



Eparchy of Our Lady of Lebanon of Los Angeles

August 18, 2026

Dear Friends,

I write to you today in response to the charges that have been made against Chorbishop Anthony Spinosa. Like you, I am saddened and looking for answers, which will only come when the civil authorities have completed their investigation and any subsequent legal action.

I have relieved Chorbishop Spinosa from his ministerial assignment with immediate effect. I am grateful for Reverend Michael Shami who has agreed to immediately assume, during this time of transition, responsibility as temporary administrator for the Basilica and National Shrine starting today. I ask for your support for Fr. Shami as he begins this temporary assignment.

I also ask for your prayers for Chorbishop Spinosa and all persons involved.

With sincere best wishes and prayers, I remain

Yours in Christ,

+A. Elias Zaidan

Bishop of the Eparchy of Our Lady of Lebanon of Los Angeles