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To: His Eminence Archbishop Job
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Subject: My Status within the OCA ... personal audience ...

Your Eminence,

May God bless those who are taking care of their brothers in Christ's needs.

Master Bless,

Your Eminence,

I am Rev Fr Vasile Susan, resident at the address listed above, currently under the omophoron of His Beatitude Metropolitan Herman of the OCA, and for more than 28 months without any clergy assignment and or Church employment.

With Your Eminence's blessing I would like to thank Your Eminence for giving me the opportunity to come to this **personal audience** with Your Eminence, to talk to Your Eminence and to be heard by Your Eminence, and to address the following concerns / matters / questions:

1 - How long is the time an OCA priest can be put on the waiting list by the OCA Metropolitan to have his case, plea, heard and resolved by the OCA Holy Synod?

Answer: *The Canonical provisions, and the OCA Statutes provisions, procedures should always be observed. But the current OCA Metropolitan (Herman) has a very personal style in taking care of the OCA priests, issues, especially appeals. He is doing something I cannot talk about.*

2 - Have Your Eminence attended any of the OCA Holy Synod meeting in which the case of Rev Fr Vasile Susan brought by Rev Fr Vasile Susan against the ROEA Archbishop N W P as a civil court matter was ever discussed, to the best of Your Eminence's knowledge?

Answer: *Not to the best of my knowledge. It might be discussed while I was not present.*

3 - Have Your Eminence attended any of the OCA Holy Synod meeting in which the case of Rev Fr Vasile Susan brought by Rev Fr Vasile Susan against the ROEA Archbishop N W P as: **REQUEST FOR IMPEACHMENT AND IMMEDIATE SUSPENSION OF HIS EMINENCE ARCHBISHOP NATHANIEL POPP (ROEA) AND A FORMAL COMPLAINT AGAINST REV FR XXXXXX XXXXXX**, as an OCA Holy Synod ecclesiastical court matter was ever discussed, to the best of Your Eminence's knowledge?

Answer: *It was briefly discussed, but I did not remember any positive things coming out from the OCA Synod. As a matter of fact, the ROEA Archbishop is a protégée of the OCA Metropolitan. As for the ROEA homosexual priest I know the case very well because his presbytera talked to me, and she personally reported her husband to the ROEA Archbishop, and I know for facts that Rev Fr Xxxxxxx Xxxxxx is an active homosexual covered up by the OCA Metropolitan and the ROEA Archbishop.*

4 - Have Your Eminence attended any of the OCA Holy Synod meeting in which the case of Rev Fr Vasile Susan brought by Rev Fr Vasile Susan against the ROEA Archbishop N W P, either as a civil court matter or as an ecclesiastical court matter was ever discussed by the OCA Metropolitan His Beatitude Herman or by any OCA Hierarchy, to the best of Your Eminence's knowledge?

Answer: *It was discussed by the OCA Metropolitan and some of the OCA hierarchs. The Auxiliary Bishops have been invited out of the room's meeting while these subjects were discussed, including the ROEA Auxiliary Bishop Irineu. I cannot give you any detail. I cannot talk about the OCA Metropolitan or the ROEA Archbishop's uncomfortably feeling at that time. They were not in a good mood.*

5 - Your Eminence, for how long can I wait to get an answer from the OCA Holy Synod to any of the civil matter or ecclesiastical matter sent to the attention of the OCA, to the best of Your Eminence's knowledge?

Answer: *The OCA Metropolitan and some of the Synod members do not want to take seriously the matters you brought to their attention. Those matters hurt everyone within the OCA Synod, including myself. It is painful, because you are telling the truth, and some of the OCA bishops do not like to hear and know that. The cover up practice cannot be chanced over night within the OCA Synod. It dies hard.*

6- Your Eminence, for how long, I, Rev Fr Vasile Susan can be part of the OCA clergy list and be unassigned, to the best of Your Eminence's knowledge?

Answer: *The OCA Metropolitan is not an OCA Diocesan bishop. He should not accept you the way he did. The process was UN – canonical. The OCA Statute provides along with the ROEA Constitution and By – Laws clear provisions and procedures, which have been totally ignored by the OCA Metropolitan, and the ROEA Archbishop. This is a real abuse of power. I'm sorry to say this.*

7 - Your Eminence, is there any OCA rule or practice (unknown to me) regarding the release of the clergy from one OCA hierarchy to the other and being unassigned for years and years, to the best of Your Eminence's knowledge?

