



THE SHEPHERD'S STAFF

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF DETROIT



Christ

Is God's Greatest Gift to us

COVER:

ICON OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD BY VLASSIOS TSOTSONIS
ASSUMPTION CHURCH, ST. CLAIR SHORES, MICHIGAN



PHOTO: METROPOLITAN NICHOLAS GIVING CHRISTMAS GIFTS AT THE GREAT VESPERS FOR ST. NEKTARIOS
NOVEMBER 8, 2017 ❖ ASSUMPTION CHURCH ❖ ST. CLAIR SHORES, MICHIGAN

Metropolitan's Message

Beloved Family in Christ,

Are you ready for your gift? Have you filled out your list for Santa Claus, or quietly told your family, your coworkers, or your relatives what it is that you are hoping that St. Nicholas will bring for you on Christmas Eve? Yes, my friends, it is that time of year...it is the Season of the Gift.

Much of the excitement and buildup of Christmas shopping begins when we are sitting at home waiting to finish our Thanksgiving Dinner. It just seems that at that point in time we are bombarded by advertisements reminding us of the fabulous sales that will occur on Thanksgiving Day or Black Friday. Everywhere we turn we are reminded that it is the Season of the Gift.

And so we begin to consider our "Gift Strategy." We must determine how many people we need to have on our Christmas shopping list. We rank the names by family and friends, and we put people in order of importance to us. After we have made the list, we consider how much money we have to spend – or how much we are going to charge on our credit cards. It is a kind of scientific study of what we need to do – and armed with this information, we will venture out into the marketplace and fulfill our

responsibility of making sure that the people who are important in our life will have a Gift.

But I am concerned that too often we have forgotten that the Season of the Gift is really the Season of God! This whole concept of offering a gift at Christmas comes from the fact that at Christmas God gave us a Gift – His Son. And as God sends His Son to be our Gift, let us remember that in this case, we all have received the same Gift: we all receive Jesus Christ, God-in-the-Flesh, who will save us from our sins and restore us to the Kingdom of God as sons and daughters of the Most High.

This is truly the Season of the Gift – but it starts not from what we give, but rather from what – or Whom – we have received. We are privileged as the family of God to receive God's greatest treasure – His Son – and to join with him in going to be with the Father.

This Christmas, this Season of the Gift, I would ask of all of us to first receive the Newborn Babe in our hearts and in our homes as God's gift to us, so that as we share gifts of kindness and love with others, we will always seek to share the Newborn Son of God, Christ Jesus, in the flesh.

Let us receive the Gift...and let us share Him with the world!

METROPOLITAN NICHOLAS OF DETROIT

Metropolis News

- ❖ In the last three months, three parishes from our Metropolis have celebrated their Centennial Anniversary: St. Sophia (Syracuse, NY); Annunciation (Rochester, NY); and Holy Trinity (Nashville, TN). We wish them Many More Years!
- ❖ On the occasion of his parish's Centennial Celebration (September 17), Fr. David Smith of Syracuse, NY was recognized as Protopresbyter by His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios.
- ❖ On January 20, 2018, Dcn. Alex Radulescu will be ordained to the Priesthood and assigned as an Assistant Priest at the St. Nicholas Church in Ann Arbor, MI. Dcn. Alex served as a lay assistant and Deacon to Metropolitan Nicholas since September 2009.
- ❖ On December 4, 2017, we welcome Bryce Buffenbarger as the new Assistant to Metropolitan Nicholas. Bryce is a graduate of Holy Cross School of Theology and Valedictorian of his Class of 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.

