



# *Holy Protection of Mary*

## *Byzantine Catholic Eparchy of Phoenix*

*Office of the Apostolic Administrator*

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Glory to Jesus Christ!

To all the faithful of the Eparchy of Holy Protection of Mary in Phoenix,

My dear friends,

I wish to publicly thank Most Rev. Thomas Olmsted for his generous leadership of the Eparchy for almost four and half years. For almost four years of his tenure, he also served as the Bishop of the Latin rite Diocese of Phoenix, one of the largest and busiest dioceses in the United States. Nevertheless, when Pope Francis asked Bishop Thomas to assist Bishop John in shepherding our Eparchy as Apostolic Administrator, he said "yes" to the Holy Father. Despite the enormous burden of work, Bishop Thomas took on the additional work, and fulfilled his task with competence, dedication, integrity, gentility, good humor, humility, and grace.

On behalf of the clergy and people of the Eparchy of Phoenix, I say, "Thank you Bishop Thomas James Olmsted. Well done, good and faithful servant. May God grant to you many blessed, happy, and healthy years. Mnohaja l Blahaja L'ita!"

Yours in Christ,

+ *Kurt*

Most Rev. Kurt Burnette  
Bishop of Passaic  
Apostolic Administrator in Phoenix