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Архіереискій Синодъ Русской Православной Церкви Заграницей  
Synod of Bishops of the Russian Orthodox Church Outside of Russia

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**CCOMMUNIQUE**

**From the Chancellery of the First-Hierarch of the Russian Church Outside of Russia**

It is brought to the attention of all the Ruling-Bishops of the Russian Church Outside of Russia in North America that monk Ephraim (Krassovsky), a former hierodeacon of Holy Trinity Monastery, (who in 1992 without a blessing abandoned his monastery, and shortly thereafter was removed from clerical rank) has appeared in California. While in the State, he presided over a funeral service at St. Herman's Monastery (Platina, CA) which is under the Serbian Orthodox Church.

In relation to this event, I request my fellow brother-archpastors to warn the superiors and rectors of the monasteries and parishes, under your authority, about the self-titled "Athonite Schema-Heiromonk Ephraim": in that he is not a cleric of the Russian Church Outside of Russia, nor of any other of the Local Orthodox Churches – including Constantinople, under whose omophorion is the Holy Mountain of Athos.

I ask for your holy prayers, and remain with love in the Lord,

+ *Иларион*

Metropolitan of Eastern America and New York  
First Hierarch of the Russian Church Outside of Russia

