


# THE SHEPHERD'S STAFF

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF DETROIT



**“Always be ready to give  
a defense to everyone who  
asks you a reason for the  
hope that is in you”**

(1 Peter 3:15)

**+ Metropolitan Nicholas**

**DAYTON PASTORAL VISITATION**

JUNE 25, 2017 ❖ ANNUNCIATION CHURCH ❖ DAYTON, OHIO

# Metropolitan's Message

Beloved Family in Christ,

Have you ever asked yourself "Why?" Why am I a Christian? Why am I a Greek Orthodox Christian?

The answer to this question is becoming more important to our young people as they engage in a world not limited by the boundaries of our home, school, city, workplace, or even the country in which we live. The technological reality of worldwide communication has made the entire world our backyard – even if we don't step out of our homes!

When Christianity was first being shared by the Apostles after Pentecost, people were hearing the story of God's love for us and the reality of God-in-the-flesh through the birth of Jesus Christ in Bethlehem. People heard and shared the teachings of Jesus. They spoke of the miracles of healing that they witnessed. They saw Jesus bring the dead to life! And moreover, they knew that Jesus Himself had risen from the dead for many people saw both Him and the empty tomb.

The Resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead is at the heart of the hope that lies within us – because it is a sure sign of God's desire for us to be raised from death to life! It is the ultimate testimony of God's love for His creation.

Today, however, too often we are not clear as to why we are Orthodox Christians! Are we church members because of customs and culture or because of conscience and conviction? Are we able to express for ourselves what the Orthodox Church stands for, what it practices and preaches?

The time has come for us to renew our walk on the path toward salvation. It is time for us to know what we believe – and to recognize that the Greek Orthodox Church is for everyone. It is time for us to embrace and express the saving Gospel of Jesus Christ—in our homes, our workplaces, and our day-to-day lives. We can no longer be accidental Christians! We must become intentional believers, if we hope to help the world know the love of Christ and His salvation. Please join with us in the Metropolis of Detroit as we begin our new efforts at spreading the Gospel of Christ – firstly to ourselves ... and then to the world around us. Know why we believe! Know what we believe! And know what we do when we believe!



METROPOLITAN NICHOLAS OF DETROIT



# Metropolis News

❖ Fr. William Redmon started his new assignment as Presiding Priest at the Panagia Pantovasilissa Church in Lexington, Kentucky on August 1<sup>st</sup>. Fr. William is the former Assistant Priest at the Holy Trinity-St. Nicholas Church in Cincinnati, Ohio.

❖ Fr. John Sakellariou started his new assignment as Presiding Priest at the Annunciation Church in Muskegon, Michigan on September 1<sup>st</sup>. Fr. John is the former Assistant Priest at the Annunciation Church in Buffalo, New York.

❖ Fr. Paul Martin received the Offikion of Ekonomos on August 13, 2017.

## Metropolitan's Schedule

**NOTICE:** Due to his appointment as Locum Tenens of the Metropolis of Chicago, Metropolitan Nicholas' schedule may be subject to change. Please visit our website for updates: [www.detroit.goarch.org/calendar](http://www.detroit.goarch.org/calendar).

### SEPTEMBER

AUG 26 - SEP 2	Visit to the Ecumenical Patriarchate	Istanbul, Turkey
3	Divine Liturgy	Sts. Constantine & Helen Church, Westland, MI
7	Nativity of the Theotokos Great Vespers	Nativity of the Theotokos Church, Plymouth, MI
8	Nativity of the Theotokos Divine Liturgy	Nativity of the Theotokos Church, Plymouth, MI
9	Funeral of Harriet Rennie	Archangel Gabriel Church, Traverse City, MI
10	Pastoral Visit	Archangel Gabriel Church, Traverse City, MI
13	Elevation of the Holy Cross Great Vespers	Holy Cross Church, Farmington Hills, MI
14	Elevation of the Holy Cross Divine Liturgy	Holy Cross Church, Farmington Hills, MI
15 - 17	St. Sophia Parish Centennial Anniversary	St. Sophia Church, Syracuse, New York
19	Metropolis of Chicago Clergy Meeting	Chicago, IL
23	AHEPA Housing Dedication	Harrison Township, MI
24	Pastoral Visit	Holy Trinity Cathedral, Toledo, OH
26 - 30	Metropolis Clergy-Laity Conference	Buffalo, New York

