

BLESSED ARE YOU,
O CHRIST OUR
GOD, WHO MADE THE
FISHERMEN ALL-WISE,
SENDING UPON THEM
THE HOLY SPIRIT
AND, THROUGH THEM,
NETTING THE WORLD.
O LOVING ONE, GLO-
RY TO YOU.

(APOLYTIKION OF PENTECOST)



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GREEK ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE OF AMERICA GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF DETROIT

THE SHEPHERD'S STAFF

Volume II, Issue 3

June 2010

METROPOLITAN NICHOLAS' MESSAGE

Beloved Clergy and Faithful,

“For this is the will of God, that by doing good you may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men – as free, yet not using liberty as a cloak for vice but as bondservants of God. Honor all people. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the king.” 1 Peter 2:15-17.

Over the past few years, the Metropolis of Detroit, the faithful individuals, the local churches, the local and Metropolis Philoptochos societies, the parish and Metropolitan councils, the priests and I as your Metropolitan, have been called upon to help people throughout the world. Victims of the tsunami in Asia, the forest fires in Greece, the

earthquake in Haiti, and most recently, the devastating flooding in Tennessee have all been helped by the prayers and material aid of the faithful of the Metropolis of Detroit.

We will always be called upon to help our neighbors in need. As an absolute necessity towards fulfilling the commandments of God, our aid and comfort we offer to those in distress is a sign of the Holy Spirit acting within our community.

It is a blessing to see this Metropolis, beset by so many economic difficulties in our home cities and states, respond with such vigor and zeal when the call is made to help those in need.

I do not write this to be

prideful and boasting, but simply to acknowledge the blessings our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ has bestowed upon our people and how those people, in turn, have answered the call when help was needed.

It is my sincere hope and prayer that the Lord Jesus be with all those who have been ill-afflicted by unforeseen disasters. It is my sincere hope and prayer that the Lord Jesus will continue to be in the hearts, eyes, ears and minds of those who are able to help those affected by such disasters.

With Paternal Prayers and Love,

+Metropolitan Nicholas

TO HAITI WITH LOVE,

In January 2010, the country of Haiti fell victim to a catastrophic 7.0-magnitude earthquake. After the dust settled, the devastation in Port-au-Prince and surrounding areas was incomprehensible. It is estimated that over 200,000 people lost their lives and that the efforts to rebuild will cost millions of dollars.

Seeing this suffering and dev-

astation, His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese initiated the Haiti Relief Fund to help with the recovery efforts.

Through the leadership of His Eminence Metropolitan Nicholas, the faithful of the Metropolis of Detroit expressed its neighborly love to the people of Haiti by raising over \$95,000 for the Haiti Relief

Fund.

His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios issued a letter of gratitude to His Eminence Metropolitan Nicholas and the faithful of the Metropolis for this outpouring of love and generosity. To read Archbishop Demetrios' letter, turn to page 2



LETTER FROM THE ARCHBISHOP

GREEK ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE OF AMERICA

OFFICE OF THE ARCHBISHOP

May 25, 2010

His Eminence Metropolitan Nicholas of Detroit
Holy Metropolis of Detroit
2560 Crooks Road
Troy, Michigan 48084

Your Eminence and Beloved Brother in Christ,

I write to you today to thank you for forwarding the valued and profoundly generous contribution of \$ 95,000.00 to the Haiti Earthquake Fund by the faithful of the vibrant Metropolis of Detroit.

In light of the harsh economic reality that has befallen certain areas of the Detroit Metropolis, this offering resonates in full measure the good will of the people of the Metropolis and conveys the genuine spirit of almsgiving described by Saint John Chrysostom that is *the mother of love, of that love which is the characteristic of Christianity, which is greater than all miracles, by which the disciples of Christ are manifested* (Chrysostom Homilies on the Acts of Titus).

