Pastoral School of the Diocese of Chicago & Mid-America.

We wish hereby to express our great joy at the launching of the Spanish language sector of the Pastoral School of the Diocese of Chicago & Mid-America. We welcome it whole-heartedly and warmly thank the organizers and those who take upon themselves the associated labour and expense. Until now there has been a complete dearth of almost any kind of systematic Orthodox theological education in the Spanish language.

It is our hope that these courses will go towards filling this gap and help meet the need for spiritual, pastoral and theological formation among the Spanish speaking faithful of all Orthodox jurisdictions, and particularly of any prospective candidates for holy orders, who are required to complete a seminary education before ordination, as decreed by the Sobor of 2011.

May our Lord, God and Saviour Jesus Christ, the one true Teacher and Pastor abundantly bless this undertaking and all who teach, administer and study therein and all who support it in any way.

317

John, Bishop of Caracas and South America Buenos Aires, 9/22 November, 2016