### OCTOBER

1	Pastoral Visitation	TBD
2 - 6	Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops Meeting	Garfield, New Jersey
7 - 8	Lexington Parish Door Opening	Panagia Pantovasilissa Church, Lexington, KY
13 - 15	Rochester Parish Centennial Anniversary	Annunciation Church, Rochester, New York
16 - 20	Archdiocesan Council Meeting	Archdiocesan Center, New York, NY
22	Pastoral Visitation	TBD
25	St. Demetrios Great Vespers	St. Demetrios Church, Saginaw, MI
26	St. Demetrios Divine Liturgy	TBD
29	St. Demetrios Parish Feast Day Celebration	St. Demetrios Church, Saginaw, MI

### NOVEMBER

3 - 5	Nashville Parish Centennial Anniversary	Holy Trinity Church, Nashville, TN
8	St. Nektarios Great Vespers	Assumption Church, St. Clair Shores, MI
11 - 12	Louisville Parish Visitation	Assumption Church, Louisville, KY
19	Pastoral Visitation	TBD
21	Entry of the Theotokos into the Temple	TBD
26	Pastoral Visitation	TBD

# Youth News

BY EVA KONSTANTAKOS

## 2017 CAMPING MINISTRIES – SUCCESS!

It was another great year for all three of our Metropolis summer camps. We are blessed to have three unique camping ministry programs for the youth of our Metropolis. Each camp is committed to providing a fun and safe Christ-centered program every year.

We thank all the dedicated clergy that serve our camps, whose pastoral guidance and care make our camps special and unique. May God grant them many years.

We also thank the countless individuals who give their summers to serve the youth. Without the cabin staff, medical professionals, program coordinators, cooks, and volunteers, our camps would not be able to operate.

Finally, we would like to thank *Leadership 100, the Friends of the Metropolis, and the Metropolis Philoptochos* who provide annual support for the growth and continuation of our camping ministries, primarily providing financial aid to any camper who would like to attend summer camp.

Here are a few highlights from each camp this summer:

**METROPOLIS OF DETROIT SUMMER CAMP –**  
[www.gomdsc.org](http://www.gomdsc.org)

MDSC in Rose City, MI serves the youth in Michigan and parts of Ohio. This year, MDSC started a new tradition, entitled “Siesta Sessions.” Led by His Eminence Metropolitan Nicholas, the Camp Clergy of each week offered reflections on a theme and how it can be applied to our everyday lives as Orthodox Christians.

**ST. TIMOTHY SUMMER CAMP –**  
[www.sttimothycamp.org](http://www.sttimothycamp.org)

St. Timothy Summer Camp is held at Oswegatchie Educational Center in Croghan, NY. Campers get to experience a variety of exciting outdoor activities. In addition, St. Timothy Camp started “Orthodox Praxis” classes. Campers learned about the practical ways we can live our Orthodox Christian faith: making prosforo, learning how to chant, and making prayer ropes.

**ST. NICHOLAS SUMMER CAMP –**  
[www.stnicholascamp.org](http://www.stnicholascamp.org)

The St. Nicholas Summer Camp serves the youth in the Central and Southern areas of our Metropolis. This year, St. Nicholas Summer Camp had a very successful week at its new location – Loucon Training and Retreat Center in Leitchfield, KY. Also, St. Nicholas Summer Camp held Evening Cabin Talks: in-depth discussions led by the clergy in each cabin about Orthodoxy and contemporary issues.

For more information regarding our Metropolis Summer Camping Ministries, visit their respective websites or contact the Metropolis Youth Office at [youth@detroit.goarch.org](mailto:youth@detroit.goarch.org).



## ATTENTION COLLEGE STUDENTS

Registration is NOW OPEN for the 2017 OCF College Conference – locations in East, Midwest, and West.

Also, registration for 2018 OCF Real Break trips will begin September 15, 2017.

VISIT [WWW.OCF.NET](http://WWW.OCF.NET) FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO REGISTER!