I ask that you kindly convey to each of the contributors my heartfelt appreciation for this much needed assistance for the people of Haiti. With my prayers for your archpastoral leadership and my encouragement that you continue as a vibrant Metropolis to demonstrate such firm resolve in serving as Christ's witnesses to the ends of the earth (Acts 1:8), I remain

With love and esteem in Christ,

+ DEMETRIOS
Archbishop of America

YOUTH NEWS *by Eva Kokinos*



Participants and HC/HC Students posing for a photo in the Maliotis Cultural Center.
Photo by Niko Tzetzis

able to tour the beautiful campus and participate in various workshops, sponsored by HC/HC, the Office of Vocation and Ministry, and the CrossRoad Program. During some of the free time, participants were able to visit the Holy Cross Bookstore to purchase books, icons, and souvenirs. The Condakes Refectory provided delicious meals throughout the day. Before leaving campus, the group attended a beautifully-chanted Vespers service at Holy Cross Chapel. After dinner, the group enjoyed a fun evening of bowling before calling it a night!



Capitol Building in Boston. Part of the Freedom Trail walking tour.

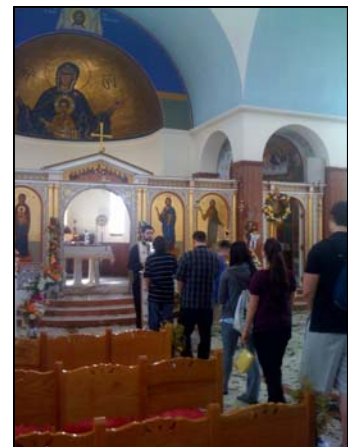
Day Two (April 8) began with an historic two-hour walking tour of the city of Boston. The tour offered a wonderful glimpse into our nation's history, seeing notable sights such as the Old North Church, Paul Revere's home, and Boston Commons. Participants stopped for lunch at the famous Faneuil Hall in Quincy Market. After enjoying some Bostonian treats and shopping, participants moved on to spend a few hours at the New England Aquarium. Finally, the group headed back to HC/HC for dinner and a special session with students from the Metropolis of Detroit. Led by Holy Cross alumni Fr. Anthony Cook and Eva Kokinos, the students talked to the group about their experiences studying theology, vocation, and witnessing faith. The evening ended with some much-needed rest by the pool and time to pack for an early morning return to Detroit.

Many thanks to Fr. Anthony Cook for joining the group on this trip, and to all the adults who served as chaperones. Also, special thanks go out to those groups and individuals who donated food and money to make this trip special! If you missed the trip, don't worry... Plans are already underway for Boston 2011!

GOYA Trip to Boston and Hellenic College/Holy Cross April 6-9, 2010

Seventy-one GOYAns from the Michigan area and 23 adults attended the GOYA Trip to Boston for a three-day trip. Seven of the Detroit area parishes were represented on this memorable trip. Departing from St. Nicholas Church in Troy, MI, participants traveled to Boston, MA to visit the city and the beloved seminary, Hellenic College/Holy Cross School of Theology.

Day One (April 7) of the trip was a full day at Hellenic College-Holy Cross School of Theology. GOYAns were



At Holy Cross Chapel receiving a blessing from Fr. Anthony Cook.

To join the official e-Newsletter of the Metropolis Youth Office, email youth@detroit.goarch.org. Also, become a FAN on [facebook](#). Look for **Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Detroit—Youth and Young Adult Ministries**.

PHILOPTOCHOS NEWS by Eleni Zaferes

The recent devastating floods in the Nashville, TN area found many parishioners of the parishes in Nashville without everyday needs. Some lost everything. The Philoptochos Metropolis Board and chapters sprung into action immediately. Contributions to the Metropolis Nashville Relief Fund spearheaded by Metropolitan Nicholas were made by the Metropolis Board (\$5,000), the National Board (\$15,000) and chapters throughout the Metropolis. Helping those in need is the primary purpose of Philoptochos. We thank everyone for their generosity for this effort to assist our own brothers and sisters.

