Beloved in the Lord,

How often have we heard it said by our parents, elders, or persons in authority, "When I grew up, this never would have happened." It is a remark which intends to demonstrate to the listener that indeed, things are changing, and may be they are not going in the ‘right’ way.

And so I would also tell you that when I was growing up, the idea that a Greek Orthodox hierarch would be the guest preacher at the local Roman Catholic Cathedral was also something that would not have happened.

How things have changed! And I must confess, they have changed for the better.

As Orthodox Christians, we are oftentimes in the position of trying to explain with clarity and accuracy the truth of the faith which we claim as our One, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic Church. And indeed, it is important for us to be able to give a “reason for the hope that is in us.” (cf. I Pet 3:15)

At the same time, in an age which seeks to eliminate faith and trust in God, it is equally important for us to come together under the broader heading of Christians, and to challenge the un-belief of this age.

The recent gathering of Orthodox and Catholics in Detroit surely gave witness to this growing desire to find more opportunities to make our shared witness and faith a visible reality.

The world needs to hear us—and God calls us to speak at this time and in these places where people of faith gather in His name.

With Paternal Blessings,

+METROPOLITAN NICHOLAS
## Metropolitan’s Schedule

### August

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<tr>
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<th>Location</th>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Parish Visitation</td>
<td>Nativity of the Virgin Mary Church—Plymouth, MI</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Parish Visitation</td>
<td>Sts. Constantine &amp; Helen Church—Westland, MI</td>
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<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Dormition of the Theotokos Great Vespers</td>
<td>Assumption Church—Grand Blanc, MI</td>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Dormition of the Theotokos Hierarchical Divine Liturgy</td>
<td>Assumption Church—St. Clair Shores, MI</td>
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<td>17–18</td>
<td>Wedding of Stelianos Frangopoulos and Maureen Sucher</td>
<td>Holy Trinity-St. Nicholas Church—Cincinnati, OH</td>
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<td>25</td>
<td>Parish Visitation</td>
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### September

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Nativity of the Theotokos Great Vespers</td>
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<td>Nativity of the Virgin Mary Church—Plymouth, MI</td>
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<td>9–10</td>
<td>American Bible Society Meeting</td>
<td>New York, NY</td>
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<td>11–14</td>
<td>Holy Cross Seminary 75th Anniversary</td>
<td>Holy Cross Seminary—Brookline, MA</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>Wedding of Michael Crosson and Laurie Mulary</td>
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<td>16–19</td>
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<td>20–22</td>
<td>Centennial Anniversary</td>
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<td>24–29</td>
<td>Metropolis Clergy-Laity Conference</td>
<td>Holy Trinity-St. Nicholas Church—Cincinnati, OH</td>
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**Metropolitan Nicholas at Ecumenical Vespers**

*July 25, 2013*

DETROIT—On July 25, 2013, at the invitation of His Excellency Allen H. Vigneron, Roman Catholic Archbishop of Detroit, His Eminence Metropolitan Nicholas attended an Ecumenical Vespers Service in honor of Saint Anna, the mother of the Theotokos, held at the Roman Catholic Cathedral of the Most Blessed Sacrament in Detroit, Michigan. Metropolitan Nicholas delivered an inspiring homily entitled “God Still Speaks”. It can be read on:


Please visit our YouTube Channel to watch a short clip from the homily at the following link: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=87rp3Pe1JfQ&feature=share&list=PL8ADB3D1F93BFA636](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=87rp3Pe1JfQ&feature=share&list=PL8ADB3D1F93BFA636).

Photos are also available on our website at this link: [www.detroit.goarch.org/photo-gallery/2013/ecumenical-vespers-2013](http://www.detroit.goarch.org/photo-gallery/2013/ecumenical-vespers-2013).
With the rising statistics regarding bullying, many young people constantly worry about fitting in. But society’s ideal “image” changes by the minute. Who can keep up? Thankfully, as Christians, we have one image to uphold… the one that has been gifted to us by God!

On August 6th, we celebrated the Transfiguration of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. In the book *Daily Vitamins for Spiritual Growth*, Anthony Coniaris says the following about the Feast of the Transfiguration:

“Jesus was transfigured before Peter, James and John as the glory of His divinity flashed through His body and His clothing. This glory was always with Jesus. The wonder of it was that it was repressed. Jesus did not add anything to his nature at the Transfiguration that He did not always possess. He merely revealed Who He already was. He was always divine and at the Transfiguration His divine glory was revealed. It flashed through His physical body.”

