



METROPOLIS
OF DETROIT



THE SHEPHERD'S STAFF

DECEMBER 2015 | VOLUME VII, ISSUE 5

*Christ is Born!
Glorify Him!*

Metropolitan's Message

My Beloved Clergy and Faithful,

It is this simple, yet important question that we are called upon to answer at this Christmas season. Can we see the Star?

While there are many who would consider both the question and this part of the story of the Nativity of Christ to be silly or simple folklore – the witness of history has shown us otherwise.

Can we see the Star?

Two millennia ago that question was at the heart of understanding what was happening in the world. Amidst turmoil, strife, and despair, a Star shone through the night. It is that Star that led all eyes and hearts to the manger where the blessed Savior was born. It is the Star that cut through the darkness, showing that salvation had entered the world in the form of a little babe.

In today's day and age, we are drawn to look down...at the screens of our technology, at our neighbor, at our own shortcomings. But this question reminds us to look up. The fact that we are called upon to look up and away from ourselves in order to understand the reality of God's love for us is the first part of understanding who we are in this cosmic reality. It tells us that by looking up to the Star, we are also being guided by God's love to a

more perfect expression of our human life.

And it is also indicative to us that the Star, which announced the Messiah's presence in the world, was meant for us to follow as well as see. We have never been left orphaned from the love of God; just as God comes to us in the innocent baby in Bethlehem, we are also called to follow Him on our path to salvation.

We know that the world is far from perfect – and the world events of these past months continue to remind us of the extent of evil in the world. But instead of looking down in despair, we look up and seek that Star of wonder... that Star of light.

Can we see the Star?

During this sacred Christmas season, let us remind ourselves and one another to seek that Star. It is that Star that shines, in the darkest of nights, to give us hope for a new day. It is a reminder that God is with us, He is coming to find us, and wants to guide us home to His love and His Kingdom! Look up and see the Star!

† Metropolitan Nicholas
† NICHOLAS
Metropolitan of Detroit

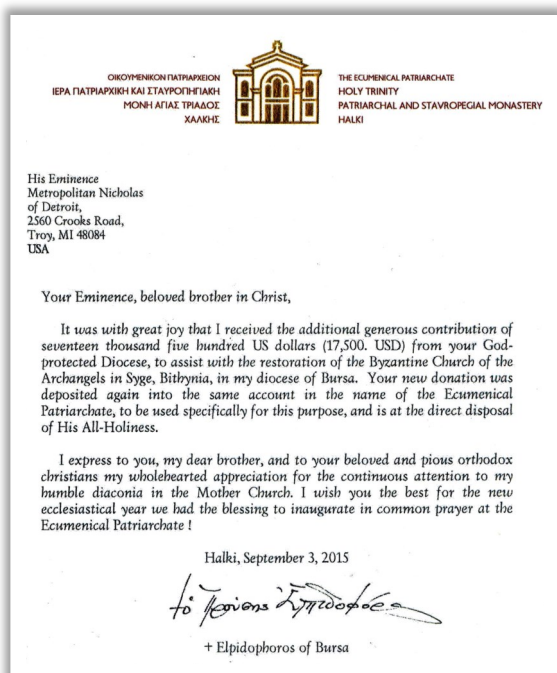


Background: Journey of the Magi by James Tissot.

Metropolitan's Schedule

updates at detroit.goarch.org/calendar

DEC	2015	
5	St. Nicholas Great Vespers	St. Nicholas Church—Troy, MI
6	St. Nicholas Hierarchical Divine Liturgy Open House (1:00p - 5:00p)	St. Nicholas Church—Ann Arbor, MI Metropolis Center—Troy, MI
11	St. Spyridon Great Vespers (6:30p)	St. Spyridon Metropolis Chapel—Troy, MI
12	St. Spyridon Hierarchical Divine Liturgy (10:00a)	St. Spyridon Metropolis Chapel—Troy, MI
13	Hierarchical Divine Liturgy Ellinomatheia Awards	Holy Cross Church—Farmington Hills, MI St. Nicholas Church—Ann Arbor, MI
19	Greek School Christmas Program	St. George Church—Bloomfield Hills, MI
20	Hierarchical Divine Liturgy & Christmas Pageant	Sts. Constantine & Helen Church—Westland, MI
24	Nativity of our Lord Vespers Liturgy	Annunciation Cathedral—Detroit, MI
25	Nativity of our Lord Hierarchical Divine Liturgy	Nativity of the Virgin Mary Church—Plymouth, MI
27	Hierarchical Divine Liturgy	Assumption Church—St. Claire Shores, MI
JAN	2016	
1	St. Basil Divine Liturgy	TBD
3	Hierarchical Divine Liturgy	Metro Detroit Area parish
6	Theophany Hierarchical Divine Liturgy St. John the Baptist Great Vespers	St. John Church—Sterling Heights, MI St. John Church—Sterling Heights, MI
7	St. John the Baptist Hierarchical Divine Liturgy	St. John Church—Sterling Heights, MI
10	Hierarchical Divine Liturgy	TBD
10—17	Ecumenical Patriarchate Holy Synod Meeting	Ecumenical Patriarchate—Istanbul, Turkey
17	Hierarchical Divine Liturgy	TBD
23-24	Pastoral Visitation	Annunciation Church—Chattanooga, TN
30	The Three Hierarchs Hierarchical Divine Liturgy	TBD
31	Hierarchical Divine Liturgy	TBD



