



The Shepherd's Staff

Metropolitan Nicholas' Message...

Beloved Faithful,

"You descended to the depths of the earth to fill all things with Your glory; for my person that is in Adam was not hidden from you; and being buried, You renewed me from corruption, O Lover of mankind." (from the canon of the Orthros of Great and Holy Pascha)

The significance of this hymn for our lives is profound as we celebrate the glorious and wondrous Resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. We know that after His death and burial, Christ's action of salvation continued. "Descending to the depths of the earth," Christ preached to those who had never heard His message of eternal life in the Kingdom of Heaven.

Having heard that greatest of all messages, the message of salvation, all of those generations were "filled with His glory." Their entire beings were filled with faith and knowledge of God, and they were transformed from the very depths of their souls. That transformation enlightened them to the Kingdom of God, whose doors were now opened to them.

My friends, this Paschal transformation is what should take place in the depths of the souls of each and every one of us. The Holy Spirit should be allowed to penetrate the depths of our hearts, so that the message of

God's love and salvation will lead us to glory.

Glory is given by God and given to God. Without asking, God granted to us His glory through His Son Jesus Christ. Our response to that salvation should, in turn, give Him glory. The way we think, the way we speak, the way we act, the way we serve as witnesses to the world of our faith, will show to all that heavenly transformation and glory that is freely given to us by Christ Resurrection from the dead.

My humble prayer is that our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ fills our hearts with God's glory and transformative love, that we may all enjoy the blessings of and bear witness to His glorious third-day Resurrection.

With Love in the Risen Lord,



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HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE METROPOLITAN'S SCHEDULE

FEBRUARY, 2007

3-5 St. Photios National Shrine Pilgrimage, St. Augustine, FL

5-7 Metropolis of Detroit Clergy Retreat.

11 Assumption Church, Flint, MI, Hierarchical Divine Liturgy.

16-17 Lance Cpl. Matthew Pathenos funeral, St. Louis, MO.

18 Cheesefare Sunday, Annunciation Church, Muskegon, MI.

19 Clean Monday, Metropolitan Detroit area

21 Pre-Sanctified Liturgy, St. Spyridon Chapel, Metropolis of Detroit.

23-25 1st Salutations, Saturday of the Souls, Sunday of Orthodoxy Hierarchical Liturgy-Annunciation Church, Buffalo, NY.

MARCH, 2007

2 2nd Salutations, Saint Nicholas Church, Troy, MI

4 Hierarchical Divine Liturgy, Saint Nicholas Church, Troy, MI.

9-11 3rd Salutations, 3rd Sunday in Lent, Veneration of the Holy Cross-Annunciation Church, Little Rock, AR.

12 - 15 Eparchial Synod Meeting, New York City

16-18 4th Salutations, Hierarchical Divine Liturgy, Sts Constantine and Helen Church, Middletown, OH.

23 Visit to the White House on the occasion of

Greek Independence Day

24 Great Vespers of Annunciation, Annunciation Cathedral, Detroit, MI

25 Hierarchical Divine Liturgy for the Feast of Annunciation, Annunciation Cathedral, Detroit, MI

25 Greek Independence Day Parade, Downtown Detroit

31 Saturday of Lazarus, Annunciation Church, Chattanooga, TN.

See more on the next page!

Schedule for His Eminence Metropolitan Nicholas (Through April 2007)

<i>April 1</i>	Palm Sunday - Holy Trinity, Nashville, TN	<i>April 5</i>	Holy Thursday Twelve Gospels and Passion of our Lord - St. George, Bloomfield Hills, MI
<i>April 1</i>	1st Bridegroom - St. John Chrysostom, Nashville, TN	<i>April 6</i>	Good Friday- Morning Local Parish Visitations Apokathelosis-Metropolitan Area
<i>April 2</i>	Holy Monday, 2nd Bridegroom - Panagia Pantovasilissa, Lexington, KY	<i>April 6</i>	Good Friday Lamentations - Annunciation Cathedral, Detroit, MI
<i>April 3</i>	Holy Tuesday, 3rd Bridegroom - Assumption, St. Clair Shores, MI	<i>April 7</i>	Holy Saturday, First Resurrection - Holy Trinity Cathedral, Toledo, OH
<i>April 4</i>	Holy Wednesday Holy Unction - Afternoon, St. Demetrios, S aginaw, MI and Evening, St. John, Sterling Hts.	<i>April 8</i>	Orthros and Liturgy of Holy Pascha - St. Nicholas, Ann Arbor, MI
<i>April 5</i>	Holy Thursday Institution of the Eucharist - Metropolis Chapel, Troy, MI		

IN MEMORIAM

Rev. Father Michael Harmand, a priest for almost 60 years, retired, of St. Sophia Greek Orthodox Church in Syracuse, NY, passed away peacefully on January 18, 2007. Father Harmand was one of the new generation of Orthodox Priests. He was born and raised in the United States but graduated from the University of Athens College of Theology in 1938. Father Harmand has the distinction of being the first American born to be ordained for the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America.