Jesus Christ was transfigured and it revealed that which He already possessed… the glory that was within Him. When God created man, He took special care to create mankind in His image. We might feel pressure to conform and be like the crowd. But truly living a Christ-centered life can free us from those pressures and help us transform into the best Christians we can be. Our own personal transfiguration will simply reveal what God bestowed upon us from the beginning.

So, this year… be transfigured. But choose to be transfigured through the Holy Sacraments, Holy Scripture, prayers, worship, youth activities, service projects, etc. instead of the ever-changing standards of society.

Here are some questions to ponder:
1) Is the image I portray to others who I really am?
2) Is the image I portray to others who God really wants me to be?
3) In what ways can I transform to show that I am created in the image of God?
4) What things make it difficult for me to really transform into a strong Christian?
5) If I change in positive ways, how will that change or affect the people around me?

**OCF “College Student Sunday”**

*September 15, 2013*

It's that time of year again. As Orthodox students arrive on college campuses, OCF is already in high gear, organizing resources and programs to help our students stay connected to Christ and His Church. On Sunday, September 15th, parishes across North America are invited to celebrate College Student Sunday and recognize the college students of their communities.

OCF is on college campuses to make sure young adults have a safe and reliable 'home away from home.' Through fellowship with other Orthodox students and a connection to an Orthodox Chaplain, students come together on campus and participate in worship, social activities, educational conferences, such as College Conference, and service projects like Real Break.

To learn more about how parishes can celebrate “College Student Sunday” please visit [www.ocf.net](http://www.ocf.net) or email info@ocf.net. Please know that the parish relationship plays a crucial role in keeping college students connected to the Church and growing closer to Christ during their most formative years.
Philoptochos News

By Margaret Yates—President

Philoptochos chapters throughout the Metropolis are in a period of transition. Elections were held in May for the 2013-2015 period and many chapters are under new leadership, with the outgoing president serving as Advisor. Our National Philoptochos has steadily been going green, so this year election results sent in for chapter ratification were submitted electronically.

Even though most chapters have not met during the summer months, Philoptochos has not taken a summer break. Chapters have continued with their philanthropic endeavors while also gearing up for the beginning of the Ecclesiastical year.

At the National Board Meeting in Boston in April, a two-pronged attack to assist our brothers and sisters in Greece and Cyprus was discussed. So as not to burden Philoptochos chapters, National Board members were asked to plan and host a fundraising activity. In our Metropolis, Anne Feles organized a Girls Night Out at the Birmingham Country Club. Not surprising, the twenty-two guests arrived to find a room elegantly decorated by Anne and enjoyed an evening of great food (it was outstanding) and fellowship. The “second prong” was to include Philoptochos chapters throughout the country: each chapter was asked to host a coffee hour after the Liturgy on September 22nd to help raise funds to assist our brethren. It is expected that every chapter will participate in this endeavor.

The Philoptochos in Farmington Hills recently held a salad luncheon to raise funds for Civic Concern, partnering with Kohl’s Department Store through a program called “Kohl’s Cares for Kids”. Civic Concern provides peanut butter and jelly in the summer months for children who need food. Kohl’s contributed $500 to the partnership, and an additional $1300 was raised at the luncheon.

We are looking forward to the Metropolis Clergy-Lay Assembly and Philoptochos Conference be held in Cincinnati on September 26-28. We hope that all Philoptochos chapters will be represented at the conference, as everyone’s input is important and welcomed. Our membership grew by 101 members in 2012 and we want this trend to continue.

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Philoptochos Donations

♦ $6400 FROM “GIRLS NIGHT OUT” FOR AID TO GREECE AND CYPRUS
♦ HOLY CROSS IN FARMINGTON HILLS, MI
$1800 AND 70 JARS OF PEANUT BUTTER AND JELLY FOR CIVIC CONCERN

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MEFGOX News

By Theodore Niforos—President

On July 10-14, MEFGOX officers traveled to Charlotte, North Carolina for the annual meeting of the National Forum of Greek Orthodox Church Musicians. There, with the representatives of the other seven Church Music federations, we learned and offered our own ideas on providing assistance to our clergy, choirs, chanters, youth music directors, and other church musicians. Among many efforts, the Forum, with the Department of Religious Education of our Archdiocese, will be working on offering a new Sunday School curriculum incorporating our traditional church hymns with the lessons.

