



✠ **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, Russia,  
Ukraine, and Georgia*

**Archdiocese of New York and New Jersey  
Abbey of the Holy Name  
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*His Beatitude,  
Very Most Rev. Metropolitan John (LoBue),  
Archbishop*

**September 8 / 21, 2021  
Nativity of the Holy Theotokos**

**Glory be to God in all things.**

**To any employer for whom it may concern:**

**The Holy Synod of the Autonomous Metropolitan Orthodox Church of North and South America and the British Isles and the dependencies thereof does not allow its Clergy or faithful Laity to take any Coronavirus vaccines that are currently produced anywhere in the world because all these pharma companies that do so produce these vaccines are in some way currently making use of fetal abortion cell lines in the manufacturing or production of these vaccines. This is based upon a decision issued by our Synod of Bishops on April 13th, 2021. This statement can be found on the Synodal website as indicated here:**

**<http://orthodoxmetropolia.org/2021/04/13/statement-by-the-metropolitan-on-the-covid-medicines-vaccines/>**

**Any future vaccines produced must, in order for our Clergy or Laity to take them, be approved by the Metropolitan of our Synod of Bishops in conjunction with the Holy Synod after careful research and study to ensure that they do not violate the religious and moral teachings of our Church against abortion. Failure of our Clergy or Laity to adhere to this policy places them under the culpability of mortal sin and imposing the further sentence of excommunication.**

**Therefore it is incumbent that Employers of all types must respect the religious and moral rulings of our Church regarding their employees that are members of our Churches, as expounded by the rulings of our Bishops.**

**Done under our hand and seal this the 8th day of September, 2021 (O.S.).**



**Unworthy servant of Christ Our God,**

**(His Beatitude, the Very Most Reverend) Metropolitan ✠ John (LoBue),  
First Hierarch of the Holy Synod  
Archbishop of New York**