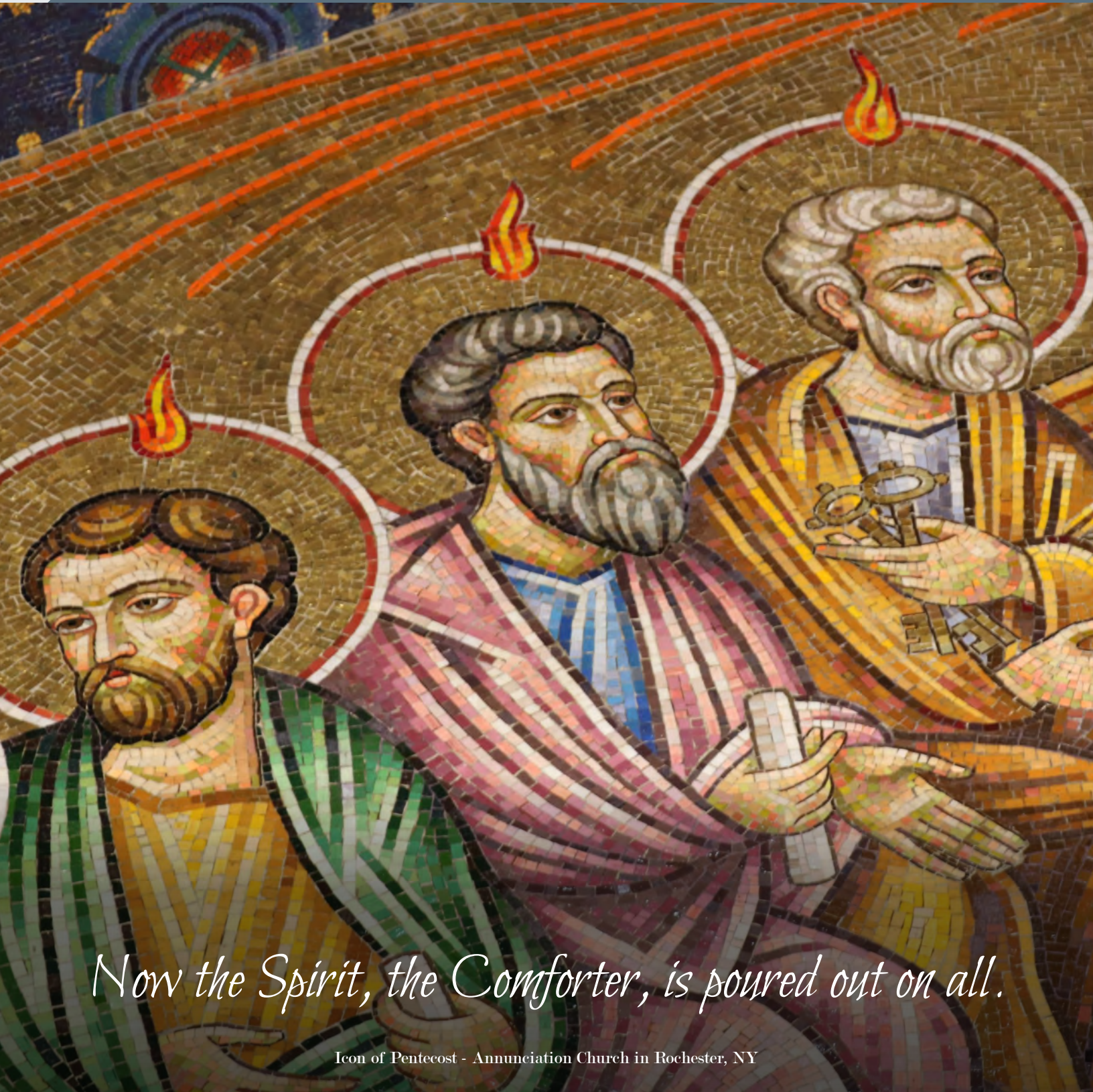




Issue 3 | Volume X | Pentecost 2018

Official Publication of the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Detroit

The Shepherd's Staff



Now the Spirit, the Comforter, is poured out on all.

Icon of Pentecost - Annunciation Church in Rochester, NY

Metropolitan's Message

My Beloved Family in Christ,

Offentimes when we go to bed at night or get up in the morning we are checking our schedules in order to understand what our next day will hold in store for us.

We check our appointments; we look at the holiday schedule; we consider where we will go for our next meeting; we ask our spouse or our children if they have anything planned; and sometimes we even figure out what we will do for lunch before we leave our house.

When we consider how we live our lives, I think it is fair to say that we usually find ourselves living according to how we were brought up as well as according to how our own personal life experiences have changed us. We receive something from our homes and something from the world in which we live.



