



ARCHDIOECESSE OF



NEW YORK AND NEW JERSEY



Autonomous Orthodox Metropolitan Synod
of North and South America and the British Isles
within the Tomos of Autonomy with the True Orthodox Churches of Greece and Russia

Abbey of the Holy Name
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*His Beatitude,
Very Most Rev. Metropolitan John (LoBue),
First Hierarch of the Holy Synod
August 14 / 27, 2012*

TOMOS -- Protocol 10

We, John, by the grace of God, First Hierarch of the Holy Synod, acting upon the authority of Our Holy Synod, with this Tomos grant autonomy of organization to our brother Bishops of the Holy Synod of Italy, namely:

His Beatitude, Very Most Rev. Metropolitan Onufrie (Pop) of Bergamo,
His Excellency, Right Rev. Bishop Gheorghe (Bratu) of Sondrio and Vercelli, and
His Excellency, Right Rev. Bishop Seraphim (Del Fattore) of Sicily and Central Italy.

The Holy Synod of Italy is hereby recognized as a Metropolia that has been granted canonical and legal recognition as an Autonomous Metropolia with full rights for the governance of the Churches of Italy in full communion with our Autonomous Orthodox Metropolitan Synod of North and South America and the British Isles.

Furthermore, we recognize His Beatitude, Metropolitan Onufrie as Metropolitan and First Hierarch of the Holy Synod of Italy as equal to ourself and our brother First Hierarchs of our sister Orthodox Churches, with all the customary rights, privileges, and encoutrements of the white Kamalavka, two Engolpia and Cross that pertain to this office.

As an Autonomous Synod, the Holy Synod of Italy will have the right to choose and ordain Clergy and Bishops in Italy or other states where this Holy Synod has members of the faithful observing the Old Calendar of the Orthodox Church, respecting the territorial assignments of our Holy Synod and our sister Churches in Eastern Europe. The office of First Hierarch is entrusted with the work of the Holy Synod of his Bishops, and to establish within the observance of the Holy Canons other Orthodox parishes, monasteries, and missions, receiving in a proper manner under these Canons those who apply to submit to his Synod as Bishops, Priests, Deacons, Clergy or monastics.

Given under our own hand and seal this the 14th day of August (O.S.) in the year of Our Lord two thousand and twelve, since the creation of the world, the seven thousandth five hundredth and twentieth, being the thirty-second year of our Episcopate.



(His Beatitude, the Very Most Reverend Metropolitan) ✠ John (LoBue),

First Hierarch of the Holy Synod
Archbishop of New York