DECEMBER

3	Hierarchical Divine Liturgy 1:00p—5:00p Metropolis Open House	St. Nicholas Church, Troy, MI Metropolis Center, Troy, MI
5	St. Nicholas Great Vespers	St. Nicholas Church, Ann Arbor, MI
6	St. Nicholas Hierarchical Divine Liturgy	St. Nicholas Church, Troy, MI
8	Christmas Concert	Annunciation Cathedral, Detroit, MI
10	Hierarchical Divine Liturgy	St. Nicholas Church, Ann Arbor, MI
11	6:30p St. Spyridon Great Vespers	St. Spyridon Chapel, Metropolis Center, Troy, MI
12	10:00a St. Spyridon Divine Liturgy	St. Spyridon Chapel, Metropolis Center, Troy, MI
17	Divine Liturgy	St. George Church, Southgate, MI
24	Hierarchical Divine Liturgy 6:00p Nativity of the Lord Vespersal Liturgy	Assumption Church, St. Clair Shores, MI Holy Trinity Cathedral, Toledo, OH
25	Nativity of the Lord Hierarchical Divine Liturgy	Annunciation Cathedral, Detroit, MI
26—JAN 1	Office Closed	

JANUARY 2018

1	St. Basil the Great and Circumcision of our Lord	TBD
6	Theophany Divine Liturgy St. John Great Vespers	Holy Cross Church, Farmington Hills, MI St. John Church, Sterling Heights, MI
7	St. John Hierarchical Divine Liturgy	St. John Church, Sterling Heights, MI
12—14	St. Nicholas Winter Youth Retreat	Panagia Pantovasilissa Church, Lexington, KY
14	Divine Liturgy	TBD
16	Clergy Enrichment Meeting	Metropolis Center, Troy, MI
20	Ordination to Priesthood of Dcn. Alex Radulescu	St. Nicholas Church, Ann Arbor, MI
21	Divine Liturgy	TBD
26—28	GOYO Greek Orthodox Youth Olympics	Holy Trinity Church, Grand Rapids, MI
28	Sunday of the Publican & Pharisee Divine Liturgy	Holy Trinity Church, Grand Rapids, MI
31—FEB 3	Leadership 100 27th Annual Conference	Key Biscayne, FL

Youth News

BY EVA KONSTANTAKOS

PREPARING FOR THE PARISH ROLLOUT OF THE POLICIES FOR THE SAFETY OF YOUTH AND CHILDREN

For many years, the Metropolis of Detroit camping ministries programs have followed the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese Youth Protection Manual (YPM) – policies developed to ensure the physical, emotional, and spiritual safety of youth participating in summer camps and Metropolis-run youth events.

The YPM ensures that camp staff are properly screened and selected. It also ensures that appropriate boundaries and expectations are established for interactions between youth and adults.

We are now embarking on an exciting new time... the eventual rollout of the new Policies for the Safety of Youth and Children to the parish level. The Greek Orthodox Archdiocese has tentatively set the parish rollout to begin Fall 2018.

The rollout of these best practices and policies will help parishes achieve the same standard of safety and protection used at the camps of our Metropolis and Archdiocese for their parish youth programs.



As reported at the 2017 Metropolis Clergy Laity Conference in Buffalo, NY, the Metropolis Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministries is committed to helping parishes prepare for these exciting changes.

In the new year, the Metropolis Youth Office will be hosting 3-4 webinars to discuss the Policies and rollout – general explanation of revised Policies, as well as an overview of parish responsibilities for compliance. The webinars will also discuss how parishes can begin to implement some of the best practices now before the official rollout.

Dates for webinars will be released in January 2018 on the Metropolis website, as well as through the Metropolis Youth Office email list. To join the MDYM e-Update, please email youth@detroit.goarch.org to subscribe.



ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM ORATORICAL FESTIVAL

The 2018 St. John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival Topics are available. Also, the 2018 District and Metropolis Festival dates have been scheduled. Please direct questions to youth@detroit.goarch.org.

For more information regarding the Oratorical Festival, visit our Metropolis website: www.detroit.goarch.org/sjcof

2018 Upcoming Events

- | | | |
|-----------|---|--|
| JAN 12-14 | St. Nicholas Winter Youth Retreat | Panagia Pantovasilissa Church, Lexington, KY |
| JAN 26-28 | GOYO - Greek Orthodox Youth Olympics | Holy Trinity Church, Grand Rapids, MI |
| FEB 3 | MDSC Reunion - Pistons Greek Heritage Night | Little Caesars Arena, Detroit, MI |
| FEB 16-18 | Dayton GOYA Basketball Tournament | Annunciation Church, Dayton, OH |

