



Issue 5 | Volume X | Christmas 2018

Official Publication of the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Detroit

# The Shepherd's Staff



*Let us follow the newly shining star that exceeds all heavenly lights.*

(From the Megalynaria of the Nativity of Christ)

Icon of the Nativity of Christ - St. Nicholas Church, Ann Arbor, MI

# Metropolitan's Message

My Beloved Family in Christ,

*Thanks be to God for His inexpressible gift!  
2 Corinthians 9:15*

Everybody knows those iconic symbols of Christmas ... they begin appearing as the winter weather approaches ... candles and lights, wreaths and trees, ribbons and bows. Somehow these sights speak directly to our hearts the reality: Christmas is coming.

From earliest childhood these signs of Christmas carried great meaning for us. We all remember how our parents began decorating the house with lights around the windows, garlands across the mantle, and the special place set aside for the tree. We began seeing



**His Eminence blesses the Annunciation Muskegon parish community upon completion of the first phase of their new iconography project.**

packages wrapped up in sparkling paper; secretly (we thought!) we tried to ascertain what was in each package with our own name on it. We can recall even now the fragrances of pine and cinnamon in our homes. And more than that, we heard the sounds of bells from every steeple and Christmas music all over town. Yes, it was truly a time when our whole world welcomed that special, holy day.

Permeating all of these memories of Yuletides past is also the recollection of joy we had while watching the unwrapping of a surprise gift that we gave to someone. It could have been our neighbor, our sibling, another member of our family, our best friend, or perhaps even to a stranger. Because we knew how special that unexpected gift makes both the giver and the receiver feel, it mattered less to whom we gave a surprise gift. It mattered most that we ourselves entered into the spirit of the season fully - by bringing someone that unexpected Christmas joy.

With these thoughts in mind, I would prayerfully ask that each of us rediscovers that sense of joy in Christmas giving by making a gift to someone who does not expect something from us. Not that we should give expecting to receive anything in return—but rather to give freely, with the love of Christ in our heart, giving as He Himself gave in all things. So that the person who receives our gift will truly know the sense of joy that we have at Christmas, when we celebrate God's gift to the world.

So, plan to give your surprise gift! And see how your gift can change a person's life! God bless you all. And ... Merry Christmas!

METROPOLITAN NICHOLAS OF DETROIT



# Metropolis News

❖ Congratulations to the Annunciation-St. Paraskevi parish community in New Buffalo, Michigan on the construction and installation of their new bell tower! (photo to the right)

❖ We are very proud to announce the ordinations of Deacon Vasilis Vallas at the Holy Trinity Church in Nashville on October 14, Tennessee and Deacon Vasilis Yacalis at the Annunciation Church in Vestal New York on November 18. Both of these fine deacons will be serving as a part of the permanent diaconal program.

(photos on the photos highlights page)

More information can be found at:

<https://www.hchc.edu/certificate-programs/diaconate-program/>



## Metropolitan's Schedule

**NOTICE: Metropolitan Nicholas' schedule is subject to change. Please visit our website for updates: [www.detroit.goarch.org/calendar](http://www.detroit.goarch.org/calendar).**

### December

16	Parish Visit	Holy Trinity-St. Nicholas Church, Cincinnati, OH
23	Parish Visit	Holy Trinity Cathedral, Toledo, OH
24	Christmas Eve Vespers Liturgy	St. George Church, Southgate, MI
25	Christmas Liturgy	Annunciation Cathedral, Detroit, MI
30	Parish Visit	Annunciation Church, Kalamazoo, MI
31	St. Basil Vespers Liturgy	TBD

### January

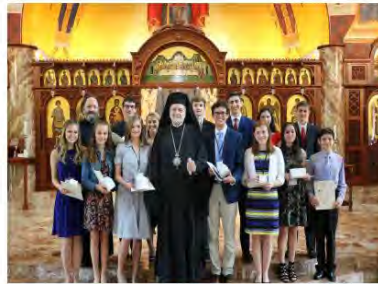
1	St. Basil Liturgy	TBD
6	Theophany Liturgy	St. John Church, Sterling Heights, MI
6	St. John the Forerunner Vespers	St. John Church, Sterling Heights, MI
7	St. John the Forerunner Liturgy	St. John Church, Sterling Heights, MI
13	Parish Visit	Assumption Church, St. Clair Shores, MI
20	Parish Visit	Annunciation Church, Dayton, OH
21	Martin Luther King Jr. Day - Office Closed	
27	Parish Visit	Assumption Church, Grand Blanc, MI