He served St. Sophia Greek Orthodox Church in Syracuse, NY since 1951, leading the parish in building their present facility and celebrating the joyous event of the opening Liturgy on September 9, 1973. Father has always taken a keen interest in the youth of the community; under his leadership the Sunday school program was rejuvenated and he also taught Greek school to the youth. Father was also endowed with a musical gift. His beautiful tenor voice has enriched the church services over the past 50 years. His musical talents had also been directed to church music. He devoted many hours in directing and rehearsing the church choir. Father was also an accomplished musician, playing various instruments. Father has also worked with the adult groups in the church community. He encouraged the Holy Cross Society to reorganize as the Philoptochos Society. As a lasting tribute to Father Harmand, St. Sophia Chapel was dedicated as the St. Michael Chapel in November 1986 by Bishop Timothy of Detroit.

Although in failing health this past year, Father Harmand continued to serve the church faithfully with great devotion.

His family and friends will greatly miss this outstanding clergyman. Survived by his wife of 67 years, Mary, his son, Dr. William, his daughter, Elaine and his grandchildren, Michael Ian, Constance, Elizabeth and Michael.

Funeral service, led by His Eminence Metropolitan Nicholas took place on January 22 at Saint Sophia Church in Syracuse, NY and was attended by a large number of clergy and faithful.

Rev. Father Demetrios Kavadas, who served faithfully the Greek Orthodox Church for almost fifty years fell asleep in the Lord, Monday, Feb. 26, 2007, at Beaumont Hospital, Royal Oak from complications resulting from a ruptured aneurysm. He was 74.

Father Demetrios was born on the island of Chios, Greece. He received bachelor's degrees from Holy Cross School of Theology and a master's degree in divinity from Boston University. For almost forty years he was the parish priest at Assumption Greek Orthodox Church when it was in Charlevoix then at the present location in St. Clair Shores, MI. He was a Fulbright Scholar, a scholar of the Taylor Foundation and a scholar of the Panchian Society of America. He received citations for community service from the cities of St. Clair Shores, Grosse Pointe Woods and the State House of Representatives. He was recognized as a Man of the Year by the March of Dimes. He also was recognized by the Mental Illness Research Association in Metro Detroit. After retiring in 2001, Father Demetrios served the Metropolis of Detroit in many parishes and also the Holy Cross Greek Orthodox Church in Windsor, Canada from 2003-06.

Father Demetrios is survived by Presbytera Rodothea; their children, Iphigenia and John; and grandchildren, George, Thea, Demetri and Vasilia.

On March 2nd, 2007 the funeral service took place at the Assumption Greek Orthodox Church in St. Clair Shores. His Eminence Metropolitan Nicholas and more than 25 clergymen from various orthodox jurisdictions joined their voices in giving thanks to God for his many years of service to Christ's Holy Church, and for his community leadership in the Detroit area.

May their memory be eternal!

By the Grace of God
with the blessing of the Holy Eparchial Synod
of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese
under the presidency of
His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios

His Eminence Metropolitan Nicholas
of Detroit
will ordain
DEACON TEODOR PETRUTIU
to the
HOLY PRIESTHOOD



On
Saturday, April 14, 2007
at the
Nativity of the Virgin Mary Greek Orthodox Church
39851 Five Mile Road
Plymouth, Michigan
Your prayers and presence are
requested for this joyous occasion.

Orthros - 9:00 am Reception following
Liturgy and Ordination - 10:00 am in Church Hall

Youth News

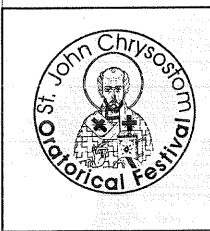
By Eva Kokinos-Youth Director

Metropolis Youth Office Update - Greetings from the Metropolis Youth Office! Our offices have been very busy with different activities and programs. Here are a few of the highlights:

- National Young Adult Conference was held in Nashville, TN, in conjunction with the National Clergy-Laity Conference. The YAL Conference was attended by over 145 young adults from throughout the U.S.
- With 500+ participants registered this year, the camp programs of our Metropolis enjoyed another successful season.
- The Metropolis Youth Office offered a free workshop about Internet Safety. "HIS Space.com: Our Youth and the Internet" was hosted by Assumption Church in St. Clair Shores, MI on October 13, 2006.
- Assumption Church in St. Clair Shores, MI also hosted a Youth Worker Training Seminar for current and potential youth workers. The seminar was held October 14, 2006.