On July 17, we repacked our suitcases and went to Cincinnati for the annual MEFGOX convention, attended by musicians from parishes of both Metropolises, which concluded on Sunday, July 21, with the combined choir singing the Second Liturgy of Chris Zervos (Holy Trinity, Toledo), directed by Evey Simon (St. Nicholas, Troy). The convention included some superb Church Music Institute (CMI) learning sessions, which are funded by the Forum under a grant from Leadership 100. His Eminence, Metropolitan Nicholas, gave an enriching hands-on presentation on the preparation of the Holy Gifts during Orthros. Fr. Stavros Akrotirianakis, of St. John, Tampa, talked very meaningfully to us on the relationships between clergy and choirs. Vocal techniques were very ably demonstrated by Anna Maria Miller, of Holy Trinity, Nashville. Finally, Richard Barrett, of Holy Apostles, Indianapolis, a fine tenor, spoke on chanting in the Third Mode.

At our banquet, MEFGOX granted five memorial scholarships to young musicians from parishes in Michigan, Ohio and Pennsylvania. We also received $2,000 in donations for our scholarship fund at the banquet; more information on these efforts on our web site, www.MEFGOX.org.

I was honored to be re-elected as President, as were the other returning officers: Vice-President Dan Packis, St. Demetrios, Rocky River, Ohio; Secretary Vicki Pappas, Holy Trinity, Carmel, Indiana; and, Treasurer Peter Vatsures, Annunciation, Columbus, Ohio.
One of the most famous lighthouses on the Atlantic Coast was in danger of falling into the ocean. In 1999, the Cape Hatteras Light Station, was moved 2,900 feet from the spot on which it had stood since 1870. The years of beach erosion was the culprit. It would have worn away at the sand eventually weakening and compromising the once firm foundation upon which this beacon to the marine world stood for 129 years.

In Matthew 5:14, when our Lord Jesus says: “You are the light of the world,” we can see a parallel, comparing our lives as a Christian to the plight of the Cape Hatteras Lighthouse. The Christian who is reflecting God’s light is a guide to those around him. The lighthouse stands high above the firm foundation providing the lighted way to those lost in the storm. We too as Christians can be the lighthouse beacon to those people who are confused and diluted by the darkness of the society as we too stand on the firm foundation of our Faith.

The Atlantic Ocean waves were wearing away at the bricks and mortar of the base of the lighthouse. We live in a society where the movies, television, magazines and even special interest groups are acting on our firm Christian foundation, barraging us with their messages that are far from our Scriptural teachings and the Truth of the Word of God.

The lighthouse was moved and the foundation was rebuilt and made stronger. We have the wonderful blessing of strengthening our foundations though our life in Christ. We can strengthen our foundation though our prayer life, through our Scripture study, through our fasting, confession and preparations for the Sacraments of the Church, not the least of which is the Holy and Pure Body and precious Blood of our Lord: the Eucharist.

In the Divine Liturgy, the Priest kisses the Holy Gifts on the Altar Table saying: “I love You, Lord, my strength. The Lord is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer.” It is a simple affirmation of Faith and a prayer. It reminds us of the firm foundation that each of us can depend on as we look to the Lord Jesus as our strength, rock, fortress and deliverer.

“You are the light of the world,” providing clarity and Truth to a confused society. Thousands of ships have been saved since the current Cape Hatteras beacon has steadfastly beamed above the storm pitched waters of the Atlantic. Let the light of Christ so shine through you into your world. As we come together as Christians illuminating our little corner of the world, we can provide the light of God’s Love and Mercy to a world so desperately in need.
Friends of the Metropolis

Donors list as of June 30, 2013

+His Eminence
Metropolitan Nicholas

**Ann Arbor, MI - St. Nicholas**
St. Nicholas Parish
St. Nicholas Philoptochos
St. Nicholas GOYA
Daniels, Tony and Clevie
Yates, Bill and Margaret

**Bloomfield Hills, MI - St. George**
Tate, Jay and Angelina

**Buffalo, NY - Annunciation**
Christakis, Fr. Christos and Presbytera Lisa
Kallis, Fr. Perikles and Presbytera Cassandra

**Carmel, IN - Holy Trinity**
Holy Trinity Philoptochos
Carlson, David
Filis, Anthony and Marian
Mudis, Wendy
Pappas, Victoria

**Cincinnati, OH - Holy Trinity-St. Nicholas**
Assaley, Lewis and Patricia

**Detroit, MI - Annunciation Cathedral**
Annunciation Pioneers
Gaggos, James and Mary

**Farmington Hills, MI - Holy Cross**
Hountalas, Fr. Dean and Presbytera Olga
Boudouris, Constantino
Casoglos, Thomas and Mary

**Fort Wayne, IN - Holy Trinity**
Gogos, George and Eleftheria
Koulionas, Dionysios and Maria
Maggos, Eleftherios and Paraskevi
Spirou, Arthur and Mary