## Upcoming Events

OCT 9	Upstate NY Columbus Day Picnic	Rochester, NY
OCT 14	Detroit Area GOYA Dodgeball Tournament	Assumption Church, St. Clair Shores, MI
NOV 10-12	Holiday Hoops GOYA Basketball Tournament	St. John Church, Sterling Heights, MI

# Philoptochos News

BY MARGARET YATES

I have mixed feelings as I write my final article for the Shepherd's Staff. After nearly six years as Metropolis of Detroit Philoptochos President, my final term will end on September 30 when elections take place at the Metropolis Conference in Buffalo. It has been a privilege to serve with such a wonderful Board and under the spiritual guidance and support of His Eminence, Metropolitan Nicholas.

If not for being elected president in 2011, I would have missed the opportunity of getting to know so many of my Philoptochos sisters, both at the chapter and National levels. Many have become good friends over the years. It has also been an honor to serve on the National Board Executive Committee and I hope my contributions at that level have had a positive impact.

I continue to be truly amazed at the creativity and dedication of my sisters in Philoptochos. Rarely, if ever, do you hear the word, "No" when they are asked to do even more...they always find the way to do it. One of my favorite sayings is one I heard from Fr. John Bakas at the National Convention in Los Angeles: "We are angels with only one wing. We can only fly by holding on to one another."

My personal circumstances have curtailed chapter visitations the past two years but, thankfully, the internet and "ma bell" have kept us connected. I encourage chapter presidents to always communicate and build an alliance with the next Metropolis President, the conduit to the National Board.

The electoral process, which thankfully occurs every two years, took place this year. We are grateful that so many of our new chapter presidents have come into office with new ideas and enthusiasm. Although elected in May, they really start their term at the beginning of the Ecclesiastical year, after a summer of preparation. All active chapters in our Metropolis have been ratified by Archbishop Demetrios, the first Metropolis to do so.

On August 10-12, I was able to attend the National Philoptochos Executive Board meeting in New York where many decisions were made, including the disbursements of funds. We were asked to take men's tee shirts and shorts so they could be passed out to the homeless at their monthly Feeding the Hungry initiative. Bishop Sevastianos, our National Spiritual Advisor, always participates with the women who help to prepare and serve the meals. The National goal is to serve 1,000,000 meals by July 2018.

My last visitation was traveling to Memphis with fellow



Margaret Yates  
President

National Board member and keynote speaker Arlene Siavelis Kehl the weekend of August 18-20. The inaugural fundraiser benefiting the Cancer and Other Major Illnesses Fund, "An Evening Celebrating the Theotokos", was spearheaded by Emily Capadalis Love and Tina Taras Liollio, both of whom lost loved ones to cancer. Initially a dream of their mothers, they fulfilled a promise made to them many years ago. It was a wonderful affair down to the last detail. Earlier that day, Metropolis Board member Dr. Stephanie Storgion Poplos and newly elected chapter president Elizabeth Hawkins (the first female Orthodox chaplain) toured us around Memphis and the St. Jude Hospital campus. The tour ended with a visit to the Le Bonheur Children's Hospital where both are on staff, Elizabeth as a chaplain and Stephanie as Pediatric Intensivist and Medical Director of Neuro Intensive Care and Intermediate ICU. We were able to meet a few of the children in the critical care unit. Love radiated from the eyes of every employee we met. Why Le Bonheur, you ask? Because they were the recipient of grants from the National Philoptochos totaling \$36,000. The hospital has approximately 250 beds for children and never turns a child away from treatment because of the financial hardship of the parents. Along with their Elpis chapter, the National Philoptochos is on the donor board.

## Contributions

- ❖ Chapter National Commitments for 2016 - \$118,161.29 (78% of chapters paid all 19 National commitments).
- ❖ Chapter National Commitments for 2017 are on track to exceed this amount.
- ❖ \$ 115,000 aid to the people of Greece and Cyprus on July 3, 2017.

# MEFGOX News

BY VICKI PAPPAS

Seventy years ago, the beginnings of MEFGOX emerged during the first Convention of church musicians at Oglebay Park, PA. Present were then-Archbishop Athenagoras I and founding clergy, the Reverend Fathers John Berris, James Bouras, John Geranios, John Kapenekas, and Theotokis N. Pappas. Since then, the Mid-Eastern Federation of Greek Orthodox Church Musicians has been working to serve the music ministries of their parishes as the longest-serving Federation among all the Metropolises of our Archdiocese, growing from three states to seven and from 11 participating parishes to 65 in the Pittsburgh and Detroit Metropolises.

