

From: **John Jillions** <jjillions@oca.org>

Date: Tue, Nov 17, 2015 at 7:12 AM

Subject: Monk Seraphim (Storheim)

To: melanie.sakoda@gmail.com, Cappy Larson <cappy@rlarson.com>, David Clohessy <davidgclohessy@gmail.com>

Dear Mr. Clohessy, Ms. Sakoda and Ms. Larson:

Thank you for your note regarding the monk Seraphim (Storheim), addressed to His Beatitude, Metropolitan Tikhon. He asked me to reply on his behalf. As you mentioned, monk Seraphim now has the status of a monastic in the Church: as such, he is strictly subordinate to his monastic and other ecclesiastical authorities as he continues along his path of repentance and the salvation of his immortal soul. As a monk, the demanding requirements of spiritual obedience limit him only to those activities expressly permitted him by his monastic and ecclesiastical superiors.

Under the guidance of His Eminence, Archbishop Ireneë of Ottawa and Canada, a supervision plan has been developed for monk Seraphim in accordance with the Policies, Standards and Procedures of the Orthodox Church in America. That plan is subject to refinement as we proceed with our protective efforts and address long-term living arrangements for monk Seraphim.

Should monk Seraphim be permitted to visit other parishes, such visits would only occur after careful consideration and with the permission of Archbishop Ireneë. Additionally, the rector or priest in charge of visited parishes will be briefed, with a supervision plan developed in advance.

While no plans for monk Seraphim to seek outside employment have come to light, any such intentions would have to be communicated to Archbishop Ireneë in advance and would be subject to his approval, after consulting with the Chancery of the OCA. Engagement in any form of employment could only occur under conditions fashioned with the greatest sensitivity and concern with respect to the matters which you raised in your e-mail message.

You have His Beatitude's personal gratitude for your attention to these matters.

Yours sincerely,

Fr John A. Jillions, Chancellor

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