Philoptochos News

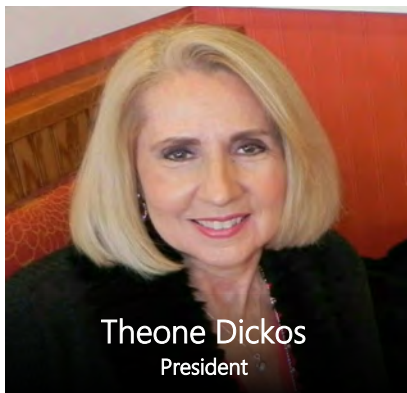
BY THEONE DICKOS

A successful and spiritual Metropolis Clergy Laity Assembly/ Philoptochos Conference was held in Buffalo, NY from September 28 - September 30, 2017. A sincere thank you goes to Metropolis President Margaret Yates for her efforts in implementing and leading a productive and enjoyable Philoptochos Conference. Margaret has served as Metropolis Philoptochos President for the past six years, and we are grateful for her inspiring and dedicated leadership. Even in difficult times and with the passing of her dear husband, Margaret continued to lead with ease, confidence and compassion. Margaret, we thank you for your service, and you are a blessing to us all.

The Philoptochos Agenda included three engaging and dynamic speakers whose topics included domestic violence, dementia and Alzheimer's, and the opioid epidemic which is plaguing our country. The delegates heard from a very articulate young man who was a victim of violence by his stepfather. His story brought tears to all of us. He is now in college and telling his story to various groups. A donation of \$1000 was given to the Domestic Violence Center in his name.

A raffle was held for a quilt made by former board member Barbara Kuvshinoff from Buffalo. The quilt is a depiction of the St. Nicholas Shrine pin. \$1620 was raised for the National Shrine. The Metropolis of Detroit Philoptochos has contributed a total of \$123,029 for this effort.

The Metropolis Philoptochos Board elections for the 2017 - 2019 term were conducted in Buffalo. I am truly honored and excited to serve in the capacity of Metropolis of Detroit Philoptochos President. I am encouraged and touched by the support of our newly elected officers, board and all of our Philoptochos sisters. The outpouring of love for our mission of helping those in need is



heartwarming. The new officers and board are:

- ❖ President - Theone Dickos, Carmel, IN
- ❖ 1st Vice President - Cindy Crosson, Troy, MI
- ❖ 2nd Vice President - Stephanie Storgion-Poplos, Memphis, TN
- ❖ Recording Secretary - Evanthis Valassiades, Dayton, OH
- ❖ Corresponding Secretary - Paula Kalevas, Bloomfield Hills, MI
- ❖ Treasurer - Debbie George, Farmington Hills, MI
- ❖ Advisor - Margaret Yates, Ann Arbor, MI

Boards Members: Presvytera Thea Ballas, Presvytera Emily Bartz, Pauline Biernacki, Anne Feles, Katherine Kotsis, Andrea Feles-Katsimbaris, Kimberly LaForest, Patricia Ladas, Kay Nicholas, Harriet Stoukas, Maria Stravropoulos, Christina Vlahopoulos, Eleni Zaferes, Michele Zois.

The Metropolis Board will host its annual reception in honor of our beloved Metropolitan Nicholas' Name day on Sunday, December 3rd. St. Spyridon Vespers Service will be held on Monday, December 11 and Divine Liturgy on Tuesday, December 12. We invite everyone to take part in these celebrations at the Metropolis Offices in Troy, Michigan.

Thanksgiving and Christmas are always a busy time for us, as we hope to make the holidays a little happier for those in need. On the Chapter level, St. John the Baptist Philoptochos in Sterling Heights, Michigan sponsored a food drive for the Lighthouse Foundation which helps provide food for the needy in their community. An abundance of food was collected and delivered. In

addition, the chapter has a Giving Tree with cards on the tree asking for gift cards of varying amounts to different stores. Each Sunday the tree is emptied and then replenished weekly, a truly generous outreach for the less fortunate.

On behalf of the Metropolis Board, I wish you a joyous Christmas Season and a Blessed 2018. May the world experience peace in the New Year.

