

Translated from the Russian

**HIS BEATITUDE
TIKHON
ARCHBISHOP OF WASHINGTON
METROPOLITAN OF ALL AMERICA AND CANADA**

5 July 2014

Your Beatitude,

I am deeply grieved to inform you that His Beatitude Metropolitan Vladimir of Kiev and All Ukraine passed away in Kiev today. The deceased archpastor had done a lot to preserve canonical church unity in the times of hardships for the Ukrainian people. The Ukrainian flock, the whole Russian Orthodox Church, and the world Orthodoxy suffer a sad bereavement.

I ask for Your Beatitude's holy prayers for the repose of the soul of the deceased hierarch, for his orphaned flock, and for the people of Ukraine, undergoing now afflictions and ordeals.

With brotherly love in the Lord,

+KIRILL

PATRIARCH OF MOSCOW AND ALL RUSSIA