Photo: His Eminence Preaching at the Pentecost Liturgy - St. George Church, Bloomfield Hills, MI

Unfortunately, too often we do not consider how our lives should be changed and perfected based on the message of the Gospel. We have scheduled so many things in our daily lives that we have forgotten to include the reality of the Church outside of our private homes.

And yet, it is that very reality of the gift of Pentecost that should challenge us to change our daily schedules.

Stop and consider for a moment that God made His message of Love, Truth, and Salvation a universal message on that day. On the Day of Pentecost the disunity of Babel was reversed: on Pentecost all peoples could hear the message of God's love for us in every language.

And those who were touched by God's grace knew that they had a unique mission: go and tell the story!

My beloved, we too have been touched by the reality of Pentecost. Each of us has knelt down and prayed that God's grace come upon us and inspire us to do His will. And so the Apostolic Call is given to each one of us who confesses Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.

So when we go to bed at night or get up in the morning, we are also called to include the reality of God's message in our daily schedule. Yes, it means that some of us will plan our prayer for the day; others will know their lunch will require a change in menu; others will know that there is something good they will do for a neighbor or their office friend; and still others will share an invitation to their local parish with their friend.

Yes, my beloved, we are all called to respond to the call of God's Holy Spirit. We are all called to speak the Word of Truth – in word ... and even more importantly in action! Pentecost is here upon us! What will we say and what will we do?

To God be the glory. Amen!

METROPOLITAN NICHOLAS OF DETROIT

Metropolis News

- ❖ On the 22nd of April, His Eminence Metropolitan Nicholas, Fr. Ciprian Streza, and the entire parish community of the Archangel Gabriel Church in Traverse City Michigan broke ground for the parish's new building project. Congratulations to the Archangel Gabriel parish community on this momentous occasion!
- ❖ Metropolitan Nicholas ordained his assistant, Bryce Vasilios Buffenbarger, to the diaconate on Saturday, May 5 at Sts. Constantine & Helen Church in Westland, Michigan.
- ❖ The Saint John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival Metropolis Finals were held on May 19 at St. John the Baptist Church in Sterling Heights, Michigan. Congratulations to those who represented our Metropolis at the National Festival!
 - ◆ Junior Division Representative: Sophia Douglas
- Annunciation Church, Memphis, TN
 - ◆ Senior Division Representative: Nathaniel Martine
- Holy Trinity Church, Carmel, IN



Ecumenical Vigil Service
For Ss. Joachim and Anna
Tuesday, July 24th
7:00 P.M.

Cathedral of the Most Blessed Sacrament
9844 Woodward Ave.
Detroit, MI 48202

For more information, please contact
The Metropolis of Detroit - 248.823.2400



Presiding
His Excellency,
Archbishop Allen
H. Vigneron,
Roman Catholic
Archdiocese of
Detroit



Guest Homilist
His Eminence,
Metropolitan
Nicholas,
Greek Orthodox
Metropolis of
Detroit

Metropolitan's Schedule

NOTICE: Metropolitan Nicholas' schedule is subject to change. Please visit our website for updates:
www.detroit.goarch.org/calendar.

June

1-3	Parish Visit	Rochester, NY
10	Parish Visit	Farmington Hills, MI
15-17	Parish Visit	Chattanooga, TN
22-24	Parish Visit	Fort Wayne, IN

July

1-5	44th Biennial Clergy-Laity Congress	Boston, MA
8	Parish Visit	TBD
15	Parish Visit	Sts. Constantine & Helen Church, Westland, MI
19-22	MEFGOX Convention	Annunciation Church, Dayton, OH
22	Parish Visit	Sts. Constantine & Helen Church, Westland, MI
24	Ecumenical Vespers for the Feast of St. Anna	Cathedral of the Most Blessed Sacrament, Detroit

Youth News

BY EVA KONSTANTAKOS

ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL YEAR FOR THE ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM ORATORICAL FESTIVAL IN THE METROPOLIS OF DETROIT

On Saturday, May 19, 2018, 15 remarkable young speakers from throughout the Metropolis gathered to speak at the 2018 St. John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival – Metropolis Finals.

This year's festival was hosted at St. John the Baptist Church in Sterling Heights, MI. Speakers and their families arrived on Friday, May 18th and gathered for a welcome dinner at the St. John parish. After dinner, speakers participated in an icebreaker and then met with Eva Konstantakos (Metropolis Youth Director) to review a few items before the festival.

Speakers gathered on Saturday morning for refreshments and a speaker orientation before commencing with the speeches. His Eminence Metropolitan Nicholas opened with a prayer and he offered encouraging words to the speakers before the festival. As always, the speakers astonished those in attendance with their thoughtful presentations. Following the presentations, everyone enjoyed a delicious luncheon and fellowship. Before the Awards Ceremony, John Lazar offered a few comments and a reflection on behalf of judges.