Contributions

NATIONAL LEVEL:

- ❖ Hurricane Relief - Victims of Harvey (Texas), Irma (Florida), Maria (Puerto Rico). Total to date - \$113,000.
- ❖ Children's Medical Fund Luncheon, Nov. 11, 2017 in the Metropolis of New Jersey. Total Raised - \$400,000; \$250,000 donated to Children's Hospitals in the New Jersey Metropolis; \$150,000 for Social Services.

METROPOLIS LEVEL:

- ❖ St. Nicholas Shrine - \$1620 raised at the Buffalo Convention. Total donated to this effort - \$123,029

CHAPTER LEVEL:

- ❖ St Nicholas - Ann Arbor, Michigan - \$2000 Kroger Gift Cards given to the Parish Priest for his benevolence fund
- ❖ Holy Trinity - Carmel, Indiana - \$5000 of Kroger Gift Cards distributed to 100 needy families in Indianapolis and the surrounding areas for Thanksgiving.

MEFGOX News

BY VICKI PAPPAS

FOSTERING CHURCH MUSIC EDUCATION

One of the primary goals of the Mid-Eastern Federation (MEFGOX) is to encourage learning about the hymnology of the Orthodox Church – its melodies, its theology, and its forms and structures. Because our hymns are so rich in theological information and are structured to draw our attention to daily, seasonal, and yearly variations in the ecclesiastical calendar, it is important that those who sing for and in the Church have these underpinnings, given their important role in our services. In that light, the Federation sponsors several types of activities to support church music education in the Detroit and Pittsburgh Metropolises.



MEFGOX periodically provides many **WORKSHOPS** for church musicians. Their content blends information about hymnology and theology with skills and techniques about music. A typical workshop might have a priest explaining the content and theology of the cycle of eight Resurrectional Apolytikia that chanters and choir members sing each Sunday, followed by a musical clinician helping them to produce better sounds, enunciate more clearly, or add appropriate dynamics and feeling to best interpret the hymns. These workshops can occur during the year at various parishes and/or during Federation meetings.

More intensive instruction is available during longer **CHURCH MUSIC INSTITUTES**, which usually occur during the Federation's Convention in July. These allow for more in-depth exploration of hymnology, the structure and hymns of services other than the Liturgy (such as the Paraklesis Service or Vespers), and/or techniques to improve singing, chanting, or directing. This year in particular, we are seeking parishes willing to host such CMI's as we try to bring this type of learning experience closer to the local level. Local CMI's are six hours or more

in length, and the Federation assists the parish with curriculum, instructors, and costs.

Another avenue the Federation uses to promote church music education is through its **MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP** program. Since the early 1980's, with an Endowment Fund created by Charles Michaels from Annunciation Church in Dayton, the Federation has provided scholarships to students who have had experience with church music and wish to continue their adult stewardship in church music. Most of these scholarships have supported student tuition to colleges and universities. The Scholarship's Endowment Fund continues to be maintained through memorial donations.

A new **CONTINUING EDUCATION GRANTS** program for church musicians interested in furthering their skills is our newest initiative. Its focus is towards supporting church musicians who wish to extend their knowledge and skills in non-college programs. To this end, we have created a restricted line of Continuing Education funds which will be available to fund grants for private study in areas such as voice or organ lessons, attending seminars in Byzantine music or choir directing, or composition.

All of these opportunities are available to church musicians of parishes that are current stewards of the Federation. Truth be told, however, many fail to take advantage of these offerings, or are unable to because of distance or funding. Our hopes are that we can change from a church music "culture" where these learning opportunities are not a priority for volunteers to one that values such experiences because of the key sacred role choirs and chanters play in our services, regardless of remuneration. We seek the support of our clergy and parish councils to encourage and motivate their church musicians to participate, and help make that possible whenever necessary. We also are willing to work with parishes that are willing to host local workshops or Church Music Institutes. And last but not least, we encourage church musicians to apply for scholarships and continuing education grants.