# Youth News

BY EVA KONSTANTAKOS

## A LOOK BACK AT 2018

It's been another incredible year for the youth and young adult ministries of our Metropolis. We thank all those who work tirelessly to bring young people closer to Christ - the clergy, youth workers (paid and volunteer), and countless others - through worship, witness, service, and fellowship. Here are just a few photos from this past year. We look forward to seeing you all in 2019!



# REAL BREAK

TRIP DATES  
**2019**

ROMANIA // MARCH 1-9  
ALBANIA // MARCH 1-10  
HOUSTON // MARCH 11-16  
PROJECT MEXICO // MARCH 11-16  
JERUSALEM // MARCH 15-23  
THESSALONIKI // MARCH 15-23  
ALASKA // MARCH 23-30  
MT. ATHOS (MALE ONLY) // MAY 22-30  
JERUSALEM (FEMALE ONLY) // JUNE 7-15

## Orthodox Christian Fellowship - REAL BREAK 2019

OCF's Real Break aims to prepare college students to be socially-informed Orthodox Christian citizens of this world, while directing their focus on the world to come – the kingdom of heaven. Built on a foundation of fellowship, education, worship, and service, Real Break provides students the opportunity to understand the true meaning of seeing Christ in the other – traveling to all parts of the world deepening their faith, serving those in need, and cultivating relationships with like-minded peers.

OCF will offer nine Real Break trips in 2019. March Spring Break trips include Romania, Albania (OCMC), Houston (IOCC), Project Mexico, Jerusalem, Thessaloniki, and Alaska. OCF will also offer two summer 2019 trips: one to Mt. Athos (male only) and one to Jerusalem (female only).

Registration costs vary according to the trip and limited scholarships are available.

For more information about Real Break 2019 or to register, visit <http://www.ocf.net/real-break-2019/>. In addition, please feel free to contact OCF's National Programs Manager, Donna Levas for more information: [donna@ocf.net](mailto:donna@ocf.net) or (617) 850-1227.

## Looking ahead to 2019

January 26-27, 2019

GOYO-IV on the Go

Holy Trinity/Grand Rapids, MI

February 15-17, 2019

45<sup>th</sup> Annual Dayton GOYA Basketball Tournament

Annunciation/Dayton, OH

March 23, 2019

Michigan Area GOYA Lenten Retreat

Holy Trinity/Toledo, OH

March 30, 2019

Upstate NY GOYA Lenten Retreat

St. Sophia/Syracuse, NY

April 13, 2019

Central District GOYA Lenten Retreat

Holy Trinity-St. Nicholas/Cincinnati, OH



# Philoptochos News

BY THEONE DICKOS

**Greetings, and may the beauty of this joyous season be with you always.**



The Metropolis Board will host its annual reception in honor of our beloved Metropolitan Nicholas' Nameday on Sunday, December 9. St. Spyridon Vespers Service will be held on Tuesday, December 11 and Divine Liturgy on Wednesday, December 12. We invite everyone to take part in these celebrations at the Metropolis Offices in Troy, Michigan.

As October is known as Breast Cancer Awareness Month, the Holy Trinity Cathedral Chapter, Carmel, Indiana hosted its annual Coffee Social and Luncheon on October 14. The Chapter fundraised for the Pink Ribbon Connection in Indianapolis whose mission is to provide emotional support, resources and education to those touched by breast cancer across Indiana. The proceeds of \$1000 were donated to the organization. During October, coats were also collected for Eskenazi Hospital for breast cancer patients in need.

Also in October, Philoptochos members of St. George Chapter, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan prepared a "Greek Dinner" for the parents whose children were in Children's Hospital in Detroit. It was a rewarding and touching experience, and they are planning on doing it throughout the year.

In November, the St. John the Baptist Chapter of Sterling Heights, Michigan announced that they will be partnering with Friends of Foster Kids. The chapter will be doing outreach for them, and will offer spiritual and financial support.