“Festival of Flowers”, the Metropolis Philopto-



chos fundraiser was a huge success. The hall at St. Nicholas in Ann Arbor adorned with beautiful and unique floral arrangements reminded us that we count our blessing each day. We thank the Ann Arbor Philoptochos, raffle donors and sponsors for their support and everyone who attended. It was a fabulous day of fellowship. Money raised from this event will support the Metropolis ministries, the National ministries and the Detroit area charities.

In July, delegates will travel to Atlanta, GA for the Philoptochos National Convention in conjunction with the Clergy Laity Congress. The Convention promises to be educational and inspiring to the delegates. Workshops and Discussion

Groups will bring together the delegates in dialogue to share their concerns and good works for the mission of Philoptochos. The Metropolis Board selected and paid registration for 2 small chapters of 25 members or less to attend the Convention.

Philoptochos is always looking to assist those in need. The Partners in Philanthropy Fund is an ongoing effort by the Metropolis Board to assist in an emergency and short term needs. Do not hesitate to contact myself or the Metropolis office for assistance.

We wish everyone a safe and wonderful summer. We thank His Eminence Metropolitan Nicholas for his continued support, inspiration and guidance to our mission ♦

COLLEGE STUDENT FROM METROPOLIS OF DETROIT ATTENDS REAL BREAK IN CONSTANTINOPLE

In March of 2009, Orthodox Christian Fellowship (OCF) offered young adults an opportunity to give of their time during spring break to give something back to God's church. Twenty-two young adults participated in the Real Break Trip to Constantinople, to the home of our Ecumenical Patriarchate.

Out of the 22 college



participants from five different Orthodox jurisdictions, the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Detroit was represented. Angelus Kocoshis

is a member of the Holy Apostles Greek Orthodox Church in Indianapolis, IN. His Eminence Metropolitan Nicholas, who was in Constantinople at the time, was able to visit with Angelus and the rest of the group participants at a dinner hosted by the Patriarch.

The Real Break participants, with the blessings of His All Holiness Patriarch

Bartholomew, visited Constantinople to refurbish St. Kyriakos Church and the Patriarchal Cemetery in Eripaki. Both sites were desecrated many years ago and were in desperate need of repair. For more information about Real Break and other OCF opportunities, visit www.ocf.net ♦

THE TOWER OF FAITH *by Alex Radulescu*



Mankind has always sought to reach a higher, but not always a better end. At Babel, the tongues of men were confused by God for they were building a tower of pride, to make a name for themselves, not to the glory of God. Their confusion led to disaster and the demise of a great architectural achievement that was supposed to touch the sky (Gen. 11: 4). In many ways, our vanity makes us build higher and bigger as technology advances. We dream to do the impossible. Is it the right thing to do? Are we building to the right end?

For generations, humans were divided by language and culture. The world had tried several times in the past to reunite by using common language, standards, measures, etc. We talk today about globalization

and its benefits: better trade, economic growth, and ease of communication. But do these help us get closer to God?

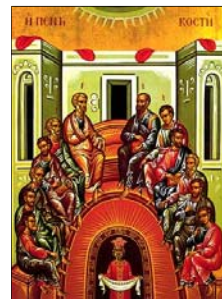
After Jesus was resurrected and ascended into Heaven, the Apostles were gathered “with one accord and in one place”(Acts 2: 1) and were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other languages. Since the Feast of Pentecost was of great importance to the Jews, commemorating the giving of the law on Mount Sinai (Exodus 12:2,19), the 50th day after the exodus, many pilgrims, both Jews and Gentiles, were gathered in Jerusalem from all parts of the world. And the multitude marveled at this great wonder “because everyone heard them speak in his own language“ (Acts 2: 6). For the first time in centuries, people were able to surpass the language barrier, as the Gospel united and enabled them to build a new tower: the Tower of Faith - the Church.