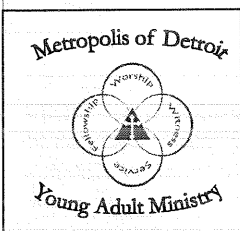
Eva Kokinos, the Metropolis Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministries, was invited to be a presenter at the 2007 Orthodox Camping Conference held in Phoenix, Arizona in January. Ms. Kokinos spoke about "Incorporating MISSIONS into a Camp Program and Curriculum."

There are MANY programs and events coming soon for youth of all ages. Please check with the Metropolis Youth and Young Adult Ministry Calendar in this issue of the Shepherd's Staff. Also, you can visit www.detroit.goarch.org to check out the Youth Office Calendar.



St. John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival - Please mark your calendars for the 2007 St. John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival season. The SJCOF was created by the Archdiocese Department of Religious Education in 1983. For 24 years, the SJCOF has given our youth the opportunity to express their faith through the art of public speaking. In addition, it offers youth a chance to earn scholarship money for their hard work and dedication. Here in the Metropolis of Detroit, we are blessed by the numerous young people who have represented their parishes and our Metropolis.

Now it is time to keep the tradition going. All young people in grades 7-9 (Junior Division) and 10-12 (Senior Division) are invited to participate in this worthwhile program. The theme for this year's festival is The Menaia. Information about the topics, as well as other helpful information, can be found at www.goarch.org. Please check the Metropolis Youth Office calendar for the dates and locations of the District, Metropolis, and National Festivals. Also, please feel free to contact the Metropolis Youth Office (248) 823-2411 or youth@detroit.goarch.org with any questions.



Metropolis YAL News - We are thrilled to announce that the Young Adults of our Metropolis will be taking a trip for a very important cause! The Metropolis of Detroit YAL has partnered up with IOCC and Habitat for Humanity to rebuild parts of Biloxi, Mississippi destroyed by Hurricane Katrina. We are calling this trip "Building Biloxi." All young adults are invited to join us July 22-28, 2007 in Biloxi, Mississippi to serve our brothers and sisters in the South.

The cost for this trip will be \$300 per person. This \$300 tax-deductible donation includes airfare, accommodations, and three meals per day while at the worksite. For more information or request a Participant Registration Packet, please call (248) 823-2411 or email yal@detroit.goarch.org.

To join the **Metropolis of Detroit YAL Email List**, please send your name and contact information to yal@detroit.goarch.org !!!

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Calendar of Events for the Youth Office

March

2-4 → NY District GOYA Lenten Lock-In—Camp Arrowhead - Rochester, NY
7-9 → National Youth Ministry Team Meetings—Greek Orthodox Archdiocese Center, New York, NY.

16-18 → Fall Creek Falls GOYA Lenten Retreat—Hosted by Holy Trinity/Nashville, TN

April

21 → St. John Chrysostom District Oratorical Festivals

Central District—Assumption Church, Louisville, KY

Southern District—Annunciation Church, Memphis, TN

Michigan District—St. John the Baptist Church, Sterling Heights, MI

22 → NY District Oratorical Festival—Annunciation Church, Buffalo, NY

May

19 → St. John Chrysostom Metropolis Oratorical Festival Holy Trinity Church, Lansing, MI

June

15-17 → St. John Chrysostom National Oratorical Festival Saint Sophia Cathedral - Miami, FL

June 24- Aug. 4 → MDSC (Rose City Camp). Contact gomdsc@gmail.com or 248.909.MDSC(6372). Website: www.detroit.goarch.org/mdsc

July

11-16 → International Orthodox Youth Summit—Constantinople, Turkey

15-21 → St. Nicholas Summer Camp — Cedar Ridge Camp - Louisville, KY.

Website: southerncamp.com

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SUMMER CAMP is Just Around the Corner! Don't let all the snow and cold weather get you down!! Just think about Summer Camp 2007! We are blessed to have **THREE** camping programs in our Metropolis.