Answer: *Your case is very different from the other cases. You have not been released as I know from your conversation. The ROEA Archbishop and the OCA Metropolitan should follow the OCA Statute and the ROEA Constitution and By – Laws and come up with a fair conclusion to the case. In case of release or transfer you should get assignment, salary, benefits, etc, you are entitled to. The OCA Metropolitan will never assign you. I'm sorry to say that. He is not a diocesan bishop.*

8 - Your Eminence, is there any OCA rule or practice (unknown to me) regarding the punishment of any OCA clergy by one or more of OCA hierarchy and being unsigned for years and years, to the best of Your Eminence's knowledge?

Answer: *To the best of my knowledge every case is different. Punishment without hearing or Church Tribunal trial is nothing else but the abuse of power and of Church rules and Canonical order.*

9 - Your Eminence, is there any OCA rule or practice (unknown to me) regarding the punishment and religious persecution of any OCA clergy by one or more of OCA hierarchy, being unassigned for years and years, and made him suffer together with his family, to the best of Your Eminence's knowledge?

Answer: *Besides the OCA Statute and the ROEA Constitution and By – Laws, there some Canonical provisions, and Gospel assertions which should be observed by the Church's people, including hierarchs. Nobody should suffer injustice within the Church. There are cases when the abuse of power is negatively affecting more than the priest, including his family and parish people.*

10 - Your Eminence, is there any OCA ways and means to have my case heard and resolved by the OCA Holy Synod?

Answer: *The OCA Metropolitan has the Canonical duty to bring the case on the Synod agenda. Without being brought to the attention of the OCA Synod members, and honestly observe the case issues and the Canonical rules, along with the OCA Statute and the ROEA Constitution and By – Laws provisions, procedures, it is hard to predict a healthy and good outcome. Stay the course, pray, push.*

11 - Your Eminence, is there any OCA interest to have my case heard and resolved by the OCA Holy Synod, as a Rev Fr Vasile Susan's family request in a Christian and decent manner, to the best of Your Eminence's knowledge?

Answer: *It should be in the best interest of the OCA Metropolitan to seriously take charge of your case. But his close ties to the ROEA Archbishop (I am sorry to say) will bar him to come out with a good and Christian resolution. I hope this conversation and meeting is very confidential, please. I do not want to get in trouble because of this honesty and outspokenness. I hope we are doing serious conversation.*

12 - Your Eminence, is there any OCA interest to have my case heard and resolved by the OCA Holy Synod and not to give the opportunity to the Rev Fr Vasile Susan family to seek remedy using different ways and means, to the best of Your Eminence's knowledge?

Answer: *The OCA Metropolitan and Synod is very much aware of the sensitiveness of your case, of the ROEA Archbishop's cover ups, and of the ROEA homosexual priest. As for the fact that nobody wants to reach to the roots of the case, I cannot talk about. It is very embarrassing to me to see such a humiliation for you and your family for so long. I personally don't agree with something like this. It looks to me as being less Christian. The Bible and the Canonical order have to be properly considered in your case, and in any case. It should be no discrimination in any case regarding the remedy and final solution, not only in your case, but in any case. There are so many OCA homosexual cases not resolved.*

13 - Your Eminence, is there any OCA interest to have my case heard and resolved by the OCA Holy Synod and not to give the opportunity to the Rev Fr Vasile Susan family to go public regarding the **REQUEST FOR IMPEACHMENT AND IMMEDIATE SUSPENSION OF HIS EMINENCE ARCHBISHOP NATHANIEL POPP (ROEA) AND A FORMAL COMPLAINT AGAINST REV FR XXXXXXX XXXXXX**, as an OCA Holy Synod ecclesiastical court matter, to the best of Your Eminence's knowledge?

Answer: *I personally have so many doubts that the OCA Metropolitan is willing to take charge of your case, the ROEA Archbishop case regarding his impeachment, suspension, and the ROEA homosexual priest, as you requested in June 2005. They will prolong the case and the investigation related to that case as long as they can. I do not see any reason for them to answer to you in any good faith / fashion. There are some other cases of the OCA clergymen covered up and not resolved, as you know. It is very embarrassing for the OCA bishops to deal with such painful situations. From the file you have sent in June 2005 it is obvious that the priest XXXXXXX XXXXXX is a notorious, active homosexual. The ROEA Archbishop had to take charge of the case in 2000 or 2001, as the documented file reflects these facts. It looks to me that something was quietly done between all three, the OCA Metropolitan the ROEA Archbishop and the ROEA homosexual priest XXXXXXX XXXXXX. God will reveal the truth sooner or later. I cannot elaborate too much. I will do at the OCA Synod if discussed.*

14 - Your Eminence, is there any OCA interest to have my case heard and resolved by the OCA Holy Synod and not to give the opportunity to the Rev Fr Vasile Susan family to go public regarding the **REQUEST FOR IMPEACHMENT AND IMMEDIATE SUSPENSION OF HIS EMINENCE ARCHBISHOP NATHANIEL POPP (ROEA) AND A FORMAL COMPLAINT AGAINST REV FR XXXXXXXX XXXXXX** as an OCA Holy Synod ecclesiastical court matter, and to present everything publicly on the Internet, to the best of Your Eminence's knowledge?

