



BYZANTINE CATHOLIC
METROPOLITAN ARCHEPARCHY OF PITTSBURGH

❖ OFFICE OF THE METROPOLITAN ARCHBISHOP ❖

66 Riverview Avenue ♦ Pittsburgh PA 15214
(412) 231-4000 ♦ Fax (412) 231-1697

30 May 2007

**STATEMENT OF METROPOLITAN BASIL
ON THE FALLING ASLEEP IN THE LORD
OF BISHOP MICHAEL J. DUDICK, RETIRED BISHOP OF PASSAIC**

“It can truly be said of Bishop Michael that ‘He fought the good fight.’ His life was one of dedication to God, his priesthood, and to the Byzantine Catholic Church and its faithful. He fulfilled every promise of his vocation, and he was thorough in accomplishing the tasks that were associated with his extensive responsibilities.

“He was a priest for 62 years and a bishop for 27 years, and above all he was an exemplary leader. Though Bishop Michael had a special love and interest for the tradition and history of our Byzantine Catholic Church, he was a builder, an innovator, a founder, and an initiator. With foresight for the Eparchy of Passaic, he created new parishes and missions, a place for monasteries, the spiritual and recreational center that is Carpathian Village, an eparchial center, and a heritage institute and library. Everything he strived to establish was for the glory of God and for the spiritual good and growth of the people he so faithfully shepherded.

“He was well respected among all of the Catholic Bishops of America and the countries of Eastern Europe, and of the hierarchs of other jurisdictions as well. He served many national and international committees and causes, and he had special concern and generosity for the eparchies of Prešov and Mukachevo.

“We are most grateful for his long and blessed life, for his legacy of building God’s Kingdom here on earth, and for the remembrance of his gentle presence among us. His years of retirement were peaceful, and he bore his illness with patience and the courage that reflected the way he approached the challenges that he overcame during the years of ministry to which he was called, and to which he responded with such admirable and memorable commitment and dedication.

“We thank God for Bishop Michael’s time with us, and we ask that his memory be eternal.”