Metropolis of Detroit contributes to the restoration of the Holy Archangels Church in Bithynia

His Eminence Metropolitan Nicholas and the Metropolis of Detroit received a letter of gratitude from His Eminence Metropolitan Elpidophoros of Bursa for its recent donation of \$17,500. This donation will be utilized by His Eminence Metropolitan Elpidophoros to restore the Byzantine Church of the Holy Archangels in Syge, Bithynia (Turkey). His Eminence Metropolitan Elpidophoros expressed his deepest appreciation to His Eminence Metropolitan Nicholas and the faithful of this Metropolis for this outpouring of love, generosity, and continual support of the Ecumenical Patriarchate and its churches.

Many thanks to the Friends of the Metropolis and all of the faithful who continue to give of their talents and treasures so that we can freely offer assistance and generosity to all those in need around the world!

Philoptochos News

by Florence Stefanou—President



A Sincere thank you to Margaret Yates for the dedicated leadership she has given our Metropolis as Metropolis Philoptochos President for the past 4 years. Your Philoptochos sisters are truly proud of the job you and your fellow Philoptochos Board members have done.

It is an honor to have been elected your new 2015-2017 President of the Metropolis of Detroit Philoptochos Board. With the continued spiritual guidance of his Eminence Metropolitan Nicholas and your prayers and support, we will work to continue the mission of Philoptochos.

At the Philoptochos National Board meeting in October at Hellenic College/Holy Cross in Brookline Massachusetts, collectively Philoptochos presented \$400,000 to his Eminence Archbishop Demetrios for the building of the St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church and National Shrine in New York City.

A report was given on "Feeding the Hungry." Philoptochos members around the country have served or prepared more than 160,000 meals. Please tell us - What is your Chapter doing for this project?

Chapter News: At Saint Nicholas in Troy Michigan, members are actively involved in many outreach and community projects. They are collecting items requested

by the children through the Judson Center, along with toys for the children at DMC Children's Hospital of Michigan. Focus Motor City organization will receive mittens, gloves, hats and scarves to distribute to those in need. They are also donating \$800 to the Ecumenical Patriarchate commitment.

The Metropolis Board will host its annual reception in honor of our beloved Metropolitan Nicholas Name Day on Sunday, December 6. St. Spyridon Vespers Service on Friday December 11 and Divine Liturgy on December 12. We invite everyone to join in these celebrations.

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

DONATIONS

<u>National Philoptochos</u> St. Nicholas National Shrine "Feed the Hungry" Project	\$400,000 160k meals
<u>St. Nicholas—Troy, MI</u> Ecumenical Patriarchate Judson Center DMC Children's Hospital of MI Focus Motor City	\$800 Children items Toys Mittens, gloves, hats, scarves

MEFGOX News

by Vicki Pappas—President



As we draw close to the beautiful feast of the Holy Nativity, the members of the Mid-Eastern Federation of Church Musicians, choir members and chanters alike, extend their heartfelt good wishes to Metropolitan Nicholas, our Reverend Fathers and Deacons, and all parishioners of the Metropolis of Detroit.

During this joyful season, you will hear us singing and chanting the beautiful prayers which make up the special hymns of the Feast – join us as we praise the birth of our Lord!

Your birth, O Christ our God, dawned the light of knowledge upon the earth.

For by Your birth those who adored stars were taught by a star to worship You, the Sun of Justice, and to know You, Orient from on High. (Ἡ Γέννησις Σου)

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*Today, the Virgin bears Him who is transcendent, and the earth presents the cave to Him who is beyond reach.*

*Angels, along with shepherds, glorify Him. The Magi make their way to Him by a star. For a new child has been born for us, the God before all ages. (Ἡ Παρθένος σήμερον)*

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The Lord has sent redemption to His people. Alleluia! (Ἀλύτρωσιν)

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*Christ is born, Glorify Him! (Χριστός Γεννάται)*

*MEFGOX wishes all of you the blessings of the Feast of the Nativity!*

# Youth News

by Eva Konstantakos—Director

## DELIBERATE ACTS OF KINDNESS

*Making kindness more than a “random” act.*

Random acts of kindness...Why must they be random? Now it is great that people will randomly pay for someone's coffee at the local coffee shop. It is awesome that people will leave unexpected notes of Christmas cheer at their neighbor's doorstep. But have we limited our spirit of giving and kindness to fleeting, spontaneous feelings of generosity?

