Metropolitan’s Message

Beloved in Christ,

It's true, my friends, "we're almost there!"

It seems that every year there is a countdown to the day of Christmas: it is the only holiday for which even the stores help us remember how many days are left before that special day. It is an inexorable march in American culture to this day: Yes, "we're almost there!"

But if we put ourselves back in time, back to the announcement of the Angels to Mary and Joseph that the Christ child would be born — and that they were a part of the plan of God — what would they have thought? As people of faith, Mary and Joseph also experienced the thought that the plan of salvation was coming true: Yes, "we're almost there!"

Even as they prepared to leave their homes so that they might register according to the law, the Spirit of God in their hearts let them know: "We're almost there!"

As two travelers, protected under God's grace, they trekked toward Bethlehem, and as they saw the city from a distance they knew: "We're almost there!"

Together in the stable, as the Christ child was born, Mary and Joseph knew that God's will was being fulfilled. "We're almost there."

And as the Shepherds gave praise and the Magi gifts of worship, they all knew: "We're almost there!"

So now too, we who celebrate the birth of Christ, know that "we're almost there!"

Beloved family in Christ, as you celebrate Christmas and give thanks for your time with each other, please remember that we are all on a journey to God's kingdom, and as we strive to find the little child born in Bethlehem, "we're almost there!"

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

With paternal blessings and prayers,

†NICHOLAS
Metropolitan of Detroit

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As we set about preparing resolutions for the New Year, may I suggest you consider the church music ministry as one of your priorities? Serving in the choir or as a chanter is a special role available to adults and young people alike. It is special because the role of church musicians is a time-honored and integral position that sits squarely within the liturgical life of our Church. Their role is simple and direct: to lead the congregation in prayer, to help establish an atmosphere of worship, to assist the priest in creating a "heaven on earth." In fact, the singers of our Church represent the angels singing praises around the throne of God!

Many people see serving in the choir as the domain of professional musicians, but this is far from the fact. First and foremost, singing our hymns is a way of praying! Every hymn can be traced to the Bible or the prayers of our Church Fathers, and many come directly from the Book of Psalms. Second, most church singers are not professionals, but simply people who enjoy singing and willing to learn more about it. Most choir members do not read music, they learn by rote. Many do not speak or read Greek; phonetics are written when Greek is used. Many say they don’t have time, but in reality, singing during the Divine Liturgy occurs when you are already in church; rehearsals vary, sometimes for about an hour or so; sometimes on Sundays, and others, periodically.

But the real truth about using your “time and talents” is the benefit of being involved in a church music ministry. As a choir member or chanter, you are an active participant in the services and you are making a meaningful contribution to your parish. Think of what Sunday Liturgies would be like without hymn-singing — our services are nearly 100% sung, chanted, or cantillated! We can also learn more about our faith through hymn-singing — our hymns teach us basic tenets of Orthodoxy (“Only Begotten Son and Word of God...”); they tell us of the lives of the saints we celebrate each day (“O Father, God-bearer, Spyridon, you were proven a champion and Wonder Worker of the First Ecumenical Council”); and they guide us through the feast days of the liturgical year (“On this day the Virgin comes to a cave to give...”)
Youth News
By Eva Kokinos—Konstantakos
Metropolis Youth Director

Remembering the TRUE Reason for the Season!
The Feast of the Nativity of Christ is right around the corner. Many of us have shopping lists ready to go. One-by-one, we check off each gift on the list. But have we made a checklist of things we should do for our spiritual lives and for our neighbor? Here are five simple ways we can recapture the true spirit of this feast. Don’t worry… you don’t have to do all of these things BEFORE Christmas! We can and should remember the true meaning of Christmas before AND after December 25th!

HOPE – In today’s society, with all of the suffering and tragedy that happens on a daily basis, it is easy to give up on hope. Hope is more than a general concept… It is a deeply-rooted faith that the impossible is possible through Christ. CHALLENGE: Regardless of what happens during your day, trust in God and have faith and hope in His mercy and love. “I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.” (Philippians 4:13)

CHARITY – During the Christmas season, we get caught up in all of the things we will “get” for Christmas. However, this is a time to remember the ultimate gift… Christ Himself. The Magi did not come to ask Jesus for gifts. Instead they came and offered gold, frankincense, and myrrh. CHALLENGE: Take a portion of your shopping budget to donate to a charity or purchase something for a needy family. “Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me.” (Matthew 25:40)

LOVE – Sometimes we have grudges, or anger, or struggles that make it hard to love our families or our neighbor. But during the Christmas season, those things tend to fade away… even if for a few days. This is the season where we can truly remember that it is because of God’s love that we were given the Savior. So maybe we can return the favor CHALLENGE: Make sure to tell family, friends, and those who are dear to you that you love them. We never realize how important those three words (I love you!) can be to someone else. “And now abide faith, hope, love, these three; but the greatest of these is love.” (1 Corinthians 13:13)

PEACE – We hear tragic news every single day… shootings, protests, crime, etc. There is turmoil throughout the world. In fact, there is even turmoil in our own families. But the Nativity of Christ is that one time of year when, through the Prince of Peace born in Bethlehem, we learn that love is the answer and the peace of eternal life is attainable. CHALLENGE: Keep the peace! Instead of fighting and arguing, take a step back and move away from any discord or confrontation. If we become instruments of peace, we can be an example to others. “Acquire a peaceful spirit and then thousands of others around you will be saved.” (St. Seraphim of Sarov)

WORSHIP – Many of us will get to the stores bright and early to take advantage of the best Christmas sales. We must ask ourselves… are we making that same effort to show up at God