MEFGOX conducts several types of programs. It offers workshops and Church Music Institutes to provide resources and improve the practices of choir members, chanters, and those working in children's music programs. It offers assistance to clergy regarding their church music needs. It publishes the *BYZANTINE ECHO*, distributed electronically, to more than 1200 church musicians and clergy. The Federation also funds a Memorial Scholarship Program and each year awards scholarships to deserving young people who have served and will continue to serve their parishes in church music. Annually, Federation members gather for a Convention, where they learn new music, attend workshops about their faith as well as vocal instruction, and sing together as a massed choir at the Sunday Divine Liturgy.

This year's 70th Annual Convention was hosted by St. Spyridon Church in Monessen, PA on July 20th - 23rd. The theme was "Celebrating the Past - Working on the

Future." The choir sang the Doxology and Divine Liturgy in English, using the English translation recently approved by our Holy Synod for the first time at one of our Conventions. Two of our young people and past Scholarship recipients led the group: Thespina Christulides from Holy Cross in Pittsburgh was Guest Director and Nicholas Bodle from St. Paul in North Royalton was Guest Accompanist. College-bound recipients of three \$1000 scholarships were announced at the Grand Banquet: Maria Cook from Holy Trinity in Toledo, OH; Victoria Martine of Holy Trinity in Carmel, IN; and Socrates Papageorgiou from St. Nicholas in Ann Arbor, MI. Also at the Convention, Deacon Vasiliios Leogas from St. Spyridon was awarded the Patriarch Athenagoras Medal for Outstanding Metropolis Contributions to Church Music.

Next year, the Federation anticipates implementing a new Continuing Education Grants program for church musicians interested in furthering their skills. Also on schedule is to re-establish a program of regional workshops to bring more knowledge and skill-building to the local level. Detroit Metropolis officers who were elected include Vicki Pappas as President, Anna Niforos as Vice-President, and District Supervisors Barbara Minton for the Detroit Metro area, Cynthia Afendoulis for the Outstate Michigan parishes, and Martha Payne for Indiana and Kentucky, with the New York area TBA. Other Detroit metropolis church musicians serve on the Stewardship, Scholarship, Church Music Institutes, Byzantine Echo, and Continuing Education Committees.

The Mid-Eastern Federation expresses its thanks to our two Hierarchs, Metropolitan Nicholas and Metropolitan Savas and all their Metropolis staff members for the assistance and support they give to MEFGOX.



# Dormition

BY FR. MICHAEL MARCANTONI

In many novels, we find a prologue and an epilogue, which serve as bookends to the main content of the story and serve, respectively, as an introduction and a summary of the plot, characters, and motivations that are in play during the plot of the story. While it can be tempting to view these sections as superfluous, they provide a lens for the primary thematic elements of a story to be relevant beyond the immediate character's arc.

It should come as no surprise that the Church calendar is put together in a very deliberate way. The "New Year" for Orthodox Christians is celebrated on September 1<sup>st</sup> and the distribution of feasts along the annual trajectory is not capricious. The first "Great Feast" of the year is celebrated on September 8<sup>th</sup>, the "Nativity or Birth of the Theotokos," and the last Great Feast is celebrated on August 15<sup>th</sup>, the "Dormition of the Theotokos." Celebrations on the Orthodox calendar are arranged in a deliberate manner, intended to convey connections between the various disparate moments commemorated in the Orthodox Liturgical life. For instance, the Annunciation is commemorated on March 25<sup>th</sup>, nine months before the birth of Christ at Christmas. The same can be said of the intervals between the conceptions, births, and deaths commemorated elsewhere on the calendar.

It should come as no great surprise that the Church first teaches us about the greatness of the Theotokos and Mother of Christ by beginning the Liturgical year with her birth as the first Great Feast and then concluding with the end of her life, her Dormition, as the last feast of the liturgical year.