God has used language to separate

but also to unite. The Apostles were empowered to speak the language of the Holy Spirit who “is present everywhere and fills all things” and they were heard “by everyone in their own language”. The Gospel is the new blueprint used by the workers of Christ to build the Tower of the Kingdom of God. At Babel mankind sought its own glory, but in Jerusalem mankind started to build to the glory of God.

The concept of globalization is used by our society today to refer to a worldly political, economical and social unity. For Christians, real globalization began at Pentecost with the Gospel of Christ which is the true unifying factor for all.

Let us reflect on the realities of our world today and how are we able to unite and build the tower of faith in God ♦



NASHVILLE FLOOD RELIEF *by Eva Kokinos*

Last month, Nashville and other areas in middle Tennessee were pummeled by heavy storming, resulting in some of the worst flooding this area has seen in years.

In an effort to extend a helping hand to the people of Nashville for their Flood Relief efforts, His Eminence Metropolitan Nicholas initiated the Nashville Flood Relief Fund.

Fr. Gregory Hohnholt and the community of Holy Trinity, as well as Fr. Parthenios Turner and the St. John Chrysostom mission family in Nashville, are working not only to help



Source: CNN webpage / GETTY IMAGES

those of the parish who have suffered losses, but the Nashville community-at-large, as well, in their recovery effort.

Fr. Hohnholt reflected on these efforts, saying, “The needs are great and many, and the faithful of Holy Trinity are abundantly thankful for the gifts and support of the sister parishes in the

Metropolis of Detroit, as well as the National Philoptochos, the Metropolis Philoptochos and all the various individual donors who are supporting the efforts to restore hope to the hearts of the people of Nashville and Middle Tennessee.”

To date, at least \$55,000 has been raised for the relief effort. Please contact your local parish to make a donation.

For more information regarding the flooding and recovery efforts, visit <http://www.tennessean.com/section/news0101> ♦

FRIENDS OF THE METROPOLIS (AS OF MAY 31, 2010)

His Eminence
Metropolitan Nicholas

Ann Arbor, MI St. Nicholas

St. Nicholas Parish
St. Nicholas Philoptochos
Kotsis, Fr. Nicolaos and Pres-
bytera Sandra
Paul, Presbytera Eva
Bekiaries, Penelope A.
Fry, Jack D.
Grias-Radwanskim Sophia
Kales, Anthony and Joyce
Vlahadamis, Kosta

Bloomfield Hills, MI St. George

St. George Parish

Buffalo, NY

Annunciation

Christakis, Fr. Christos and
Presbytera Lisa

Carmel, IN

Holy Trinity

Douvis, Harry
Pappas, Vicki

Chattanooga, TN

Annunciation

Mousourakis, Donna
Soufleris, Adam and Nickie

Cincinnati, OH

Holy Trinity/St. Nicholas

HTSN Philoptochos
Assaley, Lewis and Patricia
Moraites, Dena
Parsenios, Lewis

Farmington Hills, MI Holy Cross

Stefanakis, George and Terrie

Fort Wayne, IN

Holy Trinity

Holy Trinity Philoptochos
Doublas, Gregory
Spirou, Arthur and Mary
Turner, Christian

Grand Rapids, MI

Holy Trinity

Monoyios, Terry
Nicholas, Jim and Georgia

Indianapolis, IN

Holy Apostles

Gus Karozos

Ithaca, NY - St. Catherine

Bezirgianian, John

Lansing, MI - Holy Trinity

Joseph, Yvonne
Sweeney, Evie Zois

Lexington, KY

Panagia Pantovasilissa

Panagia Pantovasilissa Parish
Hostetter, Mr. and Mrs. Nich-
olas

Kiriacopoulos, Ken and Kate
Pandaru, Andronica

Memphis, TN

Annunciation

Gallagher, Evangelia

Muskegon, MI

Annunciation

Annunciation Parish
Mot, Fr. Catalin and Presbyt-
era Felicia
Yankopoulos, Presbytera Ann

Achterhoff, Christina

Afendoulis, Alexander J.