Each speaker was given a Certificate of Participation and a beautiful, carved wooden cross for their hard work. The First Place speakers were each awarded \$500, thanks to the generosity of the *Friends of the Metropolis* and additional parish donations.

We congratulate the following speakers for moving on to the Archdiocese Finals, which were held June 8-10, 2018 in Metropolis of Chicago at the St. John the Baptist parish in Des Plaines, IL

1st PLACE JUNIOR DIVISION:

Sophia Douglas (Annunciation/Memphis, TN)

1st PLACE SENIOR DIVISION:

Nathaniel Martine (Holy Trinity/Carmel, IN)

We thank His Eminence Metropolitan Nicholas for his presence and continued support of this wonderful annual event. We are also grateful to Fr. Nicholas Kyritsis, Maria Aretakis, Tara Kosmides, Sandy Moceris, and all those from the St. John the Baptist parish who helped to make the festival a great success. We also extend our gratitude to Fr. Christopher Abell who served as our Judges' Foreman, along with the Festival judges who had the most difficult task of evaluating our speakers.

Finally, we want to congratulate the speakers on a job well done and we thank them for their incredible witness to Christ. May God grant them many years!

Check out photos from this year's Metropolis Finals by visiting <https://photos.detroit.goarch.org/2018/SJCOF-Metropolis-Finals/>



His Eminence Metropolitan Nicholas with First Place Junior Speaker Sophia Douglas (Annunciation/Memphis) and First Place Senior Speaker Nathaniel Martine (Holy Trinity/Carmel)

His Eminence Metropolitan Nicholas,



Fr. Nicholas Kyritses and all of the Junior and Senior speakers from this year's Metropolis Finals.

His Eminence Metropolitan Nicholas and Fr.



Nicholas Kyritses with the judges (L to R): John Lazar, Margarita Shukla, Louis Poulos, Matina Legakis. (Not pictured) Harry Gaggos, Lesley Stickley

OCF FIRST FORTY DAYS INITIATIVE

Orthodox Christian Fellowship, the official campus ministry of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America, continues its work connecting college students to Orthodox Christian communities during those crucial first forty days they are on campus. OCF is seeking to collect contact information of graduating high school seniors to make this connection. The deadline to submit information is July 15, 2018. To learn more about the First Forty Days initiative, visit www.ocf.net/firstfortydays



Philoptochos News

BY THEONE DICKOS

Happy Spring! Enjoy the warm weather, and summer is almost here.



Theone Dickos
President

As always our Philoptochos Chapters are busy with many events to help fulfill our mission.

The 12th Annual Spring Charity Luncheon in Dayton, Ohio was held at the Dayton Country Club on May 12. It was a beautiful day for the ladies of all ages ranging from a 3 month old to the young at heart in their 80s and 90s. Three hundred guests enjoyed a wonderful lunch and a chance to win 100 raffle prizes. A "Tree of Honor" was available and held the names of the living and non-living women in the members' lives who they wished to honor. Barb Pasalis, the Executive Secretary of the National Philoptochos Board was the featured speaker. She informed the group of the tremendous outreach of the National Philoptochos not only throughout the United States but throughout the world. The Spring Luncheon has become the chapter's major fundraiser of the year enabling them to give so much to their various charities.

For the Feeding the Hungry Initiative, The Saint John the Baptist Philoptochos of Sterling Heights, Michigan hosted a meal packaging program for Rise Against Hunger- an international hunger relief organization that distributes food to the world's most vulnerable. The organization brings all the food and all the supplies needed. The chapter just had to provide the space and the volunteers. The goal was to have about 50 people package 10,000 meals in 2 hours. The Sunday School, the GOYA and senior citizens joined in, and the group ended up with 90 volunteers. In just over an hour, 10,152 meals were packaged. The chapter unanimously decided to do it again next year with a new goal of 15,000 meals.

The Annunciation Church of Muskegon, Michigan is always busy in the Feeding the Hungry initiative. In the months of March and April, the chapter served breakfast at the First Congregational Church in Muskegon, dinner at Supper House, Temple Methodist Church, Muskegon Heights and at the Helping Hand St. John's Episcopal Church, Grand Haven. Several members work weekly on preparing lunches for "Kids Food Basket." The chapter along with the parish also prepared and mailed 150 health kits to IOCC.

Come to Boston July 1-5 for the Philoptochos National Convention in conjunction with the Clergy Laity Congress. The Convention promises to be educational and inspiring to the delegates. At a recent National Board Meeting in Staten Island, NY, the finishing touches were made in planning interactive discussion groups where the delegates can share their projects and ideas. You will be able to participate in a hands-on Feed the Hungry Program. You will also enjoy the National Biennial Agape Awards Breakfast honoring 9 outstanding women from each Metropolis and the Direct Archdiocesan District.