Interestingly, on the Feast of the Dormition, the Church reads the Gospel passage at Liturgy – not about the Mother of God, but of Mary and Martha – and ends it with the dialogue between Christ and a woman in the Crowd who says, "Blessed is the womb that bore you and the breasts where you nursed" but Christ responds, "Blessed are those who hear the word of God and keep it."

*The greatness of our Mother, the Theotokos, is not simply in her having given birth to Christ devoid of any other attributes, but in the qualification that Christ gives for her blessedness: "Blessed are they who hear the word of God and keep it."*



From her first hearing that she would bear the Christ from the Archangel Gabriel, to Christ's Presentation in the Temple and even at the Wedding Feast of Cana, His mother is continuously described as having "kept things and pondered them in her heart." (Luke 2:19).

We learn from this that it is not mere formality of relationship that will save us or make us blessed. What makes the Theotokos blessed is the quality by which she lives out that relationship. **She not only "hears the word of God," but also keeps it.** There are deep gaps of silence between the chronicled events that the Theotokos experienced and what she is recorded to have said. From this we learn the depth of Wisdom over Knowledge. There is the Annunciation, the "knowing" of things, and then its living out or the "wisdom" of acting on that word of God once we have received it.

This injunction to not only hear the words, the theological facts about God, but to keep them, and to act on them at the right moment is essential to the thrust of both our corporate liturgical life and our individual struggle.

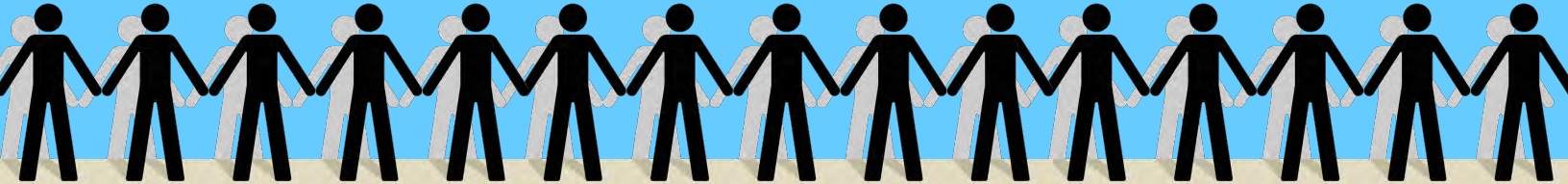
Immediately after the beginning of the New Ecclesiastical Year, we are bidden to follow the life of this great lady from its beginning (Sept. 8<sup>th</sup>) to its end (Aug. 15<sup>th</sup>) in the hope that having received from Christ we might realize both the truth of what we need to act on, as well as the Wisdom of finding the right moment in which to apply those facts for the profit and salvation of our souls. Amen.

❖ Father Michael Marcantoni is the Priest of the Holy Spirit Church in Rochester, New York.

D O N A T E O N L I N E

# FRIENDS OF THE METROPOLIS

WWW.DETROIT.GOARCH.ORG/FRIENDS



## Friends of the Metropolis 2017

LIST OF DONORS JANUARY 1—AUGUST 31

+His Eminence  
Metropolitan Nicholas

### **Ann Arbor, MI – St. Nicholas**

St. Nicholas Philoptochos  
Pliakas, Fr. Vasilios and  
Presbytera Kyriake  
Baldwin, James and Mary  
Daniels, Tony and Cleve  
Kales, Anthony and Joyce  
Mitropoulos-Rundus, David and  
Demetra  
Yates, Margaret

### **Bloomfield Hills – St. George**

Abell, Fr. Christopher and  
Presbytera Alice  
Iakovides, Dimitri  
Lionas, Nicholas and Amanda  
Yaksich, Moshoula

### **Buffalo, NY – Annunciation**

Annunciation Philoptochos  
Annunciation Youth Council  
Christakis, Fr. Christos and  
Presbytera Lisa  
Sakellariou, Fr. John and  
Presbytera Pavlina  
Blakeskee, Ronald and Maria  
Brown, Constance A.

