



ORTHODOX BISHOP OF WESTERN AMERICA
ПРАВОСЛАВНИ ЕПИСКОП ЗАПАДНОАМЕРИЧКИ
SERBIAN ORTHODOX DIOCESE OF WESTERN AMERICA

Ep. No. 90

March 13, 2020

Dear brothers and sisters,

We invite you to respond to the U.S. Census 2020.

Every 10 years, a population census is conducted in America that records and collects data from all persons in the United States belonging to different religious and ethnic groups. In the last census exactly one decade ago, there were 178,000 Serbs, which we think is a far smaller number than we really are here. In order to preserve our identities, our religion, culture and customs, we must adhere to our Serbian community and show how many of us are here and to show the real number of the Serb population because the more we are, the greater our rights in this country where we reside.

Help us gain rights in Congress, make our voice heard and influence the districts we live in. Provide your children and their children with better education, better and better living conditions in the districts and states in which we reside. The distribution of the federal and state budget, which is allocated to communities according to population data and allocated to schools, public institutions, hospitals and benefits for infrastructure improvement, also depends on the population. Census results play a crucial role in the US government's allocation of funds and funds to all communities and ethnic groups. That is why it is important to show how many of us are there and to show that the Serbian community deserves the same minority rights as other ethnic communities in America.

That's why we appeal to all our people in America to fill out a form and declare themselves Serbs. Do not miss the opportunity that occurs once every ten years.

Who? - It is crucial that you list each household member regardless of age and residence status in America (children, babies, grandmothers, blankets, citizens, non-citizens) and enter "Serbian" in the origin field for each family member.

Example:

How? - The form will be sent to you by mail, email or phone call.

When? - The census will be conducted in March and April 2020.

We kindly ask you to take a few minutes to complete the form and declare yourself a Serb, thus witnessing your presence and the presence of all your household in America and helping the Serbian community to develop and get the place that belongs to it.

With Brotherly Love in Christ,

Bishop of the Diocese of Western America