We must remember that God's mercy, generosity, and love were never random or fleeting thoughts. God's love and mercy is deliberate... or with a purpose. Therefore, our love for God and each other should be the same. Why not focus on the ways we can make a conscious effort to give... answering the call from Jesus to serve one another, to give of our gifts for God and each other, and to love our neighbor as ourselves.

**READ AND REFLECT:** Consider the Scriptural quote from Matthew 10:8 “Freely you have received, freely give.” List as many blessings as you can think of in your life. Whether you've been given one blessing or 100 blessings, take a moment to consider those who might be without even one of those blessings. For example, consider what it might be like for those who do not have a home. Consider what it might be like for those who do not have any family to be with at Christmas or any other holiday. Now... consider what you can do for those who go without these blessings. How can you (your youth group, your family) make a deliberate choice to give of your own gifts out of the gifts/blessings you have been given?

**READ AND REFLECT:** Read and discuss the Parable of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:30-37). The good Samaritan did

more than give the man money. He tended to his wounds, took him to an inn, and provided for his needs until he was well. Why do we sometimes turn away from those in need? What are our assumptions about those who are poor or in need? What are some of the things we can do for others who are in need? How can you (your youth group, your family) make a deliberate choice to provide for those in need?



**READ AND REFLECT:** Read and discuss the Parable of the Sheep and Goats (Matthew 28:32-46). We all were created in the image of God. Jesus Christ says that the way we treat each other is the way we treat Him. The parable does not talk specifically about giving money. The parable talks about providing basic, essential things... food, clothing, shelter, love, companionship, etc. Who is our neighbor? Why do we turn away from our neighbor, even though we are given the commandment to love them? How can you (your youth group, your family) make a deliberate choice to love your neighbor?

**READ AND REFLECT:** Read and discuss the Parable of the Talents (Matthew 25: 14-30). Everyone has some type of talent or special gift, it just might not be obvious to you. Grab a friend or two (or sit down as a family). List the talents or gifts you think you have and discuss them with your family or friends. They might add a few things you might not have considered. Talents or gifts are not always the same as having riches or wealth. You might not be rich or powerful, but you might be great at cooking, you might be a natural leader, or you might be very talented at music or sports. How can you (your youth group, your family) make a deliberate choice to use your talents and gifts to help others and for the glory of God?

*Christ is Born! Glorify Him!  
A Blessed Feast of the Nativity to you all!*

## Coming up in 2016...

**JAN 16-17**

**St. Nicholas Youth  
Winter Retreat**

Panagia Pantovasilissa Church  
Lexington, KY

**JAN 28 - FEB 1**

**GOYO—Greek Orthodox  
Youth Olympics**

Holy Trinity Church  
Grand Rapids, MI

**FEB 12-14**

**Dayton GOYA  
Basketball Tournament**

Annunciation Church  
Dayton, OH

Visit [detroit.goarch.org/youth](http://detroit.goarch.org/youth) for our official calendar and updates.

## Come Running!

by Fr. George Zervos—Priest of the St. Nicholas Church in Jamestown, New York.



Today the Christ-Child, the Son of God, is born in Bethlehem, Judea. He's born to a holy young maiden named Mary. Nine months earlier she had conceived the Christ in a supernatural way by the Holy Spirit (Luke 1:20). This silent miracle was the dawn of a new age for all mankind. A Savior was born showing us the way to inheriting eternal life in God's Kingdom.

The Holy Scripture readings found in Saint Matthew and Saint Luke's accounts describe this happening. First, an angel of the Lord appeared to pious shepherds while they were tending their flocks, and announced that a Savior was born. Then a multitude of heavenly hosts (angels) appeared singing praises to God and saying: "Peace and good will to all people" (Luke 2:14). Simultaneously, from a faraway country three wise men who studied the meaning of the stars were led to Bethlehem not by a star but, as the Church Fathers teach us, by an angel carrying a brightly lit lantern. The Shepherds ran to see the newly born Savior.

Where do WE run during the Nativity Season? To the bank to take out more money to spend on frivolous gifts? To the stores to get in on all the sales? To the grocery stores to buy special foods for entertaining on Christmas Day? But what did Jesus tell Martha when she complained that she was doing all the work? "Martha, Martha you are anxious and troubled over many things, but Mary (her sister) has chosen the good portion" (Luke 10:41). He meant Mary chose to hear his joyous words of eternal salvation.