Cervi, Brian and Vassilia  
Couvtsakis, Paul and Linda  
Hiczewski, Peter and Michele  
McDaniels, Joyce  
Pefanis, Angello  
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  
Antoniades, Ellen  
Boutselis, Alexander  
Brochhagen, Renee  
Calliotte, Angela  
Christoff, William and Karen  
Dallas, Christopher and Teresa  
Dervenis, Nick and Sharon  
Dimos, Jim and Kathy  
Dine, Robert and Diana  
Dunbar, Pete and Lea  
Eaton, Joe and Florie  
Eleftheri, Anthony and Jill

Gibson, Karen  
Gounaris, George and Sarina  
Hostetler, Duane and Eleny  
Johnson, Ronald and Sunday  
Julovich, Angelo and Christy  
Kingsley, Tommie and Brandie  
Kollias, Stephen and Gail  
Lafter, Christopher and Antonia  
Leonard, Alice  
Lisch, Mike and Jean  
Nicholos, Sam and Dawn  
Oberlies, Toula  
Pappas, Leon and Andrea  
Pappas, Nick and Tracy  
Pappas, Victoria  
Pavlakos, Elias and Maria  
Pease, John and Maria  
Rowlas, Julie  
Saran, Nicholas and Yaping  
Sofianopoulos, Nick and Vickie  
Vitsas, James, Jon, and Vanessa  
Vitsas, Sondra and Connie  
Waterbury, Anthony and Kristen  
Woodruff, Jim and Cindy

### **Chattanooga, TN – Annunciation**

Annunciation Parish  
Ballas, Fr. Stavros and  
Presbytera Thea  
Bougdanos, Maria R.



Bundros, Tom and Lara  
Corum, John and Betsy  
Dimopoulos, Dennis and Barbara  
Fotiadis, Nicky and Lilly  
Kouris, George  
Mastilovic, Mick  
Mena, Michael C.  
Mousourakis, John and Donna  
Simpson, Joe and Jillian  
Tolbert, John and Janice  
Zotos, Alex and Jennifer

**Cincinnati, OH –**

**Holy Trinity–St. Nicholas**

Holy Trinity-St. Nicholas Parish  
Redmon, Fr. William and  
Presbyteria Elizabeth  
Assaley, Lewis and Patricia  
Stringas, Emanuel

**Dayton, OH – Annunciation**

Annunciation Philoptochos  
Gingrich, Fr. Joseph  
Abboud, Fayeze and Maria  
Nakis, George

**Detroit, MI –**

**Annunciation Cathedral**

Annunciation Cathedral Pioneers  
Bennert, Constance  
Gaggos, Jim and Mary K.  
Gaggos, Mary  
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  
Presbyteria Olga  
Casoglos, Thomas and Mary

**Fort Wayne, IN – Holy Trinity**

Maggos, Eleftherios and Paraskevi

**Grand Blanc, MI – Assumption**

Assumption Parish  
Maggos, Fr. Angelo and  
Presbyteria Teri

Daughters of Penelope #242  
Chinonis, Dennis and Debra  
Hountalas, Dimitri and Brittany  
Hountalas, John and Tasia  
Hountalas, Yanni  
Kalatzis, Athena  
Kallis, Agape  
Kaloydis, John and Karen  
Karabina, Ruth  
Kontorousis, Dimitre and Jacqueline  
Photiou, Lucas and Lori  
Potsos, Emanouil  
Yeotis, Catherine

**Grand Rapids, MI – Holy Trinity**

Berends, Fr. James and  
Presbyteria Anne  
Bogdan, Fr. James and  
Presbyteria Joan  
Cassis, Deacon George and  
Diaconissa Vicki  
Afendoulis, Angelynn  
Georgeson, Menas and Frosene  
Nicholas, James

**Ithaca, NY – St. Catherine**

Bantuvanias, Ann  
Bezirgianian, John

**Jamestown, NY – St. Nicholas**

Russell, Fr. Jarrod  
Cheronis, James and Christine  
Piaschuk, Damian and Sabrina

**Kalamazoo, MI – Annunciation**

Theoharis, Fr. Theoharis  
Ingalls, Robert and Andriana

**Lansing, MI – Holy Trinity**

Holy Trinity Parish  
Holy Trinity Philoptochos  
Sietsema, Fr. Mark and  
Presbyteria Kathy  
Hillary, Charles and Nadean  
Munk, Jerry and Jan  
Pascalenos, Olga