The Metropolis of Detroit Philoptochos Board is proud to announce the establishment of the Florence G. Stefanou Scholarship. This scholarship is made possible through the generosity of the Stefanou family. Florence Stefanou was a devoted Philoptochos member serving at all levels, her local chapter, the Metropolis Board and the National Board. Together with the family, we offer this scholarship

to an outstanding male or female wishing to further their education. The scholarship to be awarded will be for \$1000. Applications will be available in January. The deadline for submission is April 30, and will be awarded at the Metropolis Convention in September.

At a recent National Board Meeting in New York, our National President Maria Logus stressed that we must be forward thinking to reach the next generation. Our membership must continue to grow, and the younger women must be embraced. Also the needs of ladies of all ages must be addressed. We must continue to work on asking women to join our beloved organization.

The National Philoptochos has embarked on a new speaker's program, hoping to inform and inspire our members. On November 26, the first speaker was Maria Skafidas, the head of corporate communications and investor relations of the Lowes Corporation and the co-author of the book titled "Journeys an American Story." She was live at the Philoptochos Center of Philanthropy, but was also streamed live on Social Media. It was well received, and more information will be forthcoming on future speakers.

Mark your calendars for the Spring Luncheon on May 4, 2019. The committee for the fundraiser is planning a special and unique event. The destination for the luncheon will take place at Lovett Hall in Greenfield Village and the Henry Ford History Complex in Dearborn, Michigan. This is an event that no one will want to miss.

*On behalf of the Metropolis Board, I wish you a joyous Christmas Season and a Blessed 2019.*

## DONATIONS

### Metropolis of Detroit Philoptochos

- Victims of Hurricane Florence,  
- North Carolina - \$1000
- Victims of Hurricane Michael, Florida - \$1000
- Detroit Rescue Mission- \$2000
- St. Basil Academy - \$200
- Philoptochos Sister in need - \$400

### Chapter Thanksgiving Donations

- Annunciation, Dayton, Ohio – Kroger gift cards to 6 families - \$1600
- Annunciation, Vestal, New York – November donation total - \$500, includes the Food Bank of the Southern Tier and CHOW
- Annunciation, Rochester, NY-Thanksgiving gift cards to the Veterans Outreach Center - \$300
- Holy Trinity Cathedral, Carmel, IN- Kroger Gift Cards to 100 families - \$5,000

# MEFGOX News

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

The Mid-Eastern Federation of Church Musicians serves as the music ministry for the Metropolis of Detroit as well as for the Metropolis of Pittsburgh. The Federation's purpose is to be the church music resource for clergy and their parishes, including choirs, chanters, and youth music programs.

Liturgical music plays a central part in our services – the hymns sung in the services are actually beautiful prayers that coincide with the prayers of the priest. These hymns can be chanted by the psaltoi, rendered by the choir, and/or sung by the entire congregation. In addition, the chanters and the choir have a vital role during the services – like the angels that sing praises around the throne of God, church musicians are to lead the congregation to worship God and help them experience the beauty and meaning of the services.

Because of this vital role church musicians play, it is important that they strive for excellence in the presentation of the music of the church, much like the iconography of a parish reflects the best of the artists, the buildings reflect excellence in architecture, and the robes, and cloths, and holy vessels reflect beauty in craftsmanship. So one of the major goals of MEFGOX is to provide educational experiences and resources for our church musicians so that the presentation of the hymns can also reflect excellence.

A major venue for accomplishing this goal is during our Annual Choir Conventions. Each year, we present a Church Music Institute as part of our Conventions for the registered participants. A variety of workshops occur during this time, some focusing on choral techniques, others providing theological information about hymns and services, and still others dealing with administrative issues related to maintaining and strengthening parish music programs. Those who attend consistently report their excitement in learning so much new information.