MDSC - Serving Michigan and Toledo, OH

Visit www.detroit.goarch.org/mdsc or email gomdsc@gmail.com

St. Timothy Camp - Serving Upstate NY

Contact: Fr. Tom Zaferes @ 315-446-5222

St. Nicholas Camp - Serving AR, IN, KY, OH, and TN.

Visit www.southerncamp.com or email youth@detroit.goarch.org.

St. Nicholas Summer Camp is already accepting Camper Registrations AND Staff Applications. Registration will begin soon for our other camps. For further information about the Metropolis camping programs, feel free to call (248) 823-2411.

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July

22-28 → "Building Biloxi"-Metropolis YAL Outreach. Contact: Harry Gaggos(hgaggos@gmail.com)

August

12-18 → St. Timothy Summer Camp—Oswegatchie Educational Center-Croghan, NY. Contact: Fr. Tom Zaferes (315.446.5222).

September

7-9 → Parish Visit—Annunciation Church, Little Rock, AR

October

6 → MDSC Fundraising Auction—St. Nicholas Church, Troy, MI. Contact: gomdsc@gmail.com



JOIN OUR E-MAIL LIST: If you would like to keep connected with Metropolis Youth Ministry news and events, email us at youth@detroit.goarch.org.



MEFGOX News
By Barbara Minton



CONGRATULATIONS!

The Mid-Eastern Federation of Greek Orthodox Church Musicians is please to introduce to the Metropolis of Detroit Mr. Bill Leogas, the new Federation President. Bill currently serves as the choir director at St. Spyridon in Monessen, PA, and is also active on the Parish Council and with the youth activities of his parish. Recently retired from Bechtel, a firm that does research and design for the US Navy, Bill now has some free time to devote to the Mid-Eastern Federation.

CONVENTION NEWS!

The 60th Annual Convention will be held July 19-22, 2007 in Columbus, OH. Hotel accommodations will be with Courtyard by Marriott West. All church musicians, families and friends are welcome. Pana Mastros, who studied at the Eastman School of Music, will serve as guest conductor directing the bi-lingual setting of the

Divine Liturgy by Chris Zervos. Detailed information will be published in the Byzantine Echo, the Federation's newsletter, or you may contact Barbara Minton (barbmint@wideopenwest.com) for information.

SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION

The Mid-Eastern Federation offers scholarships to individuals who are taking lessons or classes related to music education or studying the Orthodox faith. We strive to foster and maintain a high standard of singing among musicians of the Federation and promote the study, development, performance and publication of Greek Orthodox music by supporting our Orthodox faithful in the area of music study and the study of our Orthodox faith. Applicants must be high school graduates by June 2007; however, scholarships are not limited to university or college coursework but are also available to those people interested in attending appropriate Church Music Programs, taking private lessons, etc. Applications are due by June 20, 2007. For more information and an application or to make a donation, contact: Dan Packis, Scholarship Trustee Chairman at (440) 937-9531

Philoptochos News
 By Katherine Kotsis, President

The mission of the Greek Orthodox Ladies Philoptochos Society is to promote charitable, benevolent and philanthropic outreach, to preserve the sanctity of life and family, and to perpetuate and to promote our Orthodox faith and traditions. It is our responsibility and our duty to execute the principles and concepts of our mission statement, to enhance these concepts, to teach them, to practice them and to institutionalize them into the very fabric of our Philoptochos Society.

The 2006 Philoptochos National Convention held in Nashville last summer was truly an exceptional success. Delegate attendance at the Bylaws, Membership, Social Services, Project Bank discussion groups, and the Skills Forums consisting of Secretarial Guidelines, Treasurer's Responsibilities, Parliamentary Procedures, Promoting Philoptochos and Leadership, was outstanding. These programs offered delegates insight to new ideas, projects, programs and ways to improve workmanship skills.

The Philoptochos banquet, in celebrating 75 years of philanthropy, was the highlight of the convention focusing on heartwarming and outstanding Metropolitan philanthropies. Banquet attendees viewed a video depicting the philan-

thropic achievements of our organization during the past several decades.

Thanks to all chapters, members and friends for the tremendous support, love, participation and encouragement expressed during the planning stages

The National Chapter Challenge Program was introduced by President Georgia Skeadas at the 2004 Philoptochos convention. The purpose of this program was designed to give chapters the opportunity to initiate charitable projects which would

provide assistance, nurturing and care to the recipients of their outreach. Potentially, this would act as a starting point for future projects across the country. One chapter from each Metropolitan was selected and awarded \$100 in order to develop a project. The results were reported at the 2006 convention in Nashville.