Dear parents, fathers, mothers, single moms, single dads, grandmothers and grandfathers, run to the Church with your children in order to witness the birth of our Savior in a blessed setting. Run to your Church and light your candle out of faith, since as a Christian you are the light for the world to see. Run to the Church for the best meal of all - the Holy Communion. Run to the Church to pray that God will enlighten the world leaders who have forgotten to "love thy neighbor." Pray for the confused Orthodox faithful who still may doubt the mystery of the Incarnation of Jesus Christ. Run to the Church to reverence the Icons. Run to the Church to hear the Choir singing the magnificent words of His birth which were actually given by the Theotokos Mary: "Today a Virgin has given birth..." Join in the hymns of the Divine Liturgy. Listen to the Bible reading and sermon given by your Priest. Join in the prayers with your fellow Orthodox believers. Run to the Church so that you may greet each other with the words "Christ is Born! Glorify Him!!!"

*Have a Holy and Blessed  
Merry Christmas!*



# Friends of the Metropolis | January 1—November 30, 2015

His Eminence Metropolitan Nicholas

## **Ann Arbor, MI – St. Nicholas**

St. Nicholas Parish  
St. Nicholas Philoptochos  
Kotsis, Fr. Nicolaos and Presbytera Sandra  
Pliakas, Fr. Vasilios and Presbytera Kyriakoula  
Bekiares, Penelope  
Daniels, Tony and Cleve  
Fry, Jack D.  
Garris, Steven and Stamtia  
Hadden, Donnelly and Helen  
Kales, Anthony and Joyce  
Karam, Abe and Elaine  
Kiningham, Robert and Vicki  
Kolias, John and Helen  
Leonfis, Artemis  
Politis, Demetrios  
Radwanski, Kurt and Sophia Grias  
Vlahadamis, Kosta  
Yates, Bill and Margaret

## **Bloomfield Hills, MI – St. George**

St. George Philoptochos  
Abell, Fr. J. Christopher and Presbytera Alice  
Drakos, Andrew and Joanna  
Iakovides, Dimitri  
Livieratos, Spyros and Chrisanthi  
Yaksich, Moshoula

## **Buffalo, NY – Annunciation**

Annunciation Parish  
Annunciation Philoptochos  
Christakis, Fr. Christos and Presbytera Lisa  
Sakellariou, Fr. John and Presbytera Pavlina  
Alethea's Chocolates  
Besseghini, Victoria  
Blakeslee, Ronald and Maria  
Candiliotis, Nicholas and Priscilla  
Coustenis, Virginia  
Couvutsakis, Paul N. and Linda  
Danakas, George and Maria  
Dermatis, Anastasia  
Hiczewski, Peter and Michele  
Johnidas, John and Karen  
Jousma, Thomas and Ellene Phufas  
Kouvoutsakis, Paul P. and Donna  
Kuvshinoff, Boris and Barbara  
Manos, Margaret  
Perdicas and Rossiter Families

## **Carmel, IN – Holy Trinity**

Holy Trinity Parish  
Holy Trinity Philoptochos  
Holy Trinity Choir  
Holy Trinity GOYA  
Bartz, Fr. William and Presbytera Emily  
Russell, Fr. J. Jarrod  
Mamalis, Presbytera Janet  
Andros, Cheryl  
Antonopoulos, Anthony  
Antonopoulos, Dean  
Apostoles, Stacey  
Bagios, Jim and Marika  
Baker, Dan and Sylvia  
Bekas, Katherine Michalaris  
Belous, Alexandra  
Brochhagen, Curt and Renee  
Carlson, David and Kathleen  
Chekouras, Randolph and Peggy  
Christoff, Bill and Karen  
Christy, Nancy  
Churchill, William and Patricia  
Conrad, William and Kathleen  
Cortese, Tom and Nia

Dallas, Teresa  
Dervenis, Nicholas and Sharon  
Dervenis, Ted and Julia  
Dickos, Greg  
Dickos, Theone  
Dimos, Jim and Kathy  
Drukas, Doreen  
Dunbar, Pete and Lea  
Eaton, Joe and Florie  
Ebersole, Anneliese  
Eleftheri, Anthony and Jill  
Eleftheri, Lawrence and Beth  
Emmanoelides, Demetrios and Melinda  
Freudenberg, Jim and Cindy  
George, Charles S.  
Gounaris, Sarina  
Graffeo, Barry and Matina  
Hinshaw, Kathleen D.  
Hji-Avgoustis, Sotiris and Eugenia Molleston  
Hostetler, Duane and Eleny  
Johnson, Ronald and Sunday  
Julovich, Christy  
Kapsalis, Andy and Athena  
Keris, George and Melanie  
Kokinos, Pete and Argie  
Kollias, Stephen  
Kourmoulis, Karen  
Laffer, Christopher and Antonia  
Lisch, Michael and Jean  
Metzger, William and Anita  
Mudis, Ernie and Wendy  
Oberlies, Toula  
Pappaioanou, George and Marjorie  
Pappas, Donna  
Pappas, Leon and Andrea  
Pappas, Nicholas and Tracy  
Pappas, Victoria  
Pasyanos, John and Liberty  
Pavia, Joseph  
Pavlakos, Elias and Maria  
Payne, Martha  
Pease, Gregory and Mary  
Pease, John  
Perry, Kevin and Victoria  
Rowlas, Julie  
Sofianopoulos, Nick and Vickie  
Stevens, Georgia  
Stropes, L. Michael and Janet  
Theohares, Nicholas and Anne  
Tridico, Andrew and Kristina  
Vitsas, Constantine and Sondra  
Waterbury, Anthony and Kristen  
Woodruff, Jim and Cindy  
Xidas, Paraskevi  
Young, Michael and Helen  
Zeheralis, Chris and Becky  
Zeheralis, Gail