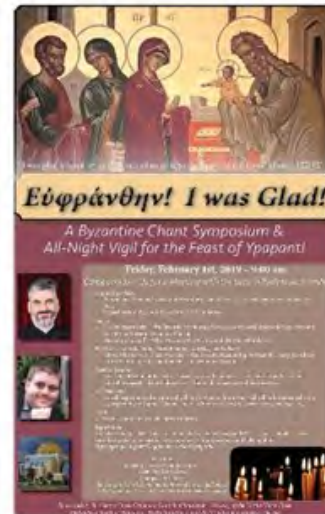
In addition, MEFGOX encourages and helps sponsor local and regional educational workshops. This past fall, Annunciation parish of Akron, Ohio sponsored a weekend retreat to provide experience with the newly-approved translation of the Divine Liturgy and music to accompany it. Several Detroit-area

parishes sent their church musicians to take advantage of this learning opportunity as a prelude to implementing the translation and the music in their home parishes. More recently, the Detroit Metro choirs held their own workshop; church musicians who attended this chorally-focused workshop learned many techniques for vocal improvement.

Another learning opportunity presents itself on February 1st at St. George Church in Southgate, MI. Here, participants will be able to experience learning and singing the hymns of an All-Night Vigil for the Feast of Ypapanti. Additionally, speakers will instruct on the structure of an all-night vigil and hymns as the spirit of prayer, plus a panel presentation will share ideas about relationships among clergy, church singers, the faithful, and the texts and music of our hymns. Surely, attending workshops of these types can help to enhance the work of church musicians who are able and willing to attend!

One last avenue for our church musicians to further their knowledge and skills lies in the decision of MEFGOX to create a restricted budget line solely to support individuals to further their church music education. Individual parish church musicians can apply for small continuing education grants to engage in short-term educational experiences, such as workshops, seminars, private lessons, and the like. For those seeking longer-term support for college and university studies, the Federation also has a Memorial Scholarship program to support this type of educational endeavor.

These are the opportunities MEFGOX strives to provide – what is also needed is a parish culture that sets expectations for excellence and continuous improvement so that it becomes a priority for church musicians to participate. We hope this short synopsis illustrates how MEFGOX is creating settings for learning. Reciprocity, however, is also important via the parish level – for instance, clergy articulating high expectations for choir and chanter development and valuing attendance; parish councils considering financial support to motivate participation; and third, the church musicians themselves considering hosting similar learning activities, inviting others in their areas, and seeking the assistance of MEFGOX to do so. We hope all three of these can occur; know that we stand willing to help in any way that we can!



**Vocal Workshop**  
 Get ready for the Christmas season and its vocal demands by joining us on  
**Saturday November 17, 2018**  
**1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.**  
**Sts. Constantine and Helen**  
**Greek Orthodox Church**  
**Westland, Michigan**  
 Our presenter will be  
**Robert Doyle**  
 Voice professor, Albion College  
 We will work on all 15 we will need to survive the winter (in English or singing)  
 Register by Thursday, November 15th to allow for processing and printing of materials, etc.  
 \$5.00 per singer to help defray costs  
 Contact:  
 Marisa Madios-Kalasz  
 choir director, Sts. Constantine and Helen Choral  
 mariskalasz@gmail.com  
 734-878-0548  
 Please arrive by 12:45, we will begin promptly at 1:00.

# An Honor Flight of Angelic Heroes

BY FR. MICHAEL BAHLATZIS

As a priest, doctor, and retired Air force officer, I thought I had seen everything. However, it was not until I boarded the Leatherstocking Honor flight when I realized that I was on an airplane filled with true American heroes. This flight departed on Saturday morning of October 27, 2018, from Albany, New York.

Its occupants were unsung patriots who were veterans who had once endured the hardships of war. Some had heard the battle cries of war-torn Europe. Some had experienced the frigid temperatures of the Korean peninsula. Others had been amidst the swampy jungles of Vietnam. These patriots were hosted by the volunteers of the Leatherstocking Honor Flight from the Leatherstocking region of upstate New York. This Honor flight was a regional affiliate of the National Honor Flight Network. The mission of the honor flight is to transport veterans of WWII, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, and terminally ill veterans to Washington, D.C. to visit and reflect at their war memorials at no cost to them. Leatherstocking Honor flight believes that this Honor flight is their way of saying to all our veterans: "One more Tour with Honor!" Everything on this flight was free to these patriots. After all, it is the general consensus of this organization that the Honor flight was and is the very least that our country could do for these heroes in view of the sacrifice that these heroes have made for our great nation.