Afendoulis, Magdalene

Afendulis, James

Afendulis, Phyllis G.

Afendulis, Ted

Baker, Georgia J.

Baldas, Voula

Bati, John

Bouth, Mike

Clark, Ken and Nicci

Davros, Nickolas J. and Family

Douville, Farrell and Mary

Dreleozis, George

Encelewski, Christine D.

Hoopes, Kenneth and Maria

Karis, Othon and Kristi

Ladas, Paul and Patricia

Lutz, Helen Innis

McNutt, Angela C.

Micheil, Rich and Teresa

Nace, Doru

Oravitan, Ionut

Pallas, Tom

Peliotas, Gust and Ethel

Riekse, Max and Nelly

Roldan, Martha

Soimar, Michael and Corina

Stathas, Nick and Rita

Nashville, TN

Holy Trinity

Hohnholt, Fr. Gregory and

Presbytera Sofia

Vaporis, Fr. George and Pres-

bytera Kalliopi

Kirk, Benedict

Rogers, Helen and Lawrence

Kamm

Nashville, TN

St. John Chrysostom Mis- sion

Turner, Fr. Parthenios and

Presbytera Marion

New Buffalo, MI

Annunciation/

St. Paraskevi

Polymeris, Spiros and Donna

Plymouth, MI

Nativity of the Virgin

Mary

Nativity of the Virgin Mary

Parish

Sarelis, Fr. Charles and Pres-

bytera Angela

Estate of Fr. Efstathios Metal-

linos

Rochester, NY

Annunciation

Gines, George Family

Stefanou, Gus and Florence

Rochester, NY

Holy Spirit

Holy Spirit Philoptochos

Cowles, Fr. Patrick and Pres-

bytera Mary

Chilas, Diane

Ginis, Panos

Sexton, Katherine L.

Saginaw, MI

St. Demetrios

St. Demetrios Philoptochos

Cox, Fr. Irenaeus and Presbyt-

era Alexandra

Ahejew, Petro and Samdra

Caldwell, Larry and Peggy

Southgate, MI - St. George

Kircos, Angelo and Sophia

Kircos, John and Violet

Kircos, Louis and Paula

Kontos, John and Marika

Minton, Barbara

Minton, Charles

Nanos, Vasiliki

St. Clair Shores, MI

Assumption

Genematas, Toula

Sterling Heights, MI

St. John

Georgios Salonikas and Ni-
coleta Vekos

Syracuse, NY - St. Sophia

Smith, Fr. David and Presbyt-
era Donna

Toledo, OH

Holy Trinity Cathedral

Damaskos, Fr. Aristotle and

Presbytera Debbie

Anagnos, Joyce

Sieben, Paul

Traverse City, MI

Archangel Gabriel

Olechnowicz, Fr. Iakovos and

Presbytera Joleen

Troy, MI - St. Nicholas

Demery, Beck

Vestal, NY

Annunciation

Michalopoulos, Presbytera Mag-

dalena

Demetry, Helen

Gianakouros, Dino and Mary

Tzivanis, Thomas and Florence

Watertown, NY

St. Vasilios

St. Vasilios Parish

Westland, MI

Sts. Constantine & Helen

Sts. Constantine and Helen
Parish

Sts. Constantine and Helen

GOYA

Other Friends

Bartz, Fr. Bill and Presbytera

Emily, Dumfries, VA ♦

BISHOP'S SCHEDULE HIGHLIGHTS

JUNE

7 - 10	<i>Patriarchal Synod Meeting</i>	Ecumenical Patriarchate
11	<i>Patriarch's Nameday</i>	Ecumenical Patriarchate
15	<i>Parish Visitation</i>	Holy Trinity - Binghamton, NY
16	<i>Parish Visitation</i>	St. Catherine - Ithaca, NY
20	<i>Hierarchical Liturgy</i>	Assumption - St. Clair Shores, MI
20	<i>Baptism</i>	Assumption - St. Clair Shores, MI
24	<i>Parish Council Meeting</i>	Holy Trinity - Grand Rapids, MI