The Annunciation Philoptochos of Dayton, Ohio, created the Afghan Project. This year-long endeavor consisted of beautiful blankets lovingly hand knitted by Philoptochos members, friends and families of the Annunciation parish. A significant number of these blankets were distributed to local community shelters for the homeless and at domestic violence

centers.

During the winter meeting of the National Philoptochos Board, the Chapter Challenge Review Committee announced the selection of the Dayton Afghan Project as the outstanding outreach project which could be emulated by chapters throughout the country. Congratulations, Dayton!



METROPOLIS OF DETROIT
 LADIES PHILOPTOCHOS SOCIETY
 CHARITY LUNCHEON

"Philanthropy Knows No Boundaries"

SATURDAY, MAY 5, 2007
 Doors open at 11:00am

St. Nicholas Cultural Center
 760 West Wattles Road
 Troy, MI 48098

SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER
 Harry Mark Petrakis
Renowned Author, Lecturer, and Humorist

Donation: \$35.00 per person
(Everyone is Welcome!)

Please RSVP by April 20, 2007 to:
 Mary Kotsis-Gaggos (313) 881-2961

and week of the convention. "Well done" to our Metropolitan sisters who baked thousands of koulourakia and paximadia which were enjoyed by all delegates. What a memorable week in July!

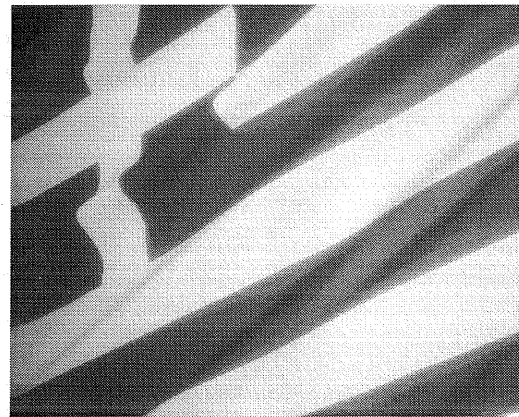
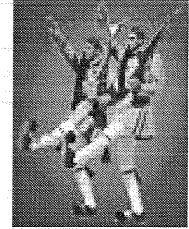
Annunciation Philoptochos – Dayton, Ohio



2007 GREEK INDEPENDENCE DAY PARADE

SUNDAY, MARCH 25,

1:30 p.m. Vehicle and float check-in
2:15 p.m. Marcher check-in
3:00 p.m. PARADE
3:45 p.m. Post-parade program, including religious service, led by His Eminence Metropolitan Nicholas, national anthems, proclamations, and dance performances.



2007 Friends

(a/o 3/20/07)

ANN ARBOR: Louis & Marguerite Chiatas, **BLOOMFIELD HILLS:** St. George Parish, St. George Philoptochos, **CINCINNATI:** Holy Trinity-St. Nicholas Philoptochos, Stephen Bottomley, Louis Kapourales, **DAYTON:** David Panson, **FORT WAYNE:** Keith Danckaert, **INDIANAPOLIS:** Emmanuel, Irene, & Barbara Kratsios, Vicki Pappas, **KALAMAZOO:** Annunciation Parish, **LITTLE ROCK:** Annunciation Parish, Annunciation Philoptochos, Annunciation GOYA, JR. GOYA, JOY, **MEMPHIS:** Annunciation Philoptochos, Daughters of Penelope-Chapter #180, Aspasia Bacopulos, Timothy Bullard, **MUSKEGON:** Annunciation Philoptochos, Fr. Catalin. & Pres. Felicia Mot, **NASHVILLE:** George Anderson, Chris Botsaris, **PLYMOUTH:** Nativity Parish, Michael & Anne Randall, **SOUTHGATE:** St. George Philoptochos, Sam Galanis, Angelo & Sophia Kircos, John & Violet Kircos, Louis & Paula Kircos, Barbara Minton, Nicholas Minton, Vasiliki Nanos, **ST. CLAIR SHORES:** Katherine Cherpes, Toula Genematas, Thomas Jordan, William & Blair Malian, **STERLING HEIGHTS:** Georgios & Nicoleta Salonikas, Len & Caroline Wekwert, **TOLEDO:** Fr. Aristotle & Pres. Deborah Damaskos, **TROY:** Gust & Anne Feles, In Memory of Michael Malis, **WATERTOWN:** St. Vasilios Parish, **WESTLAND:** Sophie T. Katsarelas,

“...but I have called you friends...”

John 15:15