On the morning of their departure, the honor Flight patriots congregated at the airport and were greeted by the cheer of hundreds of friends, family members, and fellow citizens who simply had an inclination and desire to pay their respects by honoring these "angels" of patriotism who once helped to bring freedom to our nation so that we all may enjoy worshipping our Lord and giving God the glory. These enthusiastic spectators gave our angelic heroes the cheer, pomp, and ceremony sending them off with joy and exhilaration in their hearts. For this was the "send off" that these veterans never originally received when going off to war while not ever knowing whether or not they would ever be returning home again. The local congressman gave a welcoming speech which added to the pomp.

The six WWII veterans ranged in age from 92-96, and each joined the flight while being ushered by wheelchairs. The thirteen Korean veterans were ambulatory and anxiously awaited departure of the flight while being accompanied by their guardians. The 31 or so Vietnam War vets were younger but seasoned. They were also excited to be on this journey.

When we arrived at the airport in Baltimore, we were greeted by US Naval Academy cadets (midshipmen) who were decked out in their class "A" uniforms and eager to commiserate with these patriots on the hardships of war. They were truly honored to shake the hands of these angelic heroes. You could see the sincerity in their facial expressions. A member of the Guild of Town Criers dressed in a "Paul Revere-like" attire rang a bell and proclaimed the arrival of the flight and its payload of veterans who were processed through the airport terminal out to awaiting Coach buses. The heroes boarded the buses while wheelchairs and walkers were placed in compartments underneath. The US Park Police provided a lights-and-sirens escort for the buses all the way into the heart of Washington, D.C. and to each and every monument visited.

As a physician and guardian on this trip, I stayed vigilantly on the sidelines hoping that my medical skills would not be needed, considering the age of the group I had accompanied.

My father, Dionysios (Danny), a Korean War vet, was very moved by the realistic nature of the life-size soldier figurines clad with statuesque ponchos portrayed on maneuvers/on patrol in Korea. The WWII vets, who were marines, marveled at the Iwo Jima monument. The monument depicted the American flag being raised up by marines. The illusion of the flag actually seemingly being raised occurs when you walk around the monument. The WWII monument and Vietnam monument were also breathtaking. The Lincoln Memorial was very moving to all these patriots. The ornate statue of President Lincoln sitting and viewing across the plaza with the Washington Monument in the foreground was an awesome sight.

Arlington National Cemetery was a very solemn garden of tombstones. Witnessing the ceremony of the changing of the guard at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier as an incredible moment for our angelic heroes. The guard knew that these special veterans were in the audience. He could not acknowledge them outwardly so he would scuff his heel during the ceremonial march at the Tomb. This was his way of saying "Greetings fellow military members."

Watching the facial expressions of these patriots on this Honor Flight was as captivating as the monuments we visited. These unsung veterans of war were angelic as they were now peaceful, God fearing, and awaiting the next chapter in their lives where God awaits to receive them home in His heavenly kingdom. May God bless them and the USA!

Donate to  
**Friends of the Metropolis**

[www.detroit.goarch.org/friends](http://www.detroit.goarch.org/friends)



pray



give



grow

## Friends of the Metropolis 2018

### List of Donors January 1 - November 30

#### +His Eminence Metropolitan Nicholas

##### Ann Arbor, MI - St. Nicholas

St. Nicholas Philoptochos  
Kotsis, Fr. Nicolaos and  
Presbytera Sandra  
Radulescu, Fr. Alexandru and  
Presbytera Silvana  
Pliakas, Fr. Vasilios and  
Presbytera Kyriakoula  
Baldwin, James and Mary Suzanne  
Daniels, Tony and Cleve  
Kales, Anthony and Joyce  
Mitropoulos-Rundus, David and  
Demetra  
Yates, Margaret

##### Battle Creek, MI - Sts. Constantine and Helen

Platsis, Anthony

##### Binghamton, NY - Holy Trinity

Bahlatzis, Fr. Michael and  
Presbytera Kimberly

##### Bloomfield Hills, MI - St. George

Abell, Fr. Christopher and  
Presbytera Alice  
Iakovides, Dimitri  
Sisson, Rocky and Connie