Approaching Christmas as a Child

BY FR. SIMON THOMAS

One of my first memories of Christmas is my brother excitedly waking me up about 6:30 on Christmas morning saying, "Do you want to know what you got!?! I unwrapped everything, but don't worry, I taped it all up again."

I was about 8 years old at the time, making him about 10. I wasn't upset with him. Rather, I was amused, and vicariously experiencing his excitement. The kid in him always came out at Christmas. I enjoy Christmas, but he enjoyed it that much more.

Christmas is a busy, and for many, a stressful time of year. Our calendars are packed full with shopping, cooking, parties, extra church services, Christmas cards, on top of our regular schedule. As adults, the Christmas Season can lose the luster it had when we were children.

Children await Christmas with awe and wonder, excitedly counting down the days. Their innocence leaves no room for judgment of others, for frustration, for the attitude of a scrooge. They trust that "Santa will come with presents," which for them is the expression and joy of their faith in the Nativity of Christ.

The reality of the Nativity of Christ is that He came as a Child! The Creator of the world and King of all came not as a fully grown warrior to conquer and overcome, but in humility as a newborn babe. When we look upon the manger scene, we should have more than just sentimentality – we should have peace, joy, and fulfillment. This is what we worship – that the salvation of humankind has come as one of us, to be with us!

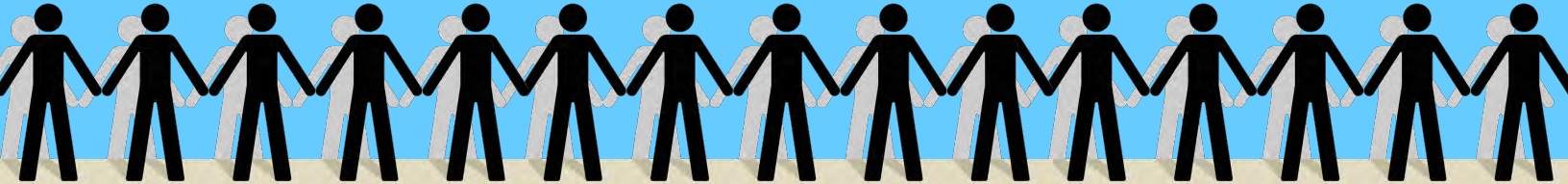
I pray that this year we all approach the Nativity of Christ through the eyes of a child – with wonder, with love, and with excitement. May we make room in our hearts to truly receive Christ, so that He may dwell in us!

❖ Father Simon Thomas is the Priest of the Annunciation Church in Memphis, Tennessee.

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—NOVEMBER 30

+His Eminence Metropolitan Nicholas

Ann Arbor, MI, St. Nicholas

St. Nicholas Philoptochos
Kotsis, Fr. Nicolaos and
Presbytera Sandra
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

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

Buffalo, NY, Annunciation

Annunciation Parish
Annunciation Philoptochos
Annunciation Youth Council
Christakis, Fr. Christos and
Presbytera Lisa
Bechakas, Terry and Stella
Blakeskee, Ronald and Maria
Brown, Constance A.
Cervi, Brian and Vassilia
Couvtsakis, Paul and Linda
Hennas, Andrew and Jacqueline

Hiczewski, Peter and Michele
Johnidas, John and Karen
Krestos, Thomas
McDaniels, Joyce
Pefanis, Angello
Stelianou, Anna
Tassiopulos, Emanuel and Fay
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
Antonopoulos, Anthony and Gena
Bagios, Jim and Marika
Baker, Dan and Sylvia
Boutselis, Alexander
Brochhagen, Renee
Calliotte, Angela
Carlson, David and Kathleen
Christoff, William and Karen
Dallas, Christopher and Teresa
Dervenis, Nick and Sharon
Dervenis, Ted and Julia
Dickos, Theone
Dimos, Jim and Kathy
Dine, Robert and Diana
Dunbar, Pete and Lea
Eaton, Joe and Florie