## **Chattanooga, TN – Annunciation**

Annunciation Parish  
Ballas, Fr. Stavros and Presbytera Thea  
Andros, George and Maria  
Bouloukos, Dino  
Dimopoulos, Barbara  
Dimopoulos, George and Brigitte  
Fairbanks, Bobby and Voula  
Fotiadis, Nicky  
Fox, Ann  
Gaitanoglou, Ignatios and Jenny  
Hopper, Richard and Chrisi  
Jones, Helen  
Kazemersky, Philip  
Kosmidis, Alex  
Kouris, George  
Mena, Michael

Merritt, Steve and Venetia  
Monk, Grace

## **Cincinnati, OH – Holy Trinity–St. Nicholas**

Holy Trinity – St. Nicholas Parish  
Redmon, Fr. William and Presbytera Elizabeth  
Anagnostou, Helen  
Andreadis, Sophie  
Apostolides, Vasso  
Assaley, Lewis and Patricia  
Caneris, Anthony and Antoinette  
Galanes, George  
Greene, David  
Hodson, Constance  
Klug, Maria Eleni  
Landers, Lauren  
Nicholas, Nick and Helen  
Perdikakis, Gus and JoAnn  
Peters, Claire  
Petkos, Joannis  
Polychroniou, Constantine  
Raptis, James and Maria  
Sarakatsannis, Nicholas  
Schulte, Nicholas and Ianthe  
Stringas, Emanuel  
Zaferes, Patricia J.  
Zaferes, Patricia P.

## **Dayton, OH – Annunciation**

Annunciation Philoptochos  
Bambakidis, Gust and Elli  
Fasules, Lucy  
Gustin, Eileen  
Jannides, Michael  
Kaisieh, Johnny and Jamileh  
Kakas, Berdi  
Moraites, John and Barbara  
Pangos, William and Irene  
Valassiades, John and Evanthia

## **Detroit, MI – Annunciation Cathedral**

Annunciation Philoptochos  
Bennert, Constance  
Gaggos, Harry and Irene  
Gaggos, Jim and Mary  
Glikis, Maria  
Inempolidis, Evelyn  
Kazolis, Koula  
Lianos, Will and Kim  
Pervanis, Koula  
Politis, Dean  
Simon, Basil and Evey  
Tapazoglou, Nicolaos and Christine  
Tavoularis, Lee and Mary

## **Elmira, NY – St. Athanasios**

Scott, Fr. Richard

## **Farmington Hills, MI – Holy Cross**

Holy Cross Parish  
Holy Cross Philoptochos  
Hountalas, Fr. Dean and Presbytera Olga  
Andris, Theodore and Elane  
Anonymous  
Boudouris, Constantino and Joanne  
Casoglos, Thomas and Mary  
Fekaris, Steve and Bettie  
George, John and Eleni  
Liadis, Kathleen  
Nuechterlein, Lanny and Andrica  
Shukla, Margarita  
Stassinopoulos, Peter and Esther  
Vitanis, Katherine

## Friends of the Metropolis (continued)

**Fort Wayne, IN – Holy Trinity**

Walsh, Fr. Andrew and Presbyteria Sophia  
Baker, John and Konstantina  
Byzyka, Edison and Angela  
Flitsos, William  
Maggos, Eleftherios and Paraskevi  
Mattingly, Joseph and Thomai  
Poursanidis, Haralambos and Trisha  
Rongos, Christopher and Katherine  
Spirou, Arthur and Mary  
Turner, Christian

**Grand Blanc, MI – Assumption**

Assumption Parish  
Assumption Philoptochos  
Daughters of Penelope, Iris Chapter #242  
Allard, Clyde and Georgia  
Bakris, Chris  
Chinonis, Dennis E. and Debra  
Chinonis, John and Linda  
Chinonis, Sandra  
Hountalas, Dimitri  
Hountalas, John and Tasia  
Hountalas, Yanni  
Kalatzis, Athena  
Kallis, Agape  
Kaloydis, John and Karen  
Karabinas, Pavlos and Ruth  
Katsoulos, John  
Komodromos, Tessie  
Lowe, Ted and Ann  
Phofiou, Carol  
Politis, George and Rita  
Potsos, Emmanouil  
Schultze, Joanne  
Steinhoff, G. Olga  
Yeotis, Catherine  
Yeotis, Thomas and Magdalene  
Yiannatji, Helen

