



GREEK ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE OF AMERICA
GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF DETROIT

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To the Reverend Fathers and Esteemed Parish Councils of the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Detroit,

Christ is Risen!

The Metropolis of Detroit has been keeping a close eye on the most up-to-date information regarding the COVID-19 pandemic from esteemed health professionals, as well as direction and guidance from our Holy Archdiocese. This continues to be a trying time for all of us as we adjust to a new definition of normal for now. May we continue to keep all those affected by this global pandemic in our prayers – those who have perished, those who have lost loved ones to the virus, those who are still fighting in the hospitals, and the heroic medical professionals who are fighting on the frontlines for each and every precious life.

After much prayer and deliberation, and in the best interest of the beloved faithful of our Metropolis, we have made the difficult but necessary decision to cancel the summer camp programs for 2020: MDSC – Metropolis of Detroit Summer Camp (Michigan), St. Nicholas Summer Camp (Kentucky), and St. Timothy Summer Camp (New York). Although we hope that much of this crisis will subside by summertime, there are far too many medical and scientific unknowns which would leave our camps vulnerable and potentially dangerous to its participants as well as their loved ones at home.

Please know that this is a painful decision for our Metropolis. Our summer camp programs have an undeniably positive impact on campers, as well as the clergy, staff and volunteers. We understand that many campers and staff will be disappointed, and we truly share in that disappointment. However, given the current public health situation, our camps simply cannot guarantee what they affirm is their top priority - to keep all participants safe and healthy.

Our camping ministries programs, with the support and guidance of the Metropolis Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministries, are currently working on creative ways they can reach out to parishes this summer. Each one of our camps will send individual communications regarding issues of refunds and future plans.

Beloved faithful, the Resurrection of our Lord and Savior reminds us that there is hope even after the most hopeless of situations. We must keep the faith that the sacrifices we make now will result in a positive outcome, ensuring a most joyful reunion at our summer camps for 2021.

With heartfelt prayers of health and well-being to you all, and with faith in the Risen Christ, I remain,

+NICHOLAS
Metropolitan of Detroit