Eleftheri, Anthony and Jill
Filis, Anthony
Gibson, Karen
Gounaris, George and Sarina
Gounaris, Maria S.
Hostetler, Duane and Eleny
Hrisomalos, Nick
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
Maniakas, Constantine
Martine, Niki
Nicholos, Sam and Dawn
Oberlies, Toula
Pappas, Leon and Andrea
Pappas, Nick and Tracy
Pappas, Victoria
Pavlakos, Elias and Maria
Pasyanos, John and Liberty
Pease, Greg and Mary
Pease, John and Maria
Raikos, James and Jeanette
Reckas, Sherry
Rowlas, Julie
Saran, Nicholas and Yaping
Sofianopoulos, Nick and Vickie
Stefanidis, Dimitris and Paraskevi
Vitsas, James, Jon, and Vanessa
Vitsas, Connie and Sondra
Waterbury, Anthony and Kristen
Woodruff, Jim and Cindy
Young, Michael and Helen

Zeheralis, Gail

Chattanooga, TN, Annunciation

Annunciation Parish
Ballas, Fr. Stavros and Presbyteria 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
Emroll, Fr. Mark and Presbyteria Ginny
Assaley, Lewis and Patricia
Perdikakis, Gus and JoAnn
Stringas, Emanuel
Tzetzis, Nicolaos and Ivey

Dayton, OH, Annunciation

Annunciation Philoptochos
Gingrich, Fr. Joseph
Abboud, Fayez and Maria
Nakis, George
Retzios, Thomas and Angela

Detroit, MI, Annunciation Cathedral

Annunciation Cathedral Philoptochos
Annunciation Cathedral Pioneers
Manias, Fr. Georgios and
Presbyteria Maria
Bennert, Constance
Gaggos, Jim and Mary K.
Gaggos, Mary
Inempolidis, Evelyn
Kazolis, Koula
Lianos, Will and Kim
Politis, Dean L.
Tapazoglou, Nicolaos and Christine

Elmira, NY St. Athanasios

Scott, Fr. Richard

Farmington Hills, MI, Holy Cross

Holy Cross Parish
Holy Cross Philoptochos
Holy Cross GOYA
Hountalas, Fr. Dean and
Presbyteria Olga
Casoglos, Thomas and Mary
George, John and Debbie
Zervos, George and Lisa

Fort Wayne, IN, Holy Trinity

Maggos, Eleftherios and Paraskevi
Rongos, Christopher and Katherine

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
Kontourousis, 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
Christ, Terry and Joanne
Piaschyk, 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

Panagia Pantovasilissa Parish
Redmon, Fr. William and
Presbyteria Elizabeth
Sicoe, Fr. Cosmin and
Presbyteria Mihaela
Arimes, Vickie

Karounos, Dennis and Chris
Kiriacopoulos, Ken and Mary
Sawaya, Peter and Kallie
Thompson, John and Christina

Little Rock, AR, Annunciation

Verdaris, Fr. Nicholas and
Presbyteria Maria

Louisville, KY, Assumption

Assumption Philoptochos
Boukis, Fr. Jon and Presbyteria Doreece
Wingenbach, Fr. Gregory
Blackford, Charles and Patricia
Dobson, John
Makris, Mary
Sharish, Mary

Marquette, MI, Assumption

Wainio, Paul and Katherine

Memphis, TN, Annunciation

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

Middletown, OH,

Sts. Constantine and Helen

Sts. Constantine and Helen Parish

Muskegon, MI, Annunciation

Annunciation Parish
Sakellariou, Fr. John and
Presbyteria Pavlina
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
Delvizis, Michael and Rebecca
Gaddis, Jim and Tasoula
Gore, James and Stacy
Harman, Todd and Dawn
Lamberson, Lambert and Helen
Miller, John M.
McNeil, Larry
Rogers, Helen and Larry Kamm
Taras, Nicholas and Donna

Nashville, TN, St. John Chrysostom

Turner, Fr. Parthenios and
Presbyteria Marion
Courington, Christopher and Shelley

Marchetti, John A.
Pittman, Michael
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**
Marcus, Fr. Nicholas and
Presbytera Liza
Demetriou, Cleo
Jenaras, Katherine
Nichoff, Sofia
Randall, Michael and Anne
Stassinou, Lambros and Helen
Tzilou, Golfo