Answer: *As I said, is it very sad to see the case and your questions addressed to me not answered in a good faith and proper manner. The OCA Synod should operate much different than it is doing at the present time. The balance of power within the OCA Synod is an issue I cannot talk too much about. Special interests are at stake, and maneuvers of some allies take precedent over the good faith and justice. In case you are going public and posting something over the Internet, then, the OCA Synod will see that you are very serious, and can act one way or the other. The Internet is seen like a killer by the OCA Bishops. They don't like the truth to be confronted with and be made public. I have a different opinion, which means to be open, transparently, and to make sure, "Are your allegations true, or are they false." I would like to convey my sincere congratulations to you - Fr Vasile -, for the courageous actions you are taking against some of the powerful OCA key players, like the OCA Metropolitan and ROEA Archbishop, in case you are going public. The OCA Synod will not act against the ROEA Archbishop in case nothing will go public, and bring shame upon the OCA bishops. Just wait for a little while, to see if anything will come out or not. If not, you make the final determination of going public.*

15 - Your Eminence, is there any OCA interest to have my case heard and resolved by the OCA Holy Synod **after a three years waiting time**, and not to give the opportunity to the Rev Fr Vasile Susan family to go public regarding the **REQUEST FOR IMPEACHMENT AND IMMEDIATE SUSPENSION OF HIS EMINENCE ARCHBISHOP NATHANIEL POPP (ROEA) AND A FORMAL COMPLAINT AGAINST REV FR XXXXXXXX XXXXXX**, as an OCA Holy Synod ecclesiastical court matter, and to present everything publicly using the pokrov.org site, to the best of Your Eminence's knowledge?

Answer: *The OCA Synod should be aware that sooner or later charge of those issues should be seriously considered. The ecclesiastical court should be in place at least for you, the ROEA Archbishop and the ROEA homosexual clergyman. But at that time nobody can anticipate what will come out in case the ROEA priest in his defense will bring more people into the trial, and how the ROEA Archbishop will defend himself. Nobody within the OCA Synod likes pokrov.org site, because it is too open and sometimes brings the truth to everyone, and the truth hurts. In case you can prove your allegations against the ROEA Archbishop and the ROEA homosexual clergyman by confronting them in an ecclesiastical open court, then the publicity through pokrov.org is going to be a very serious issue.*

16 - Your Eminence, is there OCA aware of the price the OCA will pay in case the Rev Fr Vasile Susan family will go public regarding the **REQUEST FOR IMPEACHMENT AND IMMEDIATE SUSPENSION OF HIS EMINENCE ARCHBISHOP NATHANIEL POPP (ROEA) AND A FORMAL COMPLAINT AGAINST REV FR XXXXXXXX XXXXXX**, as an OCA Holy Synod ecclesiastical court matter, and to present everything publicly using the pokrov.org site, to the best of Your Eminence's knowledge?

Answer: *There is going to be a very heavy price the OCA Synod will pay in case you are going public on pokrov.org. But you should stay the course, and prove everything. You got the complaint in your hands and the documentation necessary to prove the case. Be not afraid to tell the truth.*

17 - Your Eminence, is there any OCA interest to have my case heard and resolved by the OCA Holy Synod and to give the opportunity to the Rev Fr Vasile Susan family to be again on their feet, to minister within the Romanian setting / community, to the best of Your Eminence's knowledge?

Answer: *Everything depends on the OCA Metropolitan and the ROEA Archbishop. You endured so much humiliation. The only alleviation to your case I can do for you is to give my blessing to serve in any of my diocesan churches until the case will reach a final and viable solution for you and your family. You are a Romanian priest and you shall minister within a Romanian community. It would be a grave sin to be ignored for so many years, and not to be reinstated. You have not been put in any church court for a trial, haven't you? You should have your day in a church court, and your allegations / accusations made known to you by the accuser who kicked you out from the position of the parish priest, and also the right to defend should be given to you according to the Canonical norms, provisions. These procedures should be followed, because we are a Church, and everyone should act in good faith.*

18 - Your Eminence, is there any OCA interest to have my case heard and resolved by the OCA Holy Synod based on Biblical, Canonical and Constitutional provisions and to restore Rev Fr Vasile Susan as an active OCA priest ministering within the OCA and ROEA?

