



**SAINTS CYRIL & METHODIUS BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
**4315 N EVERGREN ROAD**  
**PO BOX 15314**  
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August 17, 2023

Dear People of Spirit of Christ Mission,

I am writing to thank you for your kindness and that of your Pastor, Father Edward Hislop, for allowing us to use Spirit of Christ Mission for the celebration of our Byzantine Divine Liturgy (Mass) and for publicizing the celebration of our Divine Liturgy in your parish bulletin. The Byzantine Ruthenian Catholic Church is one of the Eastern Catholic Churches in full union with Pope Francis and the Holy See of Rome.

Almost one hundred and forty years ago, Byzantine Ruthenian Catholic communities were established in western Montana. However, since we did not have an Eparchy (Diocese) in the western United States at that time, it was not possible to assign priests to these communities. As a result, these communities soon ceased to exist.

It is our hope of being able to re-establish the Byzantine Ruthenian Catholic Church in Montana. Being able to celebrate our Divine Liturgy and Sacraments at Spirit of Christ is allowing us to try to accomplish this.

Again, our deepest heartfelt thanks for your kindness and may God bless you always!

Sincerely yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Father William E. O'Brien". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Reverend William E. O'Brien  
Pastor