**Lexington, KY –**

**Panagia Pantovasilissa**

Sicoe, Fr. Cosmin and

Presbyteria Mihaela  
Arimes, Vickie  
Thompson, John and Christina

**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  
Sharish, Mary

**Marquette, MI – Assumption**

Wainio, Paul and Katherine

**Memphis, TN – Annunciation**

Annunciation Philoptochos  
Thomas, Fr. Simon and  
Presbyteria Stephanie  
Kay, John and Nancy  
Poplos, Theodore and Stephanie

**Middletown, OH –**

**Sts. Constantine and Helen**

Sts. Constantine and Helen Parish

**Muskegon, MI – Annunciation**

Encelewski, Christine Danigelis  
Micheil, Richard and Teresa  
Ladas, Paul and Patricia

**Nashville, TN – Holy Trinity**

Hohnholt, Fr. Gregory and  
Presbyteria Sofia  
Anderson, George and Lee Ann  
Gaddis, Jim and Tasoula  
Gore, James and Stacy  
Harman, Todd and Dawn  
Lamberson, Lambert and Helen  
Miller, John M.  
McNeil, Larry  
Taras, Nicholas and Donna

**Nashville, TN – St. John Chrysostom**

Turner, Fr. Parthenios and  
Presbyteria Marion

Courington, Christopher and Shelley  
Marchetti, John A.  
Waggoner, Michael and Kari

**New Buffalo, MI –  
Annunciation-Agia Paraskevi**  
Annunciation-Agia Paraskevi Parish  
Martin, Fr. Paul and Presbytera  
Nikki

**Plymouth, MI –  
Nativity of the Virgin Mary**  
Demetriou, Cleo  
Randall, Michael and Anne  
Tzilos, Golfo

**Rochester, NY – Annunciation**  
Mot, Fr. Catalin and  
Presbytera Felicia  
Gines, George and Maria  
Stathopoulos, Demetrios and Doris

**Rochester, NY – Holy Spirit**  
Holy Spirit Parish  
Georgantas, Irene  
Gesell, Melody

**Saginaw, MI – St. Demetrios**  
St. Demetrios Parish  
Cook, Fr. Timothy and  
Presbytera Catherine  
Bazakis, Andrew and Ann  
Caldwell, Larry and Peggy  
Houpis, Evan  
Metropoulos, Katherine  
Ostler, Dennis and Soula  
Siradakis, Eftihios and Beverly  
Stamas, Jim and Marsha

**Sault Ste Marie, MI – St. George**  
Cristof, Nelu

**Smiths Creek, MI –  
Holy Trinity Monastery**  
Abbot Joseph and  
Monastic Community

**Southgate, MI – St. George**  
St. George Parish

St. George Philoptochos  
Cook, Fr. Anthony and  
Presbytera Elizabeth  
Barnett, Karen Armelagos  
Constantakis, Clarence R.  
Colovos, Bill  
Diamantis, John and Christin  
Dionyssopoulos, Stavros and Eleni  
Kircos, Angelo and Sophia  
Kircos, David  
Kircos, Lazaros and Paula  
Kiousis, Sam  
Kontos, Chris and Frances  
Kontos, John and Marika  
Kotronis, George  
Liakos, Michael and Karen  
Makarounas, Panormitis and Koula  
Minton, Nicholas  
Moody, Rick and Kim  
Tougas, Christian and Lauren  
Vougiouklakis, Peter and Christina

**Springfield, OH – Assumption**  
Assumption Parish  
Rusu, Fr. Dumitru and  
Presbytera Luiza  
Lagos, Thomas and Matina

**St. Clair Shores, MI – Assumption**  
Assumption Parish  
Varlamos, Fr. Michael and  
Presbytera Tina  
Brennan, Stephanie  
Zingas, Christopher and Marsha

**Sterling Heights, MI – St. John**  
St. John Choir  
George, Christian  
George, John and Marlo  
George, Jordan  
Kotsis, Andrew and Irene  
Kotsis, Harry and Katherine  
Lionas, James and Helene  
Raphitis, Mike and Betty  
Souris, Bernice

