



# THE HOLY TRINITY

ROMANIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

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Protopresbyter Constantine Alecse, parish priest

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Very Rev. Fr. Protopresbyter Constantin Alecse  
Holy Trinity Romanian Orthodox Church  
3315 Verdugo Road  
Los Angeles, CA 90065

August 14, 2022

Dear Father Constantin,

## **Letter of Appreciation (40 Years Ministry at Holy Trinity Church)**

We, the representatives of the community of the Holy Trinity Romanian Orthodox Parish in Los Angeles, California, the church which you have pastored for 40 years, now on the brink of your retirement would like to:

Thank you for being the pastor of our church, serving our community for almost half of this church's existence (1982-2022). You were an inspiring leader! Thank you for taking our church and our mission to serve the Lord and the community to the highest spiritual level. You were great at keeping everything organized and on track with God's mission for our church.

Thank you for administering God's Holy Sacraments to our parishioners for 40 years: The Divine Liturgies, Confessions, Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals, Memorials, etc.

Thank you for going above and beyond what was necessary, taking the initiative of calling all the parishioners, during the blessing of the homes season, to keep them connected to the church and the vibrant part of our community.

Thank you for your Sundays and Feastdays' inspiring words and sermons, delivered in a way that we all can relate to, learning each time more about Jesus than ever before. The way you tell stories is relatable and amusing, that's why we were excited to attend church every Sunday.

Thank you for guiding and helping our young couples plan for their weddings, and for all the time you spent with them for their pre-marital counseling.

Thank you for visiting our parishioners at home, in the hospitals and nursing homes. We all appreciate your presence, prayers and comfort.

We appreciate the time you have invested with so many of our brothers and sisters counseling them during difficult times: financial hardships, unwanted divorces, lost jobs, drugs, etc. Your prayers and blessings were very meaningful and helpful to them.

Thank you for your patience to work with many non-orthodox faithful, some becoming not only converts to the Holy Orthodox Faith, but even servants of God in the Orthodox Ministry.

Thank you for all you did for our church, helping our people behind the scenes to keep our Romanian traditions and customs, especially at the Great Feasts seasons like Christmas and Easter. Who can forget the wonderful memories of caroling late into the night during the Christmas Season!?

Thank you for keeping our Romanian culture and heritage alive and vibrant through all sorts of Church social activities like concerts, art exhibitions, picnics and alike, often inviting famous and renown Romanian personalities, from here and afar, from other States, or from Romania or other Countries, to come and visit us, thus to contribute to the cultural enrichment of our beautiful community.

Thank you for giving everyone so generously of your precious time. When many people went through crisis in their lives, which they didn't want to share with the entire church, sometimes nor even with their relatives, you were there for them, providing prayers, moral and spiritual support to them and their family.

Thank you for the four decades time you have invested in the new-comers, helping them with the immigration procedures, social services, getting jobs, housing, driving IDs, etc... The way you quietly lead our community was inspiring. Because of you, we all live a more Biblical and spiritual life...

Thank you for helping so many young people learn more about Jesus and His teachings, because of how well you did relate to their generation. Thank you for listening to us, and being there for us 24/7. Indeed, we all genuinely felt we were a big family, as you so often proclaimed.

Thank you for the prayers and support to the parish families, serving in the military and/or other law enforcement agencies.

Thank you for stepping up in a pinch, especially with the church's administration duties. You have always been something of a talented one-man army, able to lend a helping-hand when we were short staffed, whenever we needed help with office work, banking, finances and annual reports, legal matters, etc.

Thanks to you Father, and presbytera Elena, for being such a wonderful example for everyone of how church members should serve the Lord by serving each other. Your kindness and generosity were a blessing to us ALL.

Last but not least, thank you for helping our church to become financially sound, securing for us an over a \$2mm (million) dollar endowment.

***Thank-you, from the bottom of our hearts, Fr Constantin and Presbytera Elena!***

Have a Blessed and Peaceful Retirement!

For and on behalf of the  
Holy Trinity Church,



Edvart Rastian  
Parish Council President

CHURCH SEAL



Claudia Dana Pugna  
Parish Council Secretary