

RESOLUTION FORM

NO: 3

RESOLUTION: Presented to the Twenty-seventh Annual Convention of the Diocese of Fort Worth.

Right Reverend Sir: We present the following resolution: **Anglican-Orthodox Ecumenical Relations**

WHEREAS Metropolitan Jonah, primate of the Orthodox Church in America, came to the Inaugural Assembly of the Anglican Church in North America speaking the truth in love, seeking to reestablish an Anglican-Orthodox relationship, and noting that “our arms are wide open,” and

WHEREAS the Lord Jesus Christ, in his high-priestly prayer at the Last Supper, prayed for his disciples that “they all might be one,” be it therefore

RESOLVED, that the 27th Annual Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Fort Worth express its appreciation to Metropolitan Jonah and the people of the Orthodox Church in America for the invitation to resume work toward unity, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the 27th Annual Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Fort Worth shares Metropolitan Jonah’s vision “to live, to actualize, and to participate in the full integrity of the Catholic Church—the full integrity of Orthodox Catholicism,” and be it further

RESOLVED, that the 27th Annual Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Fort Worth communicate to Metropolitan Jonah and the Orthodox Church in America its desire to work toward that full, visible, and sacramental unity that the Lord Jesus Christ desires in his prayer that “they all may be one.”

Explanation: The Eastern Orthodox Church and the Anglican Church have historically had a close relationship. That relationship became extremely warm in the personal friendship between Saint Tikhon, Orthodox Missionary Bishop in North America and later Patriarch of Moscow, and Episcopal Bishop Charles C. Grafton of Fond du Lac, Wisconsin. Saint Tikhon was working toward the recognition of Anglicans as a fellow Orthodox Church, and an official dialogue between the Anglicans and Orthodox continued even after the possibility of unity was complicated by developments in Anglicanism. In recent years, that dialogue halted completely.

Metropolitan Jonah, as a former Episcopalian and former Orthodox Bishop of Fort Worth and successor to Tikhon – being perhaps the one Orthodox prelate who understands us best – may be uniquely positioned to continue Tikhon’s ecumenical work and bring it to completion. He was invited to address the Inaugural Assembly of the Anglican Church in North America. He said he came “with open arms” to re-establish ecumenical relations and to work toward unity. This resolution is proposed to welcome and to encourage that process.

DATE: August 26, 2009

SUBMITTED BY: The Rev. Timothy Matkin St. Matthew’s/Trinity
(Print Name) (Parish/Mission)



(Signature)

Comanche/Dublin
(City)

SECONDED BY: The Vy. Rev. Christopher Cantrell Holy Apostles
(Print Name) (Parish/Mission)



(Signature)

Fort Worth
(City)