**Grand Rapids, MI – Holy Trinity**

Berends, Fr. James and Presbyteria Anne  
Bogdan, Fr. James and Presbyteria Joan  
Cassis, Deacon E. George and Diaconissa Vicky  
Afendoulis, Angelynn  
Afendoulis, Chris and Phyllis  
Afendoulis, Cynthia  
Afendoulis, Katherine  
Georgeson, Menas and Frosene  
Gray, Mark and Alexis  
Karatsinides, Spiro and Paulette  
Lakos, Marina  
Limber, Andrew  
Nicholas, James and Georgia  
Paris, John and Patricia  
Petricevic, Mark and Ljiljana  
Richardson, Patricia  
Roberts, Richard  
Sampanes, John J.  
Triant, Linda  
Vankuiken, Raymond and Marilyn

**Indianapolis, IN – Holy Apostles**

Holy Apostles Parish

**Ithaca, NY – St. Catherine**

Parthenakis, Fr. Thomas and Presbyteria Cathy  
Bantuvanias, Ann  
Bezirgianian, John

**Jamestown, NY – St. Nicholas**

St. Nicholas Parish  
Zervos, Fr. George and Presbyteria Anne  
Cheronis, James and Christine

**Kalamazoo, MI – Annunciation**

Annunciation Philoptochos  
Theoharis, Fr. Theoharis  
Cavas, Anastasia  
Ingalls, Bob and Andriana

**Lansing, MI – Holy Trinity**

Holy Trinity Parish  
Holy Trinity Philoptochos  
Sietsema, Fr. Mark and Presbyteria Katherine  
Branoff, Dennis and Alexis  
Christophill, James  
Demos, Theodore and Donna  
Frangos, Phillip and Tula  
Gavriliadis, Nick and Dana  
Gavrillis, Dimitrios and Jane Arnold  
Pascalenos, Tom and Olga  
Priggooris, Peter  
Rahib, Margaret  
Skorich, Dan and Cathy  
Tolas, George  
Tolas, Petro

**Lexington, KY – Panagia Pantovasilissa**

Panagia Pantovasilissa Philoptochos  
Sicoe, Fr. Cosmin and Presbyteria Mihaela  
Arimes, Vickie  
Douglas, Katina  
Douglas, Nicholas  
Hangis, Jim L.  
Karounos, Dennis and Chrsi  
Kiriacopoulos, Ken and Kate  
Smither, Steven and Eugenia

**Little Rock, AR – Annunciation**

Verdaris, Fr. Nicholas and Presbyteria Maria  
Delfos, Fr. Pierre and Presbyteria Harriet  
Caldwell, Richard  
Martin, Christina  
Pappas, James and Eva  
Tyer, Gordon and Martha  
Verdaris, John and Marlene  
Vratsinas, Gus and Irene

**Louisville, KY – Assumption**

Boukis, Fr. Jon and Presbyteria Doreen  
Wingenbach, Fr. Gregory C.  
Adams, Sam and Thelma  
Balakos, Michael and Lori  
Blackford, Charles and Patricia  
Geromes, Marcus and Nancy  
Leathers, Ryan and Laura  
Makris, Mary  
Taylor, Robert

**Marquette, MI – Assumption**

Butler, Michele

**Memphis, TN – Annunciation**

Annunciation Philoptochos  
Annunciation GOYA  
Daughters of Penelope, Memphis #180  
Thomas, Fr. Simon and Presbyteria Stephanie  
Apalodimas, Chris and Constance  
Apalodimas, Maria  
Austin, Larry D.  
Avgeris, John and Dianne  
Bagatelas, Todd and Cyndi  
Futris, Steve and Zoe  
Grayes, Theodore  
Hawkins, Elizabeth  
Kay, John and Jennifer  
McKee, James  
Obadovic, Milan and Linda  
Poplos, Theodore and Stephanie Storgion

Semos, Vasili and Luane  
Smith, James and Georgia Scarmoutsos  
Tobias, Richard and Angela  
Vergos, Anastasia

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

Valen, Anthony

**Muskegon, MI – Annunciation**

Annunciation Parish  
Honeycutt, Fr. James and Presbyteria Juliana  
Douville, Eric and Mary  
Karis, Othon and Kristi  
Keat, Peppy  
Ladas, Paul and Patricia  
Micheil, Richard and Teresa

**Nashville, TN – Holy Trinity**

Holy Trinity Philoptochos  
Hohnholt, Fr. Gregory and Presbyteria Sofia  
Billo, John and Kassiani  
Botsaris, Chris  
Carden, Kathryn  
Deason, Larry and Laura  
Gaddis, Jim and Tasoula  
Gore, James and Stacy  
Harman, Todd and Dawn  
Howard, Katerina  
Lamberson, Lambert and Helen  
McNeil, Larry  
Miles, Scarlett  
Mitchell, James and Bessie  
Nicholson, Connie  
Pappas, Theodore G.  
Roger, Helen and Lawrence Kamm  
Taras, Nick and Donna  
Tigiros, Elias and Sharon  
Weeks, Timothy and Teresa

