



GREEK ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE OF AMERICA

TO: All Clergy of the Direct Archdiocesan District

FROM: Bishop Andonios, Chancellor

DATE: February 12, 2010

RE: Guest Speakers in Communities

My dear Brothers-in-Christ,

I know from time-to-time either you invite guest speakers to your parish or are contacted by someone to make a presentation in your community. Since I am unaware of any protocol having been established for these occasions, I deem it appropriate and helpful to do so at this time.

Henceforth, BEFORE scheduling any guest speakers in your parish, you should submit in writing (not an email) a "request" to this office for "approval" to proceed. In your request, please include some background information on the presenter, what the event is and if it is to be a "fund raiser" where the funds are to be directed. Accordingly, you will be informed whether or not you should proceed with scheduling the presentation.

It is certainly not our intent to discourage such events but rather to assure that the presentators are "in good standing" with the Church and to better coordinate these events. More and more, our parishes and their organizations are being approached by individuals, some who are unknown to us here at the Archdiocese, and we need to assure some "order" and oversight hence the necessity for implementing this protocol. Please feel free to contact me if you need further clarification.

May I take this opportunity to wish you and your community a most blessed and spiritually uplifting Great Lent.

Καλή Τεσσαρακοστή!
Bishop Andonios