In February of 2018, the National Board dispersed over \$113,000 for relief efforts to the many who were affected by Hurricanes Harvey(Texas), Irma (Florida) and Maria(Puerto Rico). Notes of thanks have been received informing the board that many families are now back in their homes. The outreach of Philoptochos has helped many who have suffered through these devastating and tragic environmental disasters.

The no show "Royal Tea" celebrating the Royal Wedding was a big success. The final numbers are not in as of yet, but the preliminary figures show a promising amount to help benefit the Partners in Philanthropy Fund which offers short term assistance and the Emergency Fund which benefits victims of catastrophic natural disasters worldwide. Excitement was generated by the Royal Wedding on May 19 and several chapters hosted Teas including Toledo, Ohio, Cincinnati, Ohio, and Carmel, Indiana. Thank you to all who supported this most worthy fundraiser.

Enjoy the summer. Looking forward to seeing you in Boston!

METROPOLIS PHILOPTOCHOS CONTRIBUTIONS

- ❖ Partners in Philanthropy - \$4,100
- ❖ Emergency Fund - \$1000

(Photo: Royal Tea in Cincinnati, Ohio. Pictured from left to right - Mary Searles, Evanthia Valassiades, Eleni Zaferes, Michelle Zois, Loy Jonson)



MEFGOX News

WHAT IS MEFGOX?

By Dr. Vicki Pappas

President, Mid-Eastern Federation of
Greek Orthodox Church Musicians

MEFGOX – many wonder what those letters stand for. The short answer is that “MEFGOX” is the acronym for the Mid-Eastern Federation of Greek Orthodox Church Musicians. But behind that answer lies an interesting story! Seventy-one years ago, at the direction of then-Archbishop Athenagoras and the guidance of four forward-thinking priests (Fathers John Geranios, John Berris, John Bouras, and John Kapenakis), fourteen choirs from the states of Ohio, West Virginia, and Pennsylvania convened for their first Annual Convention at Oglebay Park, West Virginia. This was the beginning of the Tri-State Choir Federation. At about the same time, the choirs of Michigan and Northwestern Ohio were also organizing a federation, under the spiritual guidance of Father Theotokis Pappas. They held their first convention in Toledo, Ohio in August of 1954. However, when the Archdiocese reorganized its jurisdictions into the Sixth Diocesan District in 1956, Bishop Ployefktos merged the two federations since it didn’t make sense to have two music organizations serving the needs of his parishes.

Since that time and through additional changing of the jurisdictional borders of our Archdiocese, the organization grew and changed to what today is the Mid-Eastern Federation, encompassing all 92 of the parishes of the Metropolises of Detroit and Pittsburgh. At first, the organization focused on choirs, hence the “X” (for χορωδίες) in the name MEFGOX, but several years ago, members expanded the Federation’s reach and activity to include clergy, chanters, and youth music leaders. Thus, the organization became the “Federation of Greek Orthodox Church Musicians,” though all the

while keeping the “X” in the extensively-branded MEFGOX.

Since its beginnings, MEFGOX has continuously served these past 71 years as a resource for church parish music programs. Our goals include providing assistance regarding church music, educating church musicians, promoting development and performance of liturgical music, disseminating educational materials, offering scholarships, and serving as a clearinghouse for discussion of church music topics. MEFGOX also is a founding and active member of our national organization, the National Forum of Greek Orthodox Church Musicians. In fact, two of its four National Chairmen have been from MEFGOX (†Niki Kalkanis of blessed memory and Vicki Pappas) and other members serve as Standing Committee heads.

Many of these goals will be highlighted at MEFGOX’s forthcoming Convention in Dayton, Ohio on July 19-22. There will be workshops about “Teaching and Learning to Sing a cappella,” “Tips for Learning New Music,” and “Appropriate Music for Use During Communion.” A massed choir will rehearse new music developed by Constantine Limberakis under the direction of Maritsa-Madias-Kalasz, providing an opportunity to sing music with a larger choir than they may experience at home and to experience a different director and her techniques. We will be graced with the presence of Metropolitan Nicholas who will offer his words of wisdom for choir members. We will award several scholarships to deserving collegians at our Grand Banquet on Sunday. Participants will have plenty of opportunities to discuss church music issues with singers from many parishes, and we will forge new friendships and connections through planned activities and social events during the weekend. We hope the church musicians from your parish will be there with us! Details about the Convention can be found at www.megox.org.



Pentecost: Engagement & Wedding Feast

BY FR. LUCAS CHRISTENSEN

*I will betroth you to Myself forever.
I will betroth you to Myself
in righteousness and in judgment,
in mercy and in compassion.
I will betroth you to Myself in faithfulness,
and you shall know the Lord.*
- Hosea 2:21-22 LXX



Wedding season is upon us in all its array of carefully arranged gowns and cautiously anxious grooms, excited brides, and exhibited bouquets. Preparations that have been underway for a year will come to their breathless completion amidst koufeta, crowns, and kleenex. The day is dizzying for all involved, the bride and groom especially. Anticipation that has been building since a seemingly-distant moment on bended knee, and a tearfully-accepted promise of life together, come joyfully breaking in on reality.

And who could be more understandably impatient than an engaged couple? There have been meetings with a priest to prepare spiritually, meetings with baker and caterers to prepare culinarily, meetings with a cameraman to prepare photographically, meetings with a venue to prepare hospitably. There have been disagreements and make-ups, half-baked plans to ‘just elope and get it over with’, followed by deep breathing with fiancé and fiancée calming one another in turns.

But then, comes the day. She walks; he watches. They meet; they turn. And there they are enshrined against the hallowed frame of the Beautiful Gate, and they dance with Isaiah and are made king and queen in Christ. And although today culminates so much attention and effort, this is only the beginning.

Pentecost is a feast that has long been considered both the engagement of God Himself to His bride, the Church, as well as the celebration of the wedding itself. The first Pentecost was celebrated 3,300 years ago, when God told His holy people Israel that it was His intention to make them His bride. He presented them with the marriage covenant, a series of ten (now-famous) descriptions of what life would be like with Him. He sealed them to Himself and began to prepare His bride for their wedding day. Today, a year feels an eternity between engagement and marriage; and God’s own people waited over a millennium.

Pentecost continued to be celebrated over a thousand years, commemorating this engagement, awaiting its fulfillment. It was known as Shavuot—the Feast of Weeks—because of the seven weeks between Passover, literally ‘Pascha,’ and Pentecost. And it was this very day—the fiftieth day after the Pascha of Christ Himself that the promise of marriage was to be fulfilled, when our Lord sent the Holy Spirit on His Church, consummating all the promises that had been made so long ago.

Today we celebrate this Pentecost, and we celebrate it not as bystanders and well-wishers, looking on as yet another friend ties the knot. Today, this Pentecost is the day when we celebrate our marriage to God—an eternal marriage of life together with Him in His love. Just as in every marriage, we must spend time with our spouse—once a year, once a month, even once a week is never enough for those in love. We come to our beloved daily in prayer to speak with Him, and we read His love letters to us in the Scriptures to hear Him speak to us. Beloved, we celebrate our wedding to Christ this Pentecost, and although today culminates so much attention and effort on the part of our Lord, this was only ever the beginning.

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Friends of the Metropolis

www.detroit.goarch.org/friends



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grow

Friends of the Metropolis 2018

+ His Eminence Metropolitan Nicholas

Ann Arbor, MI - St. Nicholas

St. Nicholas Philoptochos
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and Presbytera Silvana
Pliakas, Fr. Vasilios
and Presbytera Kyriakoula
Baldwin, James and Mary Suzanne
Daniels, Tony and Clevie
Yates, Margaret

Binghamton, NY – Holy Trinity

Bahlatzis, Fr. Michael
and Presbytera Kimberly

Bloomfield Hills, MI – St. George

Abell, Fr. Christopher
and Presbytera Alice
Iakovides, Dimitri

Buffalo, NY - Annunciation

Christakis, Fr. Christos
and Presbytera Lisa
Blakeslee, Ronald and Maria
Hennas, Andrew
Manos, Margaret
Pappas, Victoria
Toufexis, George and Lorraine
Veanes, Angelo A.

Carmel, IN - Holy Trinity

Holy Trinity Parish
Holy Trinity Philoptochos
Holy Trinity Choir
Holy Trinity GOYA
Bartz, Fr. William and Presbytera Emily
Christensen, Fr. Lucas
and Presbytera Stacey
Mamalis, Presbytera Janet
Andros, Cheryl
Brochhagen, Curt and Renee
Calliotte, Angela
Chekouras, Randolph
Christoff, Bill and Karen

Churchill, Bill and Patti
Conrad, William and Kathleen
Dallas, Christopher and Teresa
DeHart, Stacy and Susan
Dickos, Theone
Dimos, Jim and Kathy
Dine, Robert and Diana
Dunbar, Pete and Lea
Eleftheri, Anthony and Jill
Eleftheri, Lawrence and Beth
Emmanoelides, Melinda
Gibson, Karen