JULY

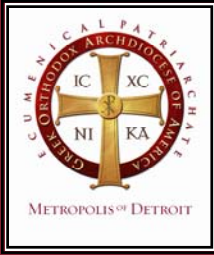
2 - 7	<i>Clergy Laity Assembly</i>	Atlanta, GA
8 - 15	<i>Patriarchal Synod Meeting</i>	Ecumenical Patriarchate

MEFGOX NEWS *by Barbara Minton*

The Annual Convention of the Mid-Eastern Federation of Greek Orthodox Church Musicians will be held July 15-18th in Canonsburg, PA. This year the participants will sing a setting of the Divine Liturgy by Nancy Takis. Her husband, Stan Takis will serve as guest director. The four day convention will begin with the first two sessions of a Church Music Institute. The first offering will be "Singing Good, Better, or Your Best" lead by Bill Christoff, Carmel, Indiana. The second offering will be "Praying the Liturgy for Church Musicians: Challenges and Solutions" lead by Father Steylios Muksuris.

The Church Musicians will also learn about the "The Small Supplicatory Canon" (Paraklesis) and attend a Paraklesis before a Friday evening picnic at Angel Acres Park. Other workshops, rehearsals will round out the educational/musical portion of the weekend. Another highlight of the Convention is a recognition of church musicians who have offered distinguished service and the awarding of scholarships to young people pursuing music or theology in higher education.

The culmination of the Convention will be a Hierarchical Divine Liturgy on Sunday morning. At the conclusion of which the newly elected officers will take the oath of office. A Memorial Service for the deceased church musicians of all of the member parishes will also be offered. For information about the Memorial Scholarship (how to apply or how to donate in memory of a loved one), please visit the MEFGOX website (www.mwfgox.org) or contact Dan Packis at dpackis@roadrunner.com or send donations to MEFGOX Memorial Scholarship Program, 4651 Greenview Court, Avon, Ohio 44011 ♦



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NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIBE



STS. PETER AND PAUL
JUNE 29

THE SHEPHERD'S STAFF

FRIENDS OF THE METROPOLIS

What Does Friends of the Metropolis Support?

General: Fully fund the expenses of the Metropolis offices, programs and travels.

Education: Enhance scholarships and adult education programs, as well as support the Metropolis students at Hellenic College/Holy Cross.

Support: Develop and provide educational and instructional seminars and services to clergy and parishes.

Youth: Maintain and support the youth office and activities of a full-time Youth and Young Adult Ministries Director.

Outreach/Missions: Create opportunities to introduce our faith to society, participate in inter-Christian and inter-faith activities as well as provide quick responses to national disasters.

Hellenism: Develop programs for Hellenic Cultural Outreach, including language, history and arts.

Leadership: Organize Metropolis Clergy-Laity Conferences, Oratorical Festivals, Christmas Pageants and Adult Education Programs.

Special Programs: Website development, hospitality to visiting dignitaries and guests, Charity and Philanthropy.

Dear Friends of the Metropolis:

Dear Friends of the Metropolis:

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

I am pleased to support the work of Metropolitan Nicholas and the Metropolis through the Annual Metropolis Stewardship "Friends" Program

Send this card in an envelope to:
The Metropolis of Detroit
2560 Crooks Road, Troy, MI 48084

\$25 \$50 \$100 \$250 \$500 \$1000 Other

Name _____ Parish Affiliation: _____
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City _____
Phone _____ Email _____

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Account # _____ Exp. _____ Signature _____ Date _____