##### Buffalo, NY - Annunciation

Christakis, Fr. Christos and  
Presbytera Lisa  
Blakeslee, Ronald and Maria  
Candiliotis, Nicholas and Priscilla  
Hennas, Andrew J.  
Manos, Margaret  
Markey, Patrick and Joanne  
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  
Bennett, Gordon  
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, Dennis  
Dickos, Theone  
Dimos, Jim and Kathy  
Dine, Robert and Diana  
Dunbar, Pete and Lea  
Ebersole, Anneliese  
Eleftheri, Anthony and Jill  
Eleftheri, Lawrence and Beth  
Emmanoelides, Melinda  
Filis, Anthony and Marian  
Gibson, Karen  
Gounaris, George and Sarina  
Haywood, Charles and Ali Murphy  
Johnson, Ronald and Sunday  
Julovich, Angelo and Christine  
Kirages, George and Susan  
Kollias, Stephen and Gail  
Kokinios, Pete and Argie  
Kostyn, Catherine  
Lafter, Christopher and Antonia

Lisch, Michael and Jean  
Malandrakis, Michael and Helen  
Maltby, Ray and Bessie  
Martine, Gary and Niki  
Nicholos, Sam and Dawn  
Oberlies, Toula  
Pappas, Leon and Andrea  
Pappas, Nick and Tracy  
Pasyanos, John and Liberty  
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  
Zeheralis, Gail

##### 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  
Brown, William R.  
Perdikakis, Gus and JoAnn  
Retzios, Thomas and Angela  
Stringas, Emanuel

**Dayton, OH - Annunciation**

Annunciation Philoptochos  
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  
Manias, Fr. Georgios and  
Presbytera Maria  
Bennert, Constance  
Gaggos, Harry and Irene  
Gaggos, James and Mary  
Inempolidis, Evelyn  
In Memory of Helen Fakaros Tyler  
Kazolis, Koula  
Lianos, Will and Kim  
Politis, Dean L.  
Tapazoglou, Nicolaos and Christine  
Tavoularis, Leonidas

**Elmira, NY - St. Athanasios**

Scott, Fr. Richard

**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  
Baker, John and Konstantina  
Maggos, El and Voula  
Rongos, Christopher and Katherine  
Turner, Christian

**Grand Blanc, MI - Assumption**

Assumption Parish  
Chinonis, Dennis and Debra  
Chinonis, Nancy and Jeff Lauster  
Hountalas, Dimitri  
Hountalas, John and Tasia  
Hountalas, Yanni  
Kalatzis, Athena  
Kallis, Agape  
Kaloydis, John and Karen  
Karabinas, Pavlos and Ruth  
Potsos, Emanoull  
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  
Sinias, Thomas and Michelle

**Ithaca, NY - St. Catherine**

St. Catherine Parish  
Bantuvanias, Ann  
Bezirgianian, John

**Jamestown, NY - St. Nicholas**

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

**Kalamazoo, MI - Annunciation**

Theoharis, Fr. Theoharis  
Ingalls, Robert and Andriana

**Lansing, MI - Holy Trinity**

Sietsema, Fr. Mark and  
Presbytera Katherine

Karagoulis, Michael and Lynn  
Munk, Jerry and Jan  
Pascalenos, Olga  
Perentesis, Stephanie  
Platsis, George and Barbara

**Lexington, KY - Panagia Pantovasilissa**

Panagia Pantovasilissa Parish  
Panagia Pantovasilissa Philoptochos  
Redmon, Fr. William and  
Presbytera Elizabeth  
Arimes, Vickie  
Karounos, Dennis and Chrisi  
Minor, Tom and Delores

**Little Rock, AR - Annunciation**

Verdaris, Fr. Nicholas and  
Presbytera Maria  
Pappas, James and Eva  
Vratsinas, Gus M.

**Louisville, KY - Assumption**

Assumption Philoptochos  
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 Parish  
Annunciation Philoptochos  
Thomas, Fr. Simon and  
Presbytera Stephanie  
Hawkins, Charles and Elizabeth  
Kay, John and Nancy  
Poplos, Ted and Stephanie  
Semos, Vasili and Luane  
Tobias, Richard and Angela

**Middletown, OH - Sts. Constantine and Helen**

In Memory of Carol Clore Valen

**Muskegon, MI - Annunciation**

Annunciation Parish  
Annunciation Philoptochos  
Sakellariou, Fr. John and  
Presbytera Pavlina  
Encelewski, Christine Danigelis  
Ladas, Paul and Patricia  
Micheil, Richard and Teresa