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

Turner, Fr. Parthenos and Presbyteria Marion  
Demmas, Constance  
Derryberry, Paul  
Dozier, Matthew  
Gore, James and Stacy  
Light, Oxsana  
Marchetti, John and Linda  
Pappas, Tom and Lisa  
Tickle, Jeff and Jackie  
Wagner, Charles and Edith

**New Buffalo, MI – Annunciation-St. Paraskevi**

Martin, Fr. Paul and Presbyteria Nikki  
Kerhoulas, Mike and Louisa  
Lepeniotis, Christos and Anastasia

**Plymouth, MI – Nativity of the Virgin Mary**

Nativity of the Virgin Mary Parish  
Marcus, Fr. Nicholas and Presbyteria Liza  
Demetriou, Cleo  
Kheir, Angela  
Kyriacou, Costis and Kathleen  
Randall, Michael and Anne  
Szlinis, John and Thekla  
Takis, Jerry and Mary

**Rochester, NY – Annunciation**

Mot, Fr. Catalin and Felicia  
Eveleigh, Stephen and Julie  
Butchart, William and Marina  
Gines, George and Maria  
Giopulos, John and Shirley  
Linares, Juan Pablo and Patty  
Mickles, James and Jane  
Mitrousidis, Georgios



Moukous, Sylvia  
Pink, Kenneth J.  
Stefanou, Constantine and Florence  
Throumoulos, James and Violette

**Rochester, NY – Holy Spirit**

Holy Spirit Parish  
Holy Spirit Philoptochos  
Cowles, Fr. Patrick and Presbytera Mary  
Georgantas, Irene  
Gesell, Melody

**Saginaw, MI – St. Demetrios**

St. Demetrios Philoptochos  
St. Demetrios GOYA  
Cook, Fr. Timothy and Presbytera Katherine  
Bistolarides, Fr. Peter and Presbytera Peggy  
Bazakis, Andrew and Ann  
Caldwell, Lary and Peggy  
Economou, Louis and Soula  
Godziashevili, Zaza  
Houpis, Evan and Candace  
Kelso, Ronald and Constance  
Kookootsedes, Gust and Mary  
Metropoulos, Katherine  
Ostler, Dennis and Soula  
Rouman, George and Frances  
Siradakis, Effihios and Beverly  
Stamas, James and Marsha

**Southgate, MI – St. George**

St. George Parish  
St. George Philoptochos  
Cook, Fr. Anthony and Presbytera Elizabeth  
Athens, William and Angie  
Bass, John and Panagiota  
Compos, Evangelia  
Constantakis, Clarence R.  
Cranford, Joanne  
Dionysopoulos, Stavros and Eleni  
Galanis, Sam  
Georvassilis, Timothy and Kelly  
Golematis, Demetrios and Maria  
Kircos, Angelo and Sophia  
Kircos, Louis and Paula  
Kontos, Chris and Frances  
Kontos, John and Marika  
Kozaitis, Mina  
Liakos, Michael  
Linardos, James  
Makarounas, Panormitis and Kyriaki  
Minton, Barbara  
Minton, Nicholas  
Papalas, Mary  
Vougiouklakis, Peter and Christina  
Wrobel, Susan

**Springfield, OH – Assumption**

Assumption Parish  
Castiglione, Carl  
Chakeres, Pauline E.  
Lagos, James H. Lagos Company, Inc.  
Lagos, Thomas and Matina  
Loukoumidis, Dimitrios and Despina

**St. Clair Shores, MI – Assumption**

Assumption Parish  
Assumption Philoptochos  
Assumption Senior Citizens  
Varlamos, Fr. Michael and Presbytera Tina  
Athanasopoulos, Nick and Sarah  
Brennan, Stephanie  
Callas, Kalliopy  
Christopher, John and Alethia  
Dallas, John and Elizabeth

Daskas, Christ and Stephany  
Gaggos, George and Anna  
Gianoplos, Sam and Georgia  
Hatzichronoglou, Helen  
Jordan, Thomas  
Liebau, Larry  
Milonas, John  
Moschouris, Nick and Vivian  
Niarhos, Anthony  
Nicholas, Peter  
Nichols, Peter and Angela  
Niforos, Theodore and Anna  
Regos, Tasia  
Samaras, Robert  
Thomas, Tom and Lynn  
Zoto, Mary

**Sterling Heights, MI – St. John**

St. John Parish  
St. John Choir  
George, Bessie  
Karamanos, Peter and Mary  
Kotsis, Andrew and Irene  
Kotsis, Harry and Katherine  
Lionas, James and Helene  
Patouhas, Spyros and Katina  
Raphitis, Mike and Betty  
Salonikas, George and Niki  
Tangalos, John and Mary  
Tangalos, Philip and Alexandra  
Vekos, Gloria

