

**ROMANIAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE**  
*Eparchy of St. George in Canton*



Office of the Bishop

February 5, 2021

Beloved Faithful of our Eparchy,

As you may already know, Most Reverend Floretin Crihalmeanu, Bishop of the Eparchy of Cluj-Napoca in Romania passed away on January 12, 2021. He was an active bishop in the community and in the Church. I feel blessed to have known and worked with Bishop Florentin since before either of us was bishop. His generous spirit and fraternal love always made me feel welcome. Because he spoke English fluently, along with French and Italian, he was a helpful guide and generous host every time I went to Romanian. He visited us several times, including for the consecration of our wooden chapel, St. Panteleimon, in Canton. He will be missed in the Synod of Bishops of our Romanian Creek-Catholic Church, the Romanian Episcopal Conference, and episcopal conferences in Europe, as well as many from the USCCB who have known and worked with him, bishops and staff alike. All had great appreciation for his warmth, devotion and sense of humor. You can find out more about him at <http://www.bru.ro/cluj-gherla/ps-florentin-crihalmeanu/>.

His legacy includes a request that we should honor as Christian faithful. Instead of flowers or other memorials, he requested that money be donated to help the poor. To honor the memory of Bishop Florentin, the Romanian Catholic Diocese of Canton will hold a special collection on the weekends of February 21 and 28, 2021. This collection will be sent to a particular project that our diocese will coordinate with the Administrator of the Eparchy of Cluj in Romania to benefit a project that Bishop Florentin Crihalmeanu was supporting while he was still with us. We will inform you at a later date of the exact project to which the money will be donated so that you may know exactly where your generous donations went.

We greatly appreciate your generosity in this special collection in memory of Bishop Florentin! May his memory be eternal! *În veci pomenirea lui!*

Sincerely in Christ-God,

(Most Reverend) John Michael Botean, DD  
Bishop of the Eparchy of St. George in Canton

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