



PRAYER BY HIS EMINENCE, ARCHBISHOP NATHANIEL
Orthodox Christian Laity 33rd Annual Meeting, November 13, 2020

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, one God. Amen.

O Lord, Creator, Savior, and Sanctifier, we thank you for the blessing of good health which allows us to come together this day from across our nation. We pray for family, friends and all, that this blessing embrace and blanket your world.

On this gathering of the OCL Board, members and guests, we beseech you to send your light into our hearts, minds and souls as we continue the work to which you have called us to be responsive children, sons and daughters. Unless we walk in your light, we cannot proceed forward to the task to which we have dedicated 33 years of service to our brethren. We bear witness to the gift of unity in the present knowledge of your truth and eternal existence when all things will be renewed in the Christ.

We know, beloved and loving Father, that as the people of God, "laos tou theou," that it is from among us that our spiritual fathers are called. Thus, we pray for our gracious shepherds in the task which they have embraced for us and with us labor for salvation.

We confess, O gracious Lord Jesus Christ, our guide and staff in this age and into the age to come, that by your grace, we respond to your teachings and through you to your Apostles and our Holy Fathers through the ages, in the One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church.

We implore you, O heavenly Comforter, Spirit of Truth, that our deliberations this day, the feast of our great Holy Father, John the Golden Mouth, be guided and illumined through the magnifying glass of your wisdom.

We reach out to you, O gracious Mother of our Lord and God Jesus Christ, that you will be with us this day and always, as our mother who intercedes for us each individually and all together, for it is known that the intercessions of a Mother before her Son are heard. Our work is for and in his name as our title states. We are loving children, walking in his light as true believers serving the Church, those called out to bear witness in this nation.

Prosper the work of our hands, O Lord, prosper the work of our hands. Grant to the Board of the Orthodox Christian Laity wisdom, patience and illumination. Bestow on our bishops and clergy peace of mind and heart to be open to your illumination, so that together we all may come to the bliss of the promised life to come.

Glory to you, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, One God through all ages. Amen.