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July 26, 2018

To the Clergy and Faithful of the Metropolis of Detroit,

Beloved Faithful in the Lord,

Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it.

If one member suffers, all suffer together.

1 Corinthians 12: 27, 26

As members of humanity, we are grieved to witness the disastrous wildfires in Greece that have devastated several suburbs of Athens, destroyed many homes, claimed dozens of lives, and injured and displaced countless people. As members of the body of Christ together with the many Orthodox Christians in Greece, we experience their suffering as our very own.

By now you will have received the encyclical sent out by His Eminence, Archbishop Demetrios. We wholeheartedly echo his sentiments and add our own encouragement that you offer your support to our brothers and sisters in Greece during this time of crisis.

A special collection is to be made on the following two Sundays, July 29 and August 5, and a memorial service is to be held on July 29 for those who have lost their lives due to this tragic event. All collections should be sent payable to the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese (8 East 79th Street, New York, NY 10075) and designated for the *Attica Fires Relief Fund*. We are appreciative of the boundless generosity that you, the faithful of the Metropolis of Detroit, have always exhibited, and we ask that you show forth that generosity now.

With Paternal Love and Prayers,

†NICHOLASMetropolitan of Detroit