**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**  
Turner, Fr. Parthenios and  
Presbytera Marion  
Courington, Christopher and Shelley  
Wagner, Charles and Edith

**New Buffalo, MI - Annunciation-St. Paraskevi**  
Martin, Fr. Paul and Presbytera Nikki

**Plymouth, MI - Nativity of the Virgin Mary**  
Nativity of the Virgin Mary  
Philoptochos  
Poulos, Louis  
Stassinos, Lambros and Helen  
Tsaprazis, Peter and Diane  
Vardouniotis, Michael  
Wernette, David and Golfo

**Rochester, NY - Annunciation**  
Annunciation Parish  
Annunciation Philoptochos  
Maggos, Fr. Angelo and  
Presbytera Teri  
Augustinos, Vasila  
Balta, Karen A.  
Balta, Katheryn  
Cerniglia, Mary  
Chamberlain, Elpiniki  
Colakovski, Hristo and Evgenija  
Economides, Maria  
George, Angeline  
Gines, Maria  
Kitz, Margie  
Lacz, Elaine M.  
Loverde, Maria  
Pallogudis, Eleni  
Pink, Kenneth J.  
Stefanou, Constantine  
Testa, Jordan  
Theodorakakos, Dina

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

**Saginaw, MI - St. Demetrius**  
St. Demetrius Parish  
Cook, Fr. Timothy and  
Presbytera Catherine  
Bistolarides, Fr. Peter and  
Presbytera Peggy  
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  
In Memory of Spyridon and  
Vasiliki Nanos  
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  
Assumption Philoptochos  
Varlamos, Fr. Michael and  
Presbytera Tina  
Callas, Kalliopy  
Crandall, Amy  
Hatzichronoglou, Lena  
Kohl, David and Chrysanthe  
Manos, Chris and Kathy  
Niforos, Theodore and Ann  
Stoukas, Harriet  
Thomas, Tom and Lynn  
Voudoukis, Ignatios

**Sterling Heights, MI - St. John**  
St. John Parish  
St. John Philoptochos  
St. John GOYA  
Kyritses, Fr. Nicholas  
George, Christian  
George, John and Marlo  
George, Jordan  
In Memory of Harry Kotsis  
Kourtesis, Alexander and Irene  
Kotsis, Andrew and Irene  
Kotsis, Harry and Katherine  
Raphtis, E. Mike and Betty  
Souris, Bernice  
Tangalos, John and Mary

**Syracuse, NY - St. Sophia**  
Smith, Fr. David and  
Presbytera Donna  
Macris, James Dean

**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, Emmanuel and Kelly  
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**  
St. Nicholas Philoptochos  
Dalamangas, Fr. Chris and  
Presbytera Niki  
Arsman, Steve and Anita  
Carson, Chryisia  
Karmanos, Peter and Danialle  
Korstanje, Ingmar and Marlo  
Liakonis, Chris and Labrini  
Robert, Kevin and Christine  
The T.K. Zampetis Family  
Foundation  
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  
Petritiu, Fr. Teodor and  
Presbytera Roxana  
Alexandris, Athanasios and Athena  
Angelopoulos, Ioannis and Aspasia  
Calagias, Efstratios and Leah  
Lembesis, Dino  
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Presbytera Mihaela

*Thank you!*



# Photo Highlights



Ordination to the Diaconate  
Vasilis Yacalis  
Annunciation Church, Vestal, NY  
November 18



Holiday Hoops  
St. John Church, Sterling Heights, MI  
November 10



Lexington Visit & Baptism  
Panagia Pantovasilissa Church, Lexington, KY  
November 4



Ordination to the Diaconate  
Vasilis Vallas  
Holy Trinity Church, Nashville, TN  
October 14



"10<sup>th</sup> on Shelborne" Celebration  
Holy Trinity Church, Carmel, IN  
September 22



Family Life Center Opening  
Annunciation Church, Buffalo, NY  
September 15

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 2018. 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 2019 Friends of the Metropolis program, please remember how your donations are used:

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- ❖ **YOU** helped make certain that we are able to contribute to student loan payments for our clergy and church workers who graduated from the

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- ❖ **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;
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