noted that

“…We are all deeply concerned, not only for the health of our Faithful, but for their morale and their spiritual life. We know that re-opening the Churches with attention to nuance of the facts on the ground is the best way to proceed. As Shepherds of our flocks, we are committed to reopening, and with an abiding sense of responsibility for the spiritual health of the Faithful.”

READ MORE: His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros of America convened the Holy Eparchial Synod in order to discuss and decide on a process for the reopening of parishes