Answer: *It is obvious that you have an interest to have your case heard and resolved. The OCA Synod at the present time does not intend to do something like that. I did not hear anything in these regards. However, as for me I have no doubts that Biblical, Canonical, and Church Charter provisions, procedures have been broken, breached. I feel very sorry for that, as well as for the endurance and sufferings of your family too. Your ministry was put to a great test. You are a priest whose priesthood is in good standing, as the ROEA Archbishop wrote about, isn't that true? And you are not under any Canonical sanctions, aren't you? Only the OCA Metropolitan should take charge of the case and your issues, according to Canonical provisions, OCA Statute and the ROEA Charter's provisions, procedures, if I am not mistaken. Is it that true? And I would like to say that you are entitled to some remedies, and someone should acknowledge any kind of wrongdoings, sooner or later, and compensate you, back pay.*

19 - Your Eminence, is there any OCA interest to have my case heard and resolved by the OCA Holy Synod and to restore peace and communion within the OCA based on Biblical, Canonical and Constitutional provisions and to restore Rev Fr Vasile Susan as an active OCA priest ministering within the OCA and ROEA?

Answer: *The Biblical, Canonical and Church Charters provisions and procedures are avenues for peace and tranquility. But the most important things are concerning the people who govern in Church. Church governance should be in a Christ like manner. Unfortunately, this is not the case within the OCA at the present time. Your place for ministering should be the diocese you have been kicked out from. Have you been expelled, or fired? If so, it is too bad for the OCA. A mechanism, a process should be in place and properly be used for a full and fair restoration as an active Romanian Church minister.*

20 - Your Eminence, is there any OCA priest or hierarch willing to walk within the Rev Fr Vasile Susan shoes, to have his reputation damaged, his ministry compromised, his family harmony destroyed and ruined, put on the streets of any American city, and not to be able to find a parish within the national group he is coming from, and to endure humiliation for the rest of his life, to the best of Your Eminence's knowledge?

Answer: *The way you and your family - Fr Vasile – have been suffering and have been put to the unbelievable and less Christian test, is a nightmare to me. Nobody in the OCA history, to the best of my knowledge went through something like this. If it will be proven that you are not guilty of any Canonical transgressions, then, someone will pay a heavy price. Let's hope in a fair solution in the near future. It is not easy to be on the streets in the USA and as an American citizen you are entitled to a "diligent due canonical procedure and due process of the law," because you are a priest. It doesn't matter you are American born, or Romanian, Bulgarian, Russian, Greek, etc. You have to have your day in a Church court. You had to be disciplined, not fired or terminated. Someone jumped over the horse, over the Canonical provisions, procedures. God will be with you and your family. You will be fine by the end.*

21 - Your Eminence, is there any OCA rule or practice (unknown to me) regarding the protection and cover up of the OCA homosexual priests, and the punishment of the OCA priest (s) who were never brought to any ecclesiastical court or Spiritual Consistory, even though they are entitled to the “due canonical procedure and due process of the law”, to the best of your knowledge?

Answer: *I would like to answer to you very cautiously. The OCA hierarchs protect and cover up the homosexual clergymen, because it is embarrassing and even disturbing to touch these issues. There is no doubt in my mind that the OCA hierarchy is covering up the OCA homosexual clergymen. As for the punishment of the priests, nobody should be punished until he / they will be found guilty. Even a Bishop cannot abuse any priest who canonically is entitled to know the allegations, accusations, crimes he should suffer any sanction for. There is no doubt in my mind, that some lack of knowledge and Canonical attentiveness regarding the Canonical provisions have been overlooked by some OCA bishops, and someone have been abused. I personally do not know too much in these regards, even though I should know much more. I feel myself sorry for that. As for the “due canonical procedure and due process of the law”, this should be in place and properly used within the Church court trials, proceedings. Not having something like these in place, than it is a signal or indication of abuse of power, corruption. Something like this should not occur within the Orthodox Church, and / or within the OCA.*

22 - Your Eminence, what would Your Eminence do (would you fight for justice), in case you would have been a married priest and in the same situation I am, regarding the OCA status, to the best of your knowledge?