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

Rochester, NY, Holy Spirit
Holy Spirit Parish
Marcantoni, Fr. Michael and
Presbytera Katherine
Georgantas, Irene
Gesell, Melody

Saginaw, MI, St. Demetrios
St. Demetrios Parish
Cook, Fr. Timothy and
Presbytera Catherine
Bistolarides, Fr. Peter and
Presbytera Peggy
Ahejew, Petro and Sandra
Bazakis, Andrew and Ann
Caldwell, Larry and Peggy
Houpis, Evan
Metropoulos, Katherine
Ostler, Dennis and Soula
Rouman, George and Francis
Siradakis, Eftihios and Beverly
Stamas, Jim and Marsha
Ulmer, George and Virginia
Zubulake, George

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
Dionysopoulos, Stavros and Eleni
Kircos, Angelo and Sophia
Kircos, David
Kircos, Lazaros and Paula
Kioussis, 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, James H. Company, Inc.
Lagos, Thomas and Matina
Loukoumidis, Dimitrios and Despina

St. Clair Shores, MI, Assumption
Assumption Parish
Assumption Philoptochos
Varlamos, Fr. Michael and
Presbytera Tina
Brennan, Stephanie
Kohl, David and Chrysanthe
Zingas, Christopher and Marsha

Sterling Heights, MI, St. John
St. John Choir
Kyritses, Fr. Nicholas
George, Christian
George, John and Marlo
George, Jordan
Kotsis, Andrew and Irene
Kotsis, Damian and Anastasia
Kotsis, Harry and Katherine
Lionas, James and Helene
Raphitis, Mike and Betty
Souris, Bernice
Tangalos, John and Mary
Tangalos, Theodore and Mary

Syracuse, NY, St. Sophia
St. Sophia Parish
Macris, James

Toledo, OH, Holy Trinity Cathedral
Holy Trinity Philoptochos
Legakis, Fr. Larry and

Presbytera Jennifer
Anagnos, Joyce
Biernacki, Gerald and Pauline
Photos, Thomas
Yakumithis, Dean and Yanna

Traverse City, MI, Archangel Gabriel
Streza, Fr. Ciprian and
Presbytera Sînziana
Archangel Gabriel Philoptochos
Underwood, Robert and Theresa

Troy, MI, St. Nicholas
Arsman, Steve and Anita
Chalker, Jess and Patty
Crosson, Patrick and Cindy
In Loving Memory of Thomas D. and
Beck Demery
Feles, Anne
Karmanos, Peter and Danialle
Katsimbaris, Ioannis and Andrea
Mickey, Cynthia
Mortis, George and Hionia
Robert, Kevin and Christine
The T. K. Zampetis Family Foundation
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
Petritiu, Fr. Teodor and
Presbytera Roxana
Angelopoulos, Ioannis and Aspasia
Katsarelas, Sophie
Lembesis, Dino

Other Friends
Radulescu, Deacon Alexandru and
Diaconissa Silvana
AHEPA, Omega Chapter #371
In Memory of Beck Demery
Gabriel, Jerry and Katie
Koutsoukos, Maria
Metropolis of Detroit Philoptochos
Mid Eastern Federation of Greek
Orthodox Church Musicians - MEFGOX
Orthodox Christian Women of
Michigan
Stechschulte, Mark

Thank You!

Photo Highlights



Nashville Parish Centennial
Holy Trinity Church, Nashville, TN
November 5



Rochester Parish Centennial
Annunciation Church, Rochester, NY
October 15



Lexington Door Opening
Panagia Pantovasilissa Church, Lexington, KY
October 8



Metropolis Clergy-Laity Conference
Buffalo, NY
September 27-30



AHEPA #371 Apartments Rededication
Harrison Township, MI
September 23



Syracuse Parish Centennial
St. Sophia Church, Syracuse, NY
September 17

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

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Dear Friends of the Metropolis

Yes, it's true! 2017 is soon coming to a close and we will begin a new year of Prayer, Love, Witness, and Sharing to the glory of God and for the love of His Church.

You have 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 2017 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!

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