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12th Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops of United States convened in Los Angeles



The 12th Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops of the United States convened in Los Angeles, California, earlier this week. Thirty hierarchs of Canonical Orthodox Churches in the United States participated in the meeting, chaired by Greek Orthodox Archbishop of America, His Eminence Elpidophoros.

Among others, an executive committee met last weekend to confirm the meeting agenda and to conduct regular business, including approving new board members for Orthodox Volunteer Corps and Orthodox Youth Ministries.

Hierarchs later gathered at the St. Sophia Greek Orthodox Cathedral in Los Angeles for the great Vespers service, officiated by His Eminence Elpidophoros.

In a statement, the Archbishop of America emphasized that "...first and foremost, among the lofty intentions for our assembly and all the assemblies, is the manifestation of our unity as the Orthodox Church in this region, the United States of America. Our light of unity cannot be hidden under the proverbial bushel - it belongs on the lampstand, for all to see, to help illuminate their own path."

Sadly, hierarchs of Dioceses affiliated with the Russian Orthodox Church were absent from the assembly, a development that caused sorrow on the part of participants, the official communique of the assembly noted.

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