**Syracuse, NY - St. Sophia**

Smith, Fr David and Presbytera Donna  
Boucounis, Andrew  
Harris, Robert and Josephine  
Kantor, Walter and Dorothy  
Strepelis, John  
Strepelis, John and Maria  
Theodore, Dorothea  
Theodore, Eleanor

**Toledo, OH - Holy Trinity Cathedral**

Holy Trinity Cathedral Philoptochos  
Anagnos, Joyce  
Biernacki, Gerald and Pauline  
Gangas, Angelo  
Lawrence, Dennis and Ekatarene  
Mulopulos, George and Anastasia  
Papadimos, Peter J.  
Photos, Thomas M.  
Proestos, Kypros and Maria  
Sares, George and Margaret  
Veronie, George and Christine

**Traverse City, MI – Archangel Gabriel**

Archangel Gabriel Philoptochos  
Streza, Fr. Ciprian and Presbytera Sinziana  
Ealy, Ray and Martha McPheters  
Sobkowski, Stephen and Nikoletta  
Underwood, Robert and Theresa Stamos-

**Troy, MI – St. Nicholas**

St. Nicholas Philoptochos  
Arsmen, Steve and Anita  
Asher, Michael  
Bollas, Jobel  
Chucales, George T.  
Constan, Telmer  
Corombos, Mark and Molly  
Cosmos, Karen  
Feles, Gust and Anne  
Finazzo, Catherine  
George, Christian  
George, John and Marlo

George, Jordan  
Geottes, Soferia  
Haddad, Michael and Corry  
Karmanos, Peter and Danialle  
Korstanje, Ingmar and Marlo  
Lavrakas, John  
Matheodakis, Agapy  
Mickey, Milton and Cynthia  
Morris, Georgia  
Mortis, George and Hionia  
Papasavva, Stella  
Patches, Angeliki  
Pervolarakis, Calliope  
Stoneback, Chrysia  
Strumbos, Christine  
Strumbos, Peter  
Tsiatalas, George and Eva  
Tzoumakas, Robert and Kimberly  
Xydas, Spiros

**Vestal, NY – Annunciation**

Annunciation Parish  
Bahlatzis, Fr. Michael and Presbytera Kimberly  
Abdo, Moufid and Anita  
Gianakouros, Harry and Katerina  
Ivan, Lynda

**Watertown, NY – St. Vasilios**

St. Vasilios Parish

**Westland, MI – Sts. Constantine and Helen**

Sts. Constantine and Helen Parish  
Petritiu, Fr. Teodor and Presbytera Roxana  
Alexander, Alex and Katherine  
Angelopoulos, Ioannis and Aspasia  
Chuey, Mark and Jean  
Culley, George and Katherine  
Dougekos, P. Becky  
Kasotakis, Paul and Nanette  
Ochadleus, William and Georgene  
Skotanis, Bill and Fay  
Vasilicides, Lynne

**Other Friends**

Ahepa – Alpha Chapter #40 – Troy, Michigan  
Ahepa – Omega Chapter #371 – St. Clair Shores, MI  
Albers, Helen  
Arimes, Vickie  
Backos, Brian and Cathy  
Bartz, Presbytera Zafera  
Bedi, Eren  
Deligianis Brothers  
Demetris, Olga  
Detroit Greek Independence Day Committee  
Gabriel, Gerald and Kate  
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Giallourakis, Mike and Artemise  
Holy Trinity Monastery – Smiths Creek, MI  
In Memory of Betsy Metropole  
In Memory of Lampros Vlahantones  
Janis, Efstratia  
Konstantakos, Sam and Eva  
Malos, Raymond  
Metropolis of Detroit Philoptochos  
Ponkey, Marsha  
Radulescu, Deacon Alexandru and Diaconissa Silvana





## Metropolitan Nicholas giving gifts to the children

Photo: November 8, 2015 | St. George Church, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan



Dear Friends,

God has called us to do mighty deeds for the glory of His name and for the love of His people. You are called upon to join in this reality of "faith working through love" as we continue to manifest the love of God for His Church and His people.

When you support the Friends of the Metropolis campaign, you are part of a greater outreach that proclaims with one universal voice that God is truly our hope and our rock of salvation. Because of your devotion and help to the Friends program, ministries and programs are implemented on a Metropolis-wide basis which strengthen and enhance our faith and our joint ministry of service.

If you have not yet become part of the Metropolis-wide effort, I would like to invite you to join forces with the faithful throughout our Metropolis in support of the ministries which are part of the Office of the Metropolitan.

Thanking you for your kind and generous response, I remain, with paternal blessing and prayers,

† **NICHOLAS**  
Metropolitan of Detroit

## Support our Friends Program

Metropolis of Detroit  
2560 Crooks Road  
Troy, MI 48084

Donate:

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