March 13, 2020

Beloved Priests of the Metropolis of Detroit,

In light of the rapidly changing situations throughout the Archdiocese regarding the COVID-19 virus, please review and follow this directive as reason-endowed sheep in the flock of Christ:

- All children’s programs (GOYA, JOY, HOPE, Young Adults, Church School, Greek School, etc.) scheduled through April 5th should be cancelled (including everything associated with Oratorical Festivals and Greek Independence Day)
- Fellowship Hour/Coffee Hour should be cancelled through April 5th
- All non-essential gatherings at the church (including all activities scheduled for seniors) should be cancelled through April 5th
- Any churches that host other groups for gatherings of any sort should cancel those activities through April 5th
- You should follow all directives from the local authorities that impact any church activities or services

I do not need to tell you the importance of our Divine Services for our people and, indeed, for the whole world. Nevertheless, rather than mandate any set of services in the parishes, I entrust each priest to use his discretion, based on the situation in his particular locality, to determine that schedule.

Continue to guide people away from fear and, instead, to an increased knowledge and faith in our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Continue to pray fervently for a quick mitigation and end to this situation.

With Paternal Prayers and Love,

+NICHOLAS
METROPOLITAN OF DETROIT