



2025 THANKSGIVING ARCHPASTORAL WORD

IRINEJ

BY THE GRACE OF GOD
BISHOP OF WASHINGTON-NEW YORK AND EASTERN AMERICA

Most beloved clergy and monastics, sons and daughters, cherished children
of the Eastern American Diocese of our Most Holy Serbian Orthodox Church:

*“Enter the Temple gates with thanksgiving;
go into its courts with praise.
Give thanks to Him and praise Him!”*
(Psalm 100:4)

As we gather in our homes, beloved, in gratitude this Thanksgiving, let us reflect on the abundant blessings God has bestowed upon us all. This season offers us a precious opportunity to give thanks not only for the gifts of life, family, and friends, but most importantly, for the love and grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, Who sustains us through all trials and tribulations in life.

May our hearts and minds always be filled with love and compassion, and may we extend our gratitude beyond our family tables, sharing with those who are in need, and thereby illuminating the path Christ has set before us – the path of love, service and good deeds. Let us always rejoice in the countless ways our Lord continuously nurtures us, in manners both seen and unseen.

Wishing you, our treasured Diocesan Family, for whom We give thanks every day, a truly blessed and joyful celebration of Thanksgiving filled with peace for the world, love among us, and the light of Christ, Who illumines all!

Given in New York at Thanksgiving in the Year of our Lord, 2025.

With Archpastoral blessings, eternal gratitude and Paternal love,

+Irinej

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OF THE SERBIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH