



Issue 4 | Volume X | Indiction 2018

Official Publication of the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Detroit

The Shepherd's Staff



Out of you has risen the Sun of Righteousness

Icon of the Nativity of the Theotokos - Nativity Church, Plymouth, MI

Metropolitan's Message

My Beloved Family in Christ,

Have you ever started a project at work or home and suddenly realized that somewhere things had gone horribly wrong? How often have you said or done something that you immediately regretted? So many times in our lives we come to a point where we wish we could just start over.

You may be unfamiliar with the term "Indiction," but you are certainly familiar with the fact that the Church celebrates a continual cycle of feast days. You may also have noticed that we just recently remembered the falling asleep of the Theotokos on August 15, and that we will be celebrating her birth very soon on September 8. It may seem a bit strange that these two feast days fall so closely together, but that's where the feast of the Indiction comes in. The Church reckons the year not from January through December, but from September through August. September 1, Indiction, is the Church's new year celebration.

This is not simply a celebration of the beginning of a year that will be largely the same as the year prior, it is an opportunity to start over. It is a recognition that all things are made anew because of the reality of the Kingdom of Heaven coming to earth in the person of Christ, which is ultimately the point of every feast of our Church. It is a rejection of the Greco-Roman concept of time as a repetitive cycle that will continue into eternity with little-to-no real change. It is an affirmation of the fact that we as

humans, all of creation, and even time itself all have a *telos* – an end goal towards which all things are directed. That goal is union with our Creator.

It is no coincidence that we begin the cycle of great feasts with the Nativity of the Theotokos. The Church recognizes that we may have spent the previous year pursuing our own desires and rejecting the will of God, and therefore offers us the example of the person who most fully embraced the love and power of our creator by receiving Him into her womb.

Many people from other church traditions find the degree to which we honor the Theotokos to be somewhat shocking. She is, after all, likely to be featured in the largest and most prominent icon in our churches. But notice that you will never see an icon of her alone, she is always indicating the way to her Son. When we have walked away from our faith, she invites us to turn around. When we have closed our eyes to the direction of God, she invites us to look upon our Savior. When we have failed, she invites us to start over.

I will leave you with Saint Paul's instructions to the Hebrews: "Since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us." (Hebrews 12:1) This new year, let's follow this encouragement of Saint Paul. Let's look to the example of the Theotokos and say yes to the will of our loving God. Let's start over.



METROPOLITAN NICHOLAS OF DETROIT



Metropolitan Nicholas visits with parishioners of the Assumption Church in Marquette, Michigan for their parish feast day.

Metropolis News

- ❖ His Eminence, Metropolitan Nicholas, will be ordaining several men to the permanent diaconate over the coming months. All of the candidates are graduates of the low-residency diaconate program at the Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology in Boston. If you are interested in serving as a deacon in your parish, please contact the Metropolis office. More information about the program can be found at: www.hchc.edu/academics/diaconate_program/
- ❖ As the semester gets going, please keep our seminarians in your prayers. Spiro Morris from Holy Cross in Farmington Hills, Michigan, began at the seminary this year. Alex Malian from the Assumption Church in St. Clair Shores, Michigan, returned to Hellenic College. Theodore Lyketsos from Chicago will be graduating from the seminary in the spring.



Spiro Morris and Alex Malian outside the chapel at Hellenic College Holy Cross

Metropolitan's Schedule

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

September

3	Labor Day - Offices Closed	
8	Nativity of the Theotokos	Vespers (9/7) & Liturgy (9/8), Plymouth, MI
9	Divine Liturgy & Parish Picnic	Ann Arbor, MI
14	Exaltation of the Holy Cross (Offices Closed)	Vespers (9/13) & Liturgy (9/14), Farmington, MI
15	Family Life Center Opening	Buffalo, NY
16-17	Name Day Visit	Syracuse, NY
22-23	10th Anniversary Event	Carmel, IN

October

1-4	Assembly of Canonical Bishops	Cleveland, OH
7	Divine Liturgy	Grand Blanc, MI
8	Columbus Day - Offices Closed	
12-14	Parish Visit/Ordination	Nashville, TN
16-19	Eparchial Synod Meetings	New York, NY
20-21	Parish Visit	Memphis, TN
25-26	Name Day Visit	Saginaw, MI
27-28	Parish Visit	Traverse City, MI

Youth News

BY EVA KONSTANTAKOS

ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN SUMMER CAMPS IN THE METROPOLIS OF DETROIT – ANOTHER AMAZING YEAR OF FAITH AND FELLOWSHIP!

“For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I in the midst of them.” Matthew 18:20

Orthodox Christian camping ministries provide a special opportunity for youth to worship, learn, grow, and transform in Christ in a safe and fun environment. The Metropolis of Detroit is incredibly blessed to have **three** camping ministries to serve the youth of its parishes. Here is a brief recap of this summer:

MDSC – Metropolis of Detroit Summer Camp (www.gomdsc.org)

MDSC enjoyed another great summer with youth from Michigan, Indiana, and Ohio. The theme for MDSC 2018 was focused on discipleship and following Christ – remembering the words of Saint Paul in his letter to the Philippians... “I can do all things in Him who strengthens me.” This was the first season led by the new camp directors - Spiro Morris and Thea Patterson.

ST. TIMOTHY SUMMER CAMP (www.sttimothycamp.org)

St. Timothy Summer Camp, held at the Oswegatchie Educational Center, gathered youth from throughout the Upstate NY area of the Metropolis. This year’s topic was “Does it Make a Difference?” – discussing how the Orthodox Christian faith guides us in everything that we do in life. This year, St. Timothy Summer Camp also brought back the Young Adult “Grad” group – a concurrent camp experience for recent high school graduates and college students.

ST. NICHOLAS SUMMER CAMP (www.stnicholascamp.org)

St. Nicholas Summer Camp, held at Loucon Retreat Center in Leitchfield, KY for the 2nd year, gathered youth from Indiana, Kentucky, Ohio, and Tennessee to learn about Christ and have fun! This year’s camp theme was “I Believe” - focusing on what it means to believe, and discussing the challenges we face in holding on to and growing in our faith in Christ.

THANK YOU

To our Metropolis Clergy... who take time from their parishes and families to spend a week at camp with our young people – helping them learn about Christ and the Orthodox Christian faith. May God grant them many years!

To the Directors and Staff of our Camps ... for their hard work throughout the year for the camping ministries of our Metropolis. Each one deserves our heartfelt gratitude for their tireless efforts.

To the Friends of the Metropolis... for the continued generosity that helps to support the Metropolis and, in turn, our camping ministry programs.

To the Leadership 100 Foundation... for providing each Metropolis with financial assistance for campers, as well as support for ongoing camp program needs.

To the Campers... for coming to camp with open hearts, great attitudes, and a desire to enjoy faith and fellowship in Christ with other youth from throughout the Metropolis.

Please keep our summer camps in your prayers. May God grant our camp programs many years!



MDSC - Group Photo (Week 3)



St. Nicholas Camp - Group Photo



St. Timothy Camp - Group Photo

Upcoming Events

Sep 22, 2018	Be the Bee Retreat	Holy Spirit/Rochester, NY
Oct 8, 2018	Upstate NY Columbus Day Picnic	Annunciation Family Life Center/ Lancaster, NY
Oct 13, 2018	Michigan Area Dodgeball Tournament	St. John @ Assumption/St. Clair Shores, MI
Nov 9-11, 2018	Holiday Hoops Basketball Tournament	St. John/Sterling Heights, MI

Philoptochos News

BY THEONE DICKOS

Hope your summer has been enjoyable and relaxing.



Theone Dickos
President

Even during this leisurely time, Philoptochos is always busy with many events and activities. From July 1-5, the National Philoptochos Convention took place in Boston, Massachusetts. The conference gave the nearly 400 delegates the opportunity and privilege to see inspiring speakers, share ideas in interactive discussion groups and participate in hands on activities.

At each National Philoptochos Conference, one candidate from each Metropolis is selected to receive the AGAPE Award (All Generations Accomplishing Philanthropic Endeavors). The awards were presented at the Agape Breakfast on Wednesday. Congratulations to Cynthia Hackett from the Holy Trinity Philoptochos in Carmel, IN, the Metropolis of Detroit Winner. A member of Philoptochos for over 40 years, she has been in many leadership roles in the parish including Philoptochos President, Chair of the Greek Festival for several years and currently is the President of the Leisure Timers Group for seniors. Since Cindy was unable to attend, I was honored to accept the award on her behalf. Receiving Honorable Mention Certificates were Pauline Biernacki from Toledo, Ohio, Vangie Kolokithas from Ann Arbor, Michigan, Margaret Manos from Buffalo, New York and Michelle Zois from Dayton, Ohio.

Four years ago our National President Maria Logus challenged the chapters to participate in more hands on activities and to provide 250,000 meals by the 2016 Convention in Nashville, Tennessee. The chapters rose to the occasion with over 750,000 meals. Refusing to let the chapters rest on their laurels, President Logus issued a new challenge for all chapters to provide 1,000,000 meals by the 2018 Convention in Boston, MA. As of June 2018, the Philoptochos chapters across the nation provided an astounding 1,343,000 meals to feed the hungry.

Philoptochos delegates as well as Clergy-Laitly delegates participated in a meal packing event in partnership with Rise Against Hunger. The event took place at the Boston Marriot Copley Place on July 5, where in two one hour sessions the delegates worked together and assembled 10,000 meals for

hungry people. The participants enjoyed the camaraderie and serving together with a purpose.

At every Philoptochos Convention, one chapter from each Metropolis is selected to develop a program that provides assistance, nurturing and care to its recipients. We were extremely proud of the Metropolis of Detroit Chapter Challenge presentation by Vangie Kolokithas and Christina Vlahopoulos from St Nicholas Church in Ann Arbor, Michigan. The initiative was entitled "A Place to Play." Moved by a charming, charismatic ten year old parishioner named CJ, the Philoptochos of St, Nicholas chose to center their project on Creating Brighter Futures, a family based autism clinic. Fundraising events led to the complete excavation of an outdoor playground. St. John the Baptist Church, Sterling Heights, Michigan has been selected to develop a program over the next two years for presentation of their Chapter Challenge in 2020.

The no show Royal Tea celebrating the Royal Wedding was a big success, raising funds which exceeded over \$11,400. A big thank you to all our Philoptochos Friends who contributed to this fundraiser. The Metropolis of Detroit Philoptochos Board is grateful for your support. All funds collected were directed to the Partners in Philanthropy Fund and the Emergency Fund. Your kindness helps to make a difference in so many people's lives. Most recently, monies were sent to the victims of the fires in Greece.

Wishing you a productive and enjoyable Philoptochos year. Many chapters are planning their kick off meetings and membership drives in September. Make sure to invite ladies of all ages to attend. The Philoptochos needs everyone to help those who are less fortunate.

PHILOPTOCHOS CONTRIBUTIONS

- ❖ National Philoptochos disbursed donations of \$887,355 from May – July 2018
- ❖ Metropolis of Detroit Philoptochos
 - ♦ Emergency Fund - \$1000 for the victims of the fires in Greece
 - ♦ Partners in Philanthropy and General Fund- \$1500 for a Philoptochos sister in need



The National Philoptochos Agape Breakfast with His Eminence Metropolitan Nicholas of Detroit and Philoptochos sisters of the Metropolis honoring Cynthia Hackett from Holy Trinity Carmel, IN. Also attending were Father William Bartz, presiding priest and Father Lucas Christensen

MEFGOX News

Reviewing the Past Year

By Dr. Vicki Pappas
President, Mid-Eastern Federation of
Greek Orthodox Church Musicians

The Mid-Eastern Federation serves as the music ministry for the Metropolises of Pittsburgh and Detroit. This year marked the Federation's 72nd year in existence, the longest continuous one in our Archdiocese. The purpose of the Federation is to serve as a church music resource to clergy and their parishes, including choirs, chanters, and youth music programs.



This past year, MEFGOX assisted parishes in implementing the Divine Liturgy Hymnal for use by their congregations and/or their choirs and chanters. This new resource is based on the new standard English translation developed and approved by our Holy Synod. In addition, the Federation assisted parishes in selecting music, starting Church School hymnology programs or youth choirs, choir recruitment and development, and information about available chant resources.

The Federation also supports local parishes to present their own church music educational programs. For the fourth year in a row, the Annunciation/Akron Choir hosted a weekend retreat featuring Constantina Tsolainou, a noted choral technician originally from Sts. Constantine and Helen/Cleveland Heights. This October, Akron will host another weekend development program, this time featuring Kevin Lawrence, composer of a recent choral version for the Divine Liturgy Hymnal so choirs and congregations can sing the same music and words of the Divine Liturgy. Choir members from both Metropolises are invited to attend. In the Detroit Metropolis, the Metro choirs will host a choral workshop this fall which will focus on vocal improvement.



The Federation held its annual Convention at Annunciation Church in Dayton this past July, where 18 parishes were represented. Detroit Metropolis participants were from 12 of those parishes: Buffalo, Detroit, Grand Blanc, Grand Rapids, Indianapolis, Lexington, Southgate, St. Clair Shores, Toledo, Troy, and Westland, as well as a healthy contingent of church musicians

from Dayton. Maritsa Madias-Kalasz served as Guest Director and George Cholack as Guest Accompanist, both from Sts. Constantine & Helen in Westland. Besides preparing music for Sunday's Divine Liturgy, participants gained new knowledge and resources to take to their parishes from well-received workshops about A Cappella Singing and Hymns During Communion presented by Bill Christoff of Holy Trinity/Indianapolis, Learning New Music presented by Maritsa, and Clergy and Choirs in Harmony presented by Fathers Bill Bartz and Joseph Gingrich. Metropolitan Nicholas also was present for the latter, and then presented his own session on "The WHY of Being a Church Music in the Orthodox Church."



The Federation announced several awards at the Convention. Four Memorial Scholarships were awarded to young church musicians active in church music endeavors in their parishes, two from the Detroit Metropolis: Alexa Kalasz from Sts. Constantine & Helen/Westland and Victoria Martine from Holy Trinity/Indianapolis. Maritsa Madias-Kalasz was named as this year's recipient of the Patriarch Athenagoras Medal for Distinguished Metropolis Service in Church Music.

Federation priorities for the coming year include continuing to support educational experiences for church musicians and fostering the recruitment of new members to church music as a part of their stewardship. MEFGOX will offer to support additional parish and regional workshops such as those described above and also implementing a continuing education program for church musicians wishing to participate in shorter term educational programs. MEFGOX will continue to seek input, encourage participation in joint church music programs, and keep church musicians and clergy about new developments and resources through its website, listserv, and publication of its newsletter, the Byzantine ECHO.



Our Lady of Perpetual Help

BY FR. CIPRIAN STREZA

"To the Theotokos let us run now most fervently; as sinners and lowly ones, let us fall down in repentance, crying from the depths of our soul: Lady, come and help us, have compassion upon us; hasten now for we are lost in the host of our errors; do not turn your servants away, for you alone are a hope to us."
(from the Paraklesis service)

In 1999 a small group of Orthodox faithful, under the pastoral guidance of (then) Bishop Nicholas, started a Mission Parish in the beautiful Traverse City, Michigan. The next nineteen years were a continuous display of God's grace and blessings, the hard work of many people, and growth of the Orthodox community in Northern Michigan. In 2012, a five-acre parcel was purchased in the area known by thousands of visitors as "God's country," and earlier this year the corner stone was set in place by Metropolitan Nicholas with the entire community, which has grown to about sixty families.

The Paraklesis services of the Dormition fast had gained a special meaning this year, as faithful regularly gathered to pray to the Theotokos for her intercessions and protection of the building project, so that these efforts may come to fruition for the glory of God and the establishment of a permanent Orthodox presence in Northern Michigan. After the last Paraklesis service before the Feast of the Dormition, one of the parishioners asked for permission to go metal detecting on the newly stripped property, hoping to find an old coin, ring, or some antiques. A few minutes later, in the area where the sanctuary is being built, just underneath the topsoil, a beautiful treasure was revealed: a small, metal icon with the Virgin Mary on one side and Saint Christopher on the other side. The words "My Protector" were inscribed below Saint Christopher - whose name means the Christ-bearer and is commemorated on May 9th. Saint Christopher is depicted with the infant Christ on his shoulder. This depiction is the source of the proverb: "If on Christopher thou shouldst gaze, thou shalt safely wend life's ways."



Beneath the image of the Virgin Mary there was the inscription: O.L. OF PERPHELP. After some research, we found the story of the original icon. The icon, whose title is Our Lady of Perpetual Help, was originally in the Monastery of Keras Kardiotissas in Crete, Greece, from where it was stolen by a merchant and taken to Rome. It remained in the private possession of the merchant's family until March 27, 1499 when it was transferred to the church of San Matteo, where it remained for 300 years. The icon, which was believed to be miraculous, gained in popularity under the name of Madonna di San Matteo. Currently, the icon is located at Saint Alphonsus di Liguouri Shrine in Rome. The original icon depicts the Ever-Virgin Mary, wearing a dark red mantle (representing the Passion of Christ,) with a blue mantle (representing her perpetual virginity) and a cloaked veil (representing her pure modesty.) She is facing the faithful while pointing at her Son, Jesus Christ. On the left side is Archangel Michael carrying the lance and sponge of the crucifixion of Christ, and on the right side is Archangel Gabriel (the Patron Saint of our Parish in Traverse City) carrying a three-bar cross and nails. The Greek inscriptions read ΜΡ-ΘΥ (Μήτηρ Θεοῦ, Mother of God), ΟΑΓ (Ο Αρχάγγελος Γαβριήλ, Gabriel the Archangel) and ΙC-ΧC (Ιησοῦς Χριστός, Jesus Christ), respectively.

The property on which the icon was found and the new sanctuary will be built has an extremely beautiful view which overlooks the East Bay of Traverse City. The last use of the land was as a cherry orchard back in 1951. It is such a blessing to know that this icon has waited more than a half of a century to be discovered on the very place where an Orthodox Church is being erected for a Parish whose patron saint is Archangel Gabriel. God ordained this sacred place long before any Orthodox presence in the area and before anyone could conceive that one day this would be the home of the only full-time Orthodox Parish North of Saginaw and Grand Rapids. Building commenced in August and is expected to be completed in the summer of 2019.

The Archangel Gabriel community continues to grow by welcoming people from all backgrounds to the Orthodox faith and is asking for your continued prayers and support in this important ministry! For more information about the Church or building project, please visit www.tcorthodoxchurch.com or contact Fr. Ciprian at 513-728-0206 or fatherciprian@gmail.com. Through the prayers of the Theotokos of Perpetual Help, the protection of Archangel Gabriel the Patron Saint of our Parish, and of all the Saints, Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God have mercy on us and save us. Amen.



Donate to
Friends of the Metropolis

www.detroit.goarch.org/friends



pray



give



grow

Friends of the Metropolis 2018

List of Donors January 1 - August 31

+His Eminence Metropolitan Nicholas

Ann Arbor, MI - St. Nicholas

St. Nicholas Philoptochos
Radulescu, Fr. Alexandru and
Presbytera Silvana
Pliakas, Fr. Vasilios and
Presbytera Kyriakoula
Baldwin, James and Mary Suzanne
Daniels, Tony and Cleve
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 J.
Manos, Margaret
Pappas, Victoria
Toufexis, George and Lorraine
Veanes, Angelo

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
Dervenis, Nick and Sharon
Dervenis, Ted and Julia
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
Julovich, Angelo and Christine
Kirages, George and Susan

Kollias, Stephen and Gail
Lafter, Christopher and Antonia
Lisch, Michael and Jean
Malandrakis, Michael and Helen
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
Young, Michael and Helen

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
Zotos, Alexander and Jennifer

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
Derksen, James and Leah
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
Panagouleas, Maria
Polychronis, Maria
Redovian, Karen
Russell, Nelson and Theona
Searles, John and Mary
Shamma, H. Nicholas and Nadine
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

Annunciation Cathedral Philoptochos
Bennert, Constance
Gaggos, Harry and Irene
In Memory of Helen Fakaros Tyler
Kazolis, Koula
Lianos, Will and Kim
Politis, Dean L.
Tapazoglou, Nicolaos and Christine

Farmington Hills, MI - Holy Cross

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

Fort Wayne, IN - Holy Trinity

Holy Trinity Parish
Holy Trinity Philoptochos
Walsh, Fr. Andrew and
Presbytera Sophia
Maggos, El and Voula
Turner, Christian

Grand Blanc, MI - Assumption

Assumption Parish
Maggos, Fr. Angelo and
Presbytera 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
Presbytera Anne
Cassis, Deacon George and
Diakonissa Vicki
Afendoulis, Angelynn
Georgeson, Mena and Frosene
Gray, Mark and Alexis
Monoyios, Terry and Akrivi
Nicholas, James S.
Petricevic, Mark and Lili

Ithaca, NY - St. Catherine

Bantuvaris, Ann
Bezirianian, John

Jamestown, NY - St. Nicholas

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

Kalamazoo, MI - Annunciation

Theoharis, Fr. Theoharis
Ingalls, Robert and Andriana

Lansing, MI - Holy Trinity

Sietsema, Fr. Mark and
Presbytera Katherine
Munk, Jerry and Jan
Platsis, George and Barbara

Lexington, KY -

Panagia Pantovasilissa

Arimes, Vickie
Minor, Tom and Delores

Little Rock, AR – Annunciation

Verdaris, Fr. Nicholas and
Presbytera Maria
Pappas, James and Eva

Louisville, KY - Assumption

Boukis, Fr. Jon and
Presbytera Doreece
Wingenbach, Fr. Gregory
Blackford, Charles and Patricia
Makris, Mary
Taylor, Robert

Marquette, MI – Assumption

Wainio, Paul E. and Katherine

Memphis, TN - Annunciation

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

Middletown, OH –

Sts. Constantine and Helen

In Memory of Carol Clore Valen

Muskegon, MI - Annunciation
Annunciation Philoptochos
Encelewski, Christine Danigelis
Ladas, Paul and Patricia

Nashville, TN - Holy Trinity
Hohnholt, Fr. Gregory and
Presbytera Sofia
Holy Trinity Philoptochos
Billo, John and Kassiani
Gore, James and Stacy
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
Poulos, Louis
Tsaprazis, Peter and Diane
Vardouniotis, Michael
Wernette, David and Golfo

Rochester, NY - Annunciation
Annunciation Parish
Annunciation Philoptochos
Pink, Kenneth J.

Rochester, NY - Holy Spirit
Marcantoni, Fr. Michael and
Presbytera Katherine
Gesell, Melody A.

Saginaw, MI - St. Demetrios
Cook, Fr. Timothy and
Presbytera Catherine
Ahejew, Petro and Sandra
Barris, Thomas and Angela
Bazakis, Andrew and Ann
Caldwell, Larry and Peggy
Houpis, Evan and Candace
Metropoulos, Katherine E.
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
Presbytera Elizabeth
Anonymous
Constantakis, Clarence and Lillian
Colovos, Bill and Julie
Danckaert, Seraphim and Anne
Diamantis, John and Christin
Dionyssopoulos, Stavros and Eleni
Kircos, Lazaros and Paula
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
Presbytera Tina
Hatzichronoglou, Lena
Manos, Chris and Kathy
Niforos, Theodore and Ann
Thomas, Tom and Lynn

Sterling Heights, MI - St. John
Kourtesis, Alexander and Irene
Kotsis, Andrew and Irene
Kotsis, Harry and Katherine
Raphitis, E. Mike and Betty
Souris, Bernice
Tangalos, John and Mary

Toledo, OH - Holy Trinity Cathedral
Holy Trinity Cathedral Philoptochos
Biernacki, Gerald and Pauline
Chaka, Bryan and Kathy
Jenkins, Steven and Penny
Morris, Debra
Papadimos, Steven
Sieben, Paul
Yakumithis, Manuel K.

**Traverse City, MI -
Archangel Gabriel**
Archangel Gabriel Philoptochos
Poumade, John and Nicola
Sobkowski, Nikki
Underwood, Robert and Theresa
Stamos

Troy, MI - St. Nicholas
Karmanos, Peter and Danialle
Liakonis, Chris and Labrini
Zotos, Gregory

Vestal, NY - Annunciation
Annunciation Parish
Bahlatzis, Fr. Michael and
Presbytera 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
Petruitiu, Fr. Teodor and
Presbytera Roxana
Alexandris, Athanasios and Athena
Lembesis, Dino
Skotanis, Bill and Fay
Wulff, Monty S.

Other Friends:
AHEPA – Omega Chapter #371
Buffenbarger, Deacon Bryce and
Diakonissa Elyse
Logos Ministry of St. Symeon –
Miramar Beach, FL
Metropolis of Detroit Philoptochos
Mid Eastern Federation of Greek
Orthodox Church Musicians
(MEFGOX)
Sicoe, Fr. Cosmin and
Presbytera Mihaela

Thank you!

Photo Highlights



Parish Name Day Visit
Assumption Church, Marquette, MI
August 19



Dormition Liturgy
Assumption Church, St. Clair Shores, MI
August 15



Ecumenical Vigil for St. Anna
Cathedral of the Most Blessed Sacrament, Detroit, MI
July 24



72nd Annual MEFGOX Convention
Annunciation Church, Dayton, OH
July 19-22



Parish Visit
Annunciation Church, Chattanooga, TN
June 15-17



Rochester Festival Visit
Annunciation Church, Rochester, NY
June 1-3

Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America
Metropolis of Detroit

The Shepherd's Staff

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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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