Gounaris, George and Sarina
Johnson, Ronald and Sunday
Kirages, George and Susan
Kollias, Stephen and Gail
Lisch, Michael and Jean
Maltby, Ray and Bessie
Nicholos, Sam and Dawn
Oberlies, Toulia
Pappas, Leon and Andrea
Pappas, Nick and Tracy
Pavlakos, Elias and Maria
Payne, Martha
Pease, John and Maria
Pease, Mary
Reckas, Menelaos and Sherry
Rowlas, Julie
Saran, Nicholas
Sofianopoulos, Nick and Vickie
Spirrison, Andrew
Vitsas, Constantine and Sondra
Vitsas, James
Vitsas, Jon
Vitsas, Vanessa
Waterbury, Anthony and Kristen
Woodruff, Jim and Cindy

Chattanooga, TN - Annunciation

Annunciation Parish
Ballas, Fr. Stavros and Presbytera Thea
Bougdanos, Maria R.
Bouloukos, Dino and Maria
Bundros, Tom and Lara
Dimopoulos, Dennis and Barbara

Fotiadis, Nicky
Fox, Ann F.
Gaitanoglou, John and Jane
Hopper, Richard and Chrisi
Kouris, George
Mastilovic, Mick and Lynn
Merritt, Venetia
Mousourakis, John and Donna
Monk, Grace
Simpson, Joseph and Jillian
Tolbert, John and Janice

Cincinnati, OH

- Holy Trinity-St. Nicholas
Holy Trinity-St. Nicholas Parish
Assaley, Lewis and Patricia
Perdikakis, Gus and JoAnn
Stringas, Emanuel

Dayton, OH - Annunciation

Gingrich, Fr. Joseph
Abboud, Fayez and Maria
Alex, Sandra
Barron, John Jr. and Cynthia
Bouris, Harry and Linda
Caras, Gregory and Maria
Casey, David and Andrea
Castleman, Maria
Couchot, Christine
Daskalakis, Tom and Theodora
Davell, Constantine and Phyllis
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Fote, Alex and Photini
Hurst, Evonna
Jackson, Michael and Ioanna
Keilholz, Mark and Cynthia
Kordalis, George and Katina
Morris, Chrisoula
Nakis, George
Nicholas, Joanne
Pacilio, Dennis and Vickie
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Polychronis, Maria
Redovian, Karen
Russell, Nelson and Theona

Searles, John and Mary
Speros, Gregory and Jane
Spyrou, Elias and Kathy
Stamas, James and Elizabeth
Tsatalis, Catherine
Zalants, Anthony and Irene
Zavakos, James and Ruthann
Zois, Nick and Michelle

Detroit, MI - Annunciation Cathedral

Bennert, Constance
Gaggos, Harry and Irene
In Memory of Helen Fakaros Tyler
Kazolis, Koula
Politis, Dean L.

Farmington Hills, MI - Holy Cross

Holy Cross Philoptochos
Hountalas, Fr. Dean
and Presbyteria Olga
Artemas, Fr. John and Presbyteria Nikie
Casoglos, Thomas and Mary
George, John and Debbie
Katsias, George and Irene

Fort Wayne, IN - Holy Trinity

Holy Trinity Philoptochos
Walsh, Fr. Andrew
and Presbyteria Sophia
Maggos, El and Voula

Grand Blanc, MI - Assumption

Assumption Parish
Maggos, Fr. Angelo and Presbyteria Teri
Chinonis, Dennis and Debra
Kalatzis, Athena
Kallis, Agape
Kaloydis, John and Karen
Karabinas, Pavlos and Ruth
Schultze, JoAnne
Yeotis, Catherine

Grand Rapids, MI - Holy Trinity

Berends, Fr. James
and Presbyteria Anne
Cassis, Deacon George
and Diakonissa Vicki
Afendoulis, Angelynn
Georgeson, Menas and Frosene
Gray, Mark and Alexis
Monoyios, Terry and Akriivi
Nicholas, James S.
Petricevic, Mark and Lili

Ithaca, NY - St. Catherine

Bantuvanias, Ann
Bezirgianian, John

Jamestown, NY - St. Nicholas

St. Nicholas Parish
St. Nicholas Philoptochos
Russell, Fr. Jarrod
Cheronis, James and Christine

Kalamazoo, MI – Annunciation

Theoharis, Fr. Theoharis
Ingalls, Robert and Andriana

Lansing, MI – Holy Trinity

Sietsema, Fr. Mark
and Presbyteria Katherine
Munk, Jerry and Jan

Lexington, KY - Panagia Pantovasilissa

Arimes, Vickie
Minor, Tom and Delores

Little Rock, AR - Annunciation

Verdaris, Fr. Nicholas
and Presbyteria Maria

Louisville, KY - Assumption

Boukis, Fr. Jon and Presbyteria Doreece
Wingenbach, Fr. Gregory
Blackford, Charles and Patricia
Makris, Mary