**Syracuse, NY – St. Sophia**  
Macris, James

**Toledo, OH – Holy Trinity Cathedral**  
Holy Trinity Philoptochos  
Anagnos, Joyce  
Biernacki, Gerald and Pauline  
Photos, Thomas  
Yakumithis, Dean and Yanna

**Traverse City, MI –  
Archangel Gabriel**  
Underwood, Robert and Theresa

**Troy, MI – St. Nicholas**  
Arsman, Steve and Anita  
Chalker, Jess and Patty  
Crosson, Patrick and Cindy  
Karmanos, Peter and Danialle  
Mickey, Cynthia  
Mortis, George and Hionia  
Robert, Kevin and Christine  
Zotos, Gregory

**Vestal, NY – Annunciation**  
Annunciation Parish  
Gianakouros, Harry and Katie

**Watertown, NY – St. Vasilios**  
St. Vasilios Parish

**Westland, MI –  
Sts. Constantine and Helen**  
Sts. Constantine and Helen Parish  
Petrutiu, Fr. Teodor and  
Presbytera Roxana  
Katsarelas, Sophie  
Lembesis, Dino

**Other Friends**  
Radulescu, Deacon Alexandru and  
Diaconissa Silvana  
AHEPA – Omega Chapter #371  
*In Memory of Beck Demery*  
Koutsoukos, Maria  
Mid Eastern Federation of Greek  
Orthodox Church Musicians -  
MEFGOX  
Orthodox Christian Women of  
Michigan

# Photo Highlights



Fr. Paul Martin Receives Offikion of Economos  
Annunciation Parish Visitation, New Buffalo, MI  
August 13



Metropolis Summer Camp Visit  
Rose City, MI  
July 3



Troy Greek Festival Visit  
St. Nicholas Church, Troy, MI  
June 23



Leadership 100 Dinner  
Troy, MI  
June 15



Lexington Parish Visitation  
Panagia Pantovailissa Church, Lexington, KY  
June 11



Pentecost Liturgy  
Holy Trinity Romanian Orthodox Church, Troy, MI  
June 4

GREEK ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE OF AMERICA  
METROPOLIS OF DETROIT  
**THE SHEPHERD'S STAFF**

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF DETROIT



ADDRESS 2560 CROOKS ROAD, TROY, MI 48084  
PHONE (248) 823-2400  
FAX (248) 823-2401  
EMAIL OFFICE@DETROIT.GOARCH.ORG  
WEB WWW.DETROIT.GOARCH.ORG  
EDITOR DCN. ALEX RADULESCU  
PHONE (248) 823-2414  
FAX (248) 823-2401  
EMAIL EDITOR@DETROIT.GOARCH.ORG  
SUBSCRIBE WWW.DETROIT.GOARCH.ORG/SUBSCRIBE

# Dear Friends of the Metropolis

As part of the Friends of the Metropolis you have made an important impact on our common mission of Christian witness and action to the world – and we have been able to do this together as part of the Friends of the Metropolis for 2017.

Consider some of the results of your gifts to the Friends Program for 2017:

- **YOU** helped cover some expenses incurred during the travel of Metropolitan Nicholas to the Patriarchate as a member of the Eparchial Synod;
- Through **YOUR** generosity, Metropolitan Nicholas was able to attend the meetings of the Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops of the United States of America;
- **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 us donate money to rebuild the Ionian Village;
- **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 helped us to pay all the normative operational expenses of the Metropolis Office including: building maintenance and repair; heat; lights; postage; technology; and supplies;
- **YOU** have made it possible for us at the Metropolis to replace our heating and cooling system;
- **YOU** helped us send our staff to attend Praesidium Guardian certification training in Texas.

Thank you for your great stewardship!  
God be praised!

## FRIENDS DONATION COUPON

Mail this coupon to:  
METROPOLIS OF DETROIT  
2560 CROOKS ROAD  
TROY, MI 48084



Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Parish \_\_\_\_\_ City/State \_\_\_\_\_

Donate:

- \$25    \$50    \$100    \$250    \$500    \$1,000    Other

Method of Payment:

- Check payable to the METROPOLIS OF DETROIT  
 Money Order  
 Credit Card

Credit Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. \_\_\_\_\_ CVC# \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_