**Grand Blanc, MI - Assumption**
Assumption Parish
Hountalas, John

**Indianapolis, IN - Holy Apostles**
Holy Apostles Parish

**Ithaca, NY - St. Catherine**
Bantuvanis, Ann A.
Bezirganian, John

**Lansing, MI - Holy Trinity**
Holy Trinity Philoptochos
Evanoff-Joseph, Yvonne
Gavrildes, Nick and Dana
Pascalenos, Olga
Rahib, Margaret

**Lexington, KY - Panagia Pantovasiliissa**
Sawaya, Peter and Kallie

**Little Rock, AR - Annunciation**
Verdisar, Fr. Nicholas and Presbytera Maria
Delfos, Fr. Pierre and Presbytera Harriet
Huckabay, Christopher

**Louisville, KY - Assumption**
Wingenbach, Fr. Gregory
Digenis, Emily

**Marquette, MI - Assumption**
Butler, Michele

**Memphis, TN - Annunciation**
Berends, Fr. James and Anne
Anonymous
Caldwell, Richard
Graves, William and Renee

**Middletown, OH - Sts. Constantine and Helen**
Sts. Constantine and Helen Philoptochos

**Muskegon, MI - Annunciation**
Anton, Ted and Francine
Ladas, Paul and Patricia

**Nashville, TN - Holy Trinity**
Holy Trinity Philoptochos
Hohnholt, Fr. Gregory and Presbytera Sofia
Billo, John and Kassiani
Brown, Michael and Laurie Kerhoulas
Harman, Todd and Dawn
Jabour, Kareem
Lamberson, Lambert and Helen Vaughn, James and Debby

**Nashville, TN - St. John Chrysostom Mission**
Turner, Fr. Parthenios and Presbytera Marion
Courington, Christopher and Shelley
Dozier, Matthew
Marchetti, John and Linda

**Plymouth, MI - Nativity of the Virgin Mary**
Sarelis, Fr. Charles—In Memory of Presbytera Angela Demetriou, Cleo
Randall, Michael and Anne

**Rochester, NY - Annunciation**
Vasho, George and Maria

**Rochester, NY - Holy Spirit**
Gesell, Melody

**Saginaw, MI - St. Demetrios**
St. Demetrios Parish
Bazakis, Andrew and Ann
Caldwell, Larry and Peggy

**Southgate, MI - St. George**
St. George Parish
Cook, Fr. Anthony and Presbytera Elizabeth
Kircos, Angelo and Sophia
Kircos, Louis and Paula
Kontos, John and Marika
Makarounas, Panormitis and Koula
Minton, Nicholas
Vougouklakis, Peter and Christina

**Sterling Heights, MI - St. John**
St. John Choir
Kotsis, Harry and Kathy
Lionas, Jim and Helene
Raphtis, E. Mike and Betty

**Syracuse, NY - St. Sophia**
Kazakis, Elaine

**Toledo, OH - Holy Trinity Cathedral**
Holy Trinity Philoptochos
Damaskos, Fr. Aristotle and Presbytera Debbie
Biernacki, Gerald and Pauline

**Troy, MI - St. Nicholas**
Chalker, Jess and Patricia
Demery, Beck
Malis, Alexis
Morton, George and Hionia
Kamiotis, Stephen P.
Patches, John and Angeliki
Strumbos, Peter W.
Zotos, Gregory

**Vestal, NY - Annunciation**
Gianakouros, Harry and Katerina

**Watertown, NY - St. Vasilios**
St. Vasilios Parish

**Westland, MI - Sts. Constantine and Helen**
Katsarelas, Sophie
Livanos, Demetrios and Connie

**Other Friends**
Bartz, Fr. William and Presbytera Emily
Demetris, Olga (Dolly)
Sisterhood of Presbyteres — In Memory of Presbytera Angela Sarelis
Constantine Georgountzos — In Memory of Presbytera Angela Sarelis
Radulescu, Alexandru and Silvana
COMMEMORATIVE ALBUM
Honoring 2 Lay Persons with Distinguished Service
To their Parishes

METROPOLIS OF DETROIT CLERGY LAITY & PHILOPTOCHOS CONFERENCE
HOLY TRINITY-ST. NICHOLAS CHURCH, CINCINNATI, OHIO
SEPTEMBER 26-28, 2013

ADVERTISMENT INFORMATION

____ BACK COVER $ 1,000 ______ INSIDE BACK COVER $ 750
____ FULL PAGE AD $ 400 ______ HALF PAGE AD $ 225
____ QUARTER PAGE AD $ 125 ______ BUSINESS CARD AD $ 75

PATRON LISTING (Name Only)

____ GOLD PATRON LISTING $ 50
____ SILVER PATRON LISTING $ 35
____ BRONZE PATRON LISTING $ 25

NAME ______________________________________________ PHONE ________________________________

ADDRESS ______________________________________________________________________________________

EMAIL _____________________________________ BUSINESS NAME ____________________________

PATRON LISTING AS YOU WANT IT WRITTEN __________________________________________________________

ADVERTISING DEADLINE: SEPTEMBER 1, 2013.

