



## CONGRESS OF RUSSIAN AMERICANS, INC.

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September 19, 2022

The Most Reverend Metropolitan Nicholas  
First Hierarch of the Russian Orthodox Church Outside of Russia  
New York, New York

Your Eminence Metropolitan Nicholas:

On behalf of the Congress of Russian Americans (CRA) and myself, personally, I would like to congratulate you on the occasion of your enthronement to the position of hierarch of the Russian Orthodox Church Outside of Russia.

The Congress of Russian Americans (CRA), is a national non-profit organization, founded in 1973 for the purpose of preserving and promoting Russian language and cultural, historical and spiritual heritage. Among some of the goals of CRA throughout our many years, has been to combat Russo phobia, improve US-Russia relations and humanitarian programs to aid Russian orphans, handicapped and impoverished children. CRA is the recognized voice of Russian-Americans in the U.S. We are especially proud of our programs that promote Russian language, culture and historical and spiritual heritage, especially to our Russian American Orthodox youth. CRA also co-ordinated the 2012 Forum of Russian Orthodox Church and Russian Compatriots and the Concelebration for the Bicentennial of Fort Ross with the Russian Orthodox Church (ROCOR, OCA & Moscow Patriarchate) at Fort Ross the next day in August 2012.

For many years, we were very privileged to have a long-standing relationship and the blessings and support of Metropolitan Helarion, as well as our Archbishop Kyrill of San Francisco and Western American Diocese and other numerous bishops and clergy throughout the U.S. We hope that we will be able to continue the close relationship we have had with our Russian Orthodox church and extend our support to you and the church, as well.

May God grant you many years of good health, wisdom and strength during these difficult and demanding times! Axios! Axios! Axios!

Многая Лета!!!

Very truly yours,

Natalie Sabelnik  
President, Congress of Russian Americans