Memphis, TN – Annunciation

Annunciation Philoptochos
Hawkins, Charles and Elizabeth
Kay, John and Nancy
Semos, Vasili and Luane

Muskegon, MI - Annunciation

Annunciation Philoptochos
Encelewski, Christine Danigelis
Ladas, Paul and Patricia

Nashville, TN - Holy Trinity

Hohnholt, Fr. Gregory
and Presbyteria Sofia
Holy Trinity Philoptochos
Billo, John and Kassiani
Harman, Todd and Dawn
Lamberson, Lambert and Helen
Miller, John M.
Taras, Nick and Donna

Nashville, TN - St. John Chrysostom

Courington, Christopher and Shelley
Wagner, Charles and Edith

Plymouth, MI - Nativity of the Virgin Mary

Nativity of the Virgin Mary Philoptochos
Tsaprazis, Peter and Diane
Wernette, David and Golfo

Rochester, NY - Annunciation

Annunciation Parish
Annunciation Philoptochos
Pink, Kenneth J.

Rochester, NY - Holy Spirit

Marcantoni, Fr. Michael
and Presbyteria Katherine
Gesell, Melody A.

Saginaw, MI - St. Demetrios

Cook, Fr. Timothy
and Presbyteria Catherine
Barris, Thomas and Angela
Bazakis, Andrew and Ann
Caldwell, Larry and Peggy
Houpis, Evan and Candace
Ostler, Dennis and Soula
Rouman, George and Frances
Stamas, Jim and Marsha

Southgate, MI - St. George

St. George Parish
St. George Philoptochos
Cook, Fr. Anthony
and Presbyteria Elizabeth
Anonymous
Constantakis, Clarence
Colovos, Bill and Julie
Danckaert, Seraphim and Anne

Diamantis, John and Christin
Dionyssopoulos, Stavros and Eleni
Kontos, Chris and Frances
Kontos, John and Marika
Kotronis, George and Stella
Liakos, Michael and Karen
Minton, Barbara
Minton, Nicholas
Moody, Rick and Kim
Tougas, Christian and Lauren
Vougiouklakis, Peter and Christina

Springfield, OH – Assumption

Lagos, James H.

St. Clair Shores, MI - Assumption

Assumption Parish
Varlamos, Fr. Michael
and Presbyteria Tina
Hatzichronoglou, Lena
Manos, Chris and Kathy
Niforos, Theodore and Ann
Thomas, Tom and Lynn

Sterling Heights, MI - St. John

Kotsis, Andrew and Irene
Kotsis, Harry and Katherine
Souris, Bernice

Toledo, OH – Holy Trinity Cathedral

Holy Trinity Cathedral Philoptochos
Biernacki, Gerald and Pauline
Jenkins, Steven and Penny
Sieben, Paul
Yakumithis, Manuel K.

Traverse City, MI - Archangel Gabriel

Poumade, John and Nicola
Underwood, Robert and Theresa

Troy, MI - St. Nicholas

Karmanos, Peter and Danialle
Liakonis, Chris and Labrini
Zotos, Gregory

Vestal, NY - Annunciation

Bahlatzis, Fr. Michael
and Presbyteria Kimberly
Gianakouros, Harry and Katie
Yacalis, Vasili and Pamela

Westland, MI - Sts. Constantine and Helen

Sts. Constantine and Helen Parish
Sts. Constantine and Helen Philoptochos
Sts. Constantine and Helen Men's Club
Petritiu, Fr. Teodor
and Presbyteria Roxana
Alexandris, Athanasios and Athena
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Skotanis, Bill and Fay
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Orthodox Church Musicians - MEFGOX

Special Article

The St. Sampson Medical Clinic

On June 27th, 2010 Dr. Jim Gore heard Father Gregory Hohnholt's homily about St. Sampson the Hospitable. The homily provided inspiration for a medical clinic at Holy Trinity Church in Nashville, TN. After approval from His Eminence Metropolitan Nicholas, Father Gregory, the parish council as well as the parish assembly, St. Sampson Medical Clinic saw its first patient February 2012. The clinic was established for uninsured adults who have rheumatologic diseases (lupus, rheumatoid arthritis, psoriatic arthritis, gout, etc). The clinic is one Saturday a month at the church, staffed by volunteers. Patients must be referred from a primary care clinic or health department.

As of May 2018, the clinic has seen 650 patients for 1900 patient visits. Patients have been referred from over 35 counties in Tennessee as well as Kentucky and Mississippi, mostly by word of mouth. One primary care clinic about thirty miles south of Nashville wrote in the referral, "Send the patient to the clinic at the Greek Orthodox Church."

Several of the rheumatology medicines are very expensive and require paperwork from a rheumatologist. Through the clinic patients have received over 1.5 million dollars of free medications.