Answer: *What I would do Fr Vasile? I will stay the course and use proper ways and means to reach to the bottom of the case and a final fair solution. Do not give up. You are entitled to your day in a Church court. You have a civil court lawsuit going on, for which I feel very sorry. You should ask the OCA Synod to observe the Canonical order of the Orthodox Church, the Canonical provisions and procedures, as well as the Church Charter provisions, and to institute a Church court presenting your allegations, accusations you have to be confronted with, and to give you the right to defend them. The rule of the Church law should not be ignored. Can the civil court compel the OCA to do that? Maybe!*

23 - Your Eminence, what should I do to have an active OCA status, to the best of your knowledge?

Answer: *To pray to God, to keep on fasting, to serve in my diocese churches regularly and partake holy communion, to stay the course of your case, and never give up.*

24 - Your Eminence, how long should I wait to have an active OCA status and to again labor as an OCA priest within a Romanian setting/parish, to the best of your knowledge?

Answer: *Only God knows how long it will take this. Could be more years from now on, or could be less. Do not despair, God will be with you. Your active OCA status as a priest is in the hands of the OCA Metropolitan. I know you are not an OCA active priest, and your future Pension is going to be a major issue at stake, I hope not disputable in any civil court. However, your restoration as an active priest implies more than I could talk about at this time. Are you aware of all these things? I cannot give you any detail at this time, and you cannot take so many notes in writing while we are talking, as you do now. Someone will be held accountable for your status. I hope, it will be less liability in these regards.*

24 - Your Eminence, can Your Eminence play a positive role within the OCA Holy Synod in having my case heard and resolved, before the Rev Fr Vasile Susan family will go public regarding the **REQUEST FOR IMPEACHMENT AND IMMEDIATE SUSPENSION OF HIS EMINENCE ARCHBISHOP NATHANIEL POPP (ROEA) AND A FORMAL COMPLAINT AGAINST REV FR XXXXXXXX XXXXXXXX**, as an OCA Holy Synod ecclesiastical court matter, and to present everything publicly on the Internet to the best of Your Eminence’s knowledge?

Answer: *As for me – Fr Vasile – I cannot play any important role rather than as an OCA Synod's bishop very much concerned with your case. I will talk to the OCA Metropolitan before the next year OCA Spring session meeting. I hope and pray you will have your day in a Church court before to go public with your case and make postings on pokrov.org, as you said. It would be a critical situation for the OCA Synod in case those issues will be made public, in regards to the impeachment and immediate suspension of the ROEA Archbishop, and even with the case of the cover up of the ROEA homosexual priest whose file you would like to make it public. I do not want to see something like this as being done lightly. The OCA Synod should initiate a process regarding your allegations against the ROEA Archbishop, the ROEA homosexual priest, and even for yourself. Going publically and making postings over the Internet via pokrov.org will be devastating to the OCA as a whole. People will lose credibility within the OCA bishops already challenged by the current crisis.*

25 - Your Eminence, how can all the above and everything that the ROEA Archbishop NWP and the OCA Metropolitan His Beatitude Herman did to me, will be seen by the Almighty God on the one hand, or by the people and the ROEA and OCA members in case of making public everything?

Answer: *God already knows much more and much better, I and you can speak about. God knows about every cover up, every wrong doing against you and some others within the OCA. People, is very much aware of the OCA misdeeds. There is one God who will set up a Day of Judgment, and everyone should be accountable, including the OCA Synod. God's justice is right and final. Believe in God. Both the ROEA and OCA members will be shocked by finding out about the OCA bishops wrongdoings from on the Internet. Let's hope people will not find out about those issues from on the Internet.*

26 - Your Eminence, can you give me any advice based on Your OCA active ministry, OCA Holy Synod active role within the life of the OCA and on the current OCA crisis, at the conclusion of our today's audience / discussions?

Answer: *Fr Vasile, make sure you do not lose your good faith in God and in His Godly work. I am doing my best within the OCA as a Bishop, but it is not an easy mission. It is very hard to predict any outcome of the current OCA crisis. But, we will go to the bottom of it, and we will finally find out the truth. I will do everything in my power to save the OCA. Some changes within the OCA Synod should be done. The crisis is an embarrassment for the OCA at large and the Orthodox Church as a whole. Let's pray to God to be with us. May the mercy of God, be upon you and everyone. Amen.*


Your Eminence,


I felt very blessed to be talking to you.

I would like to thank you very much for today's positive and construction discussion / dialogue, keep me in Your Eminence's prayers please, and I wish Your Eminence a Blessed Holy Advent, a Very Merry Christmas and Very Happy and Healthy New Year.

Master Bless.

Thank you Fr Vasile.


Rev Fr Vasile Susan


Archbishop of Chicago and the Midwest