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: Holy Trinity-St. Nicholas Church
Mail payment, ad form and artwork to: Holy Trinity- St. Nicholas Church
7000 Winton Road, Cincinnati, OH 45224

Criteria for the Honorees to be determined by the local Parish Councils. Please send names of Honorees information to Holy Trinity-St. Nicholas Church, 7000 Winton Road, Cincinnati, OH 45224

ATTENTION: Father William Cassis.
DELEGATE REGISTRATION FORM

PARISH: ______________________________________________________________________________________________

ADDRESS: ____________________________________________________________________________________________

CITY: _____________________________________________________________ STATE: _______ ZIP CODE:___________

#1. Delegate (Priest) Name: _____________________________________________________
   Parish Council Officer Position: Yes __ No __
   Phone: _______________________                ____ I am reserving a box lunch on Saturday

#2. Delegate Name: ____________________________________________________________
   Parish Council Officer Position: Yes __ No __
   Phone: _______________________                 ____ I am reserving a box lunch on Saturday

Use additional forms for additional registrants.
The above names individuals are authorized delegates of our Parish.

__________________________________                                           __________________________________
Parish Priest Signature                                                                   Parish Council Officer Signature

The registration fee is $350 with a discount early registration of $300 for registrations received by August 15, 2013. The full registration fee of $350 per delegate will apply after August 15, 2013.

Mail this form and the Registration fees as follows:
Payable to: Holy Trinity-St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church
7000 Winton Road, Cincinnati, OH 45224

For Archdiocesan Council and Metropolis of Detroit Council Members:
Note: If you are an Archdiocesan Council or Metropolis of Detroit Council member, you are automatically a delegate to the Conference and Parish Priest and Council officer signatures are not required.

I am registering as a member of the Archdiocesan Council _____ Metropolis Council _____

Name: _______________________________________________________________________________________________

Address: ____________________________________________________________________________________________ City: ____________________ State: _____ Zip: ______

NOTE: Please keep a copy of this form for your records.
# PHILOPTOCHOS DELEGATE REGISTRATION FORM

**PARISH:** 

**ADDRESS:** 

**CITY:** ____________________________ **STATE:** _______ **ZIP CODE:** ____________

The President or next-ranking officer of each chapter and two members are the three delegates. Each delegate is entitled to one vote.

**Name of Delegate:** ____________________________  
(President or Executive Board Member)

**Address:** ____________________________  
City: ____________  State: ____ Zip: ______

**Phone Number:** Home ____________ Work ____________ Reserve a box lunch _____

**Name of Delegate:** ____________________________

**Address:** ____________________________  
City: ____________  State: ____ Zip: ______

**Phone Number:** Home ____________ Work ____________ Reserve a box lunch _____

**Name of Delegate:** ____________________________

**Address:** ____________________________  
City: ____________  State: ____ Zip: ______

**Phone Number:** Home ____________ Work ____________ Reserve a box lunch _____

_____________________________  _______________________________
Priest’s Signature  Philoptochos President Signature

**Delegates must be in good standing. The registration fee per delegate is $300.** This Delegate Registration Form and check made payable to Holy Trinity-St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church MUST be received by **August 15, 2013.** A Late Fee of $350 will apply after August 15, 2013.

Please mail to: **Holy Trinity-St. Nicholas Greek Church**  
7000 Winton Road, Cincinnati, OH 45224

**NOTE:** Please keep a copy of this form for your records.
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

Send this card in an envelope to:

The Metropolis of Detroit

I am pleased to support the work of Metropolitan Nicholas and the

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

Name __________________________________________Parish Affiliation ________________________________

Address ________________________________________________________________

City ___________________________State _______ Zip Code _____________

☐ Check Enclosed (payable to the Metropolis of Detroit)

☐ Please Charge My Credit Card    ☐ Visa    ☐ MasterCard

Account # ______________________Exp. __________ Signature _________________________Date ______________