The clinic is only possible because of the continued support of His Eminence Metropolitan Nicholas and Father Gregory as well as numerous parishioners who donate their time, talent, and treasure. The clinic has also been supported by Philoptochos (local and metropolis) as well as AHEPA (local and national).

For more information on the clinic, including hand-written patient comments, please visit www.stsampsonclinic.com. Inquiries are also welcome through the website.

Glory to God for blessing this clinic!



Dr. Jim Gore performing an exam



Volunteers at check-in



Display table



Sign at door welcoming patients

Photo Highlights



Pentecost Liturgy & Kneeling Prayers
St. George Church, Bloomfield Hills, MI
May 27



Sts. Constantine & Helen Feastday
Sts. Constantine & Helen Church, Westland, MI
May 21



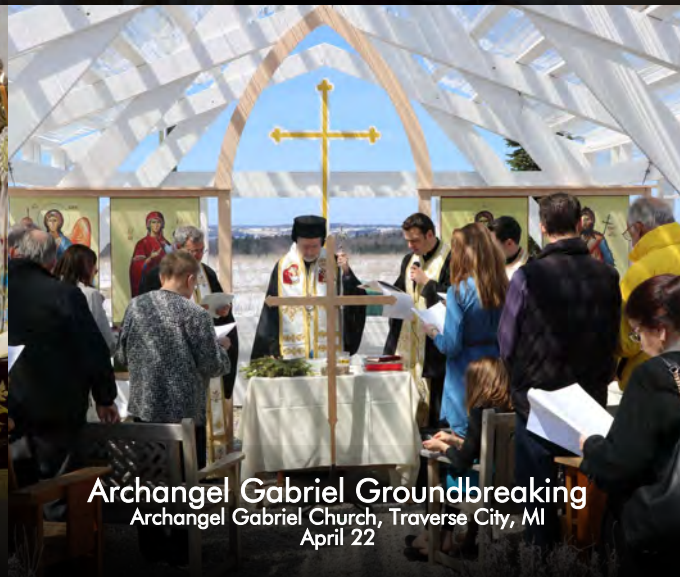
**St. John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival
Metropolis Finals**
St. John the Baptist Church, Sterling Heights, MI
May 19



Mother's Day Liturgy
St. Nicholas Church, Ann Arbor, MI
May 13



**Ordination to the Diaconate
Bryce Vasilios Buffenbarger**
Sts. Constantine & Helen Church, Westland, MI
May 5



Archangel Gabriel Groundbreaking
Archangel Gabriel Church, Traverse City, MI
April 22

Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America
Metropolis of Detroit

The Shepherd's Staff

The Official Publication of the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Detroit



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Dear Friends of the Metropolis

You made a tremendous impact in our Metropolis of Detroit for the year 2017. Because of your love and support for the Friends of the Metropolis program, we have been able to fully fund the continued operation and ministries of our Metropolis. Please know that the Metropolis of Detroit has always had an open financial accounting of our income and expenses.

Every gift to our Metropolis has been spent in accordance with the needs, work, and ministry of our Office for the benefit of our Parishes, our Clergy, our Faithful, and all of our individual ministries

If you are getting ready to give a donation for the 2018 Friends of the Metropolis program, please remember how your donations are used:

- ❖ **YOU** made it possible for Metropolitan Nicholas to accept Archbishop Demetrios' request for him to be the Metropolitan Locum Tenens of Chicago;
- ❖ **YOU** have helped us to pay all the normative operational expenses of the Metropolis Office including: building maintenance and repair; heat; lights; postage; technology; and supplies;
- ❖ Through **YOUR** support, Metropolitan Nicholas was able to attend the meeting of the Eparchial Synod with the Ecumenical Patriarch in August;
- ❖ **YOU** have made it possible to cover the travel expenses incurred during our pastoral visitations to the Metropolis parishes;
- ❖ **YOU** helped make certain that we are able to contribute to student loan payments for our clergy

and church workers who graduated from the Hellenic College/Holy Cross and serve in our Metropolis parishes;

- ❖ **YOU** have assured that there is a summer youth camp available to all of our young people;
- ❖ **YOU** helped support the annual regional youth lenten retreats;
- ❖ **YOU** have been the helping hands who gave through our office to those in need of shelter, clothing, food, and medical supplies;
- ❖ **YOU** helped us upgrade our technology systems so that live video conference calls can include clergy and faithful from Arkansas to New York;
- ❖ **YOU** have made it possible for us at the Metropolis to repair the water leaks in the basement of our Metropolis Office;
- ❖ **YOU** helped us donate money to rebuild the Ionian Village;
- ❖ **YOU** helped Metropolitan Nicholas assist people in emergency situations in need of financial support;

Thank you for your great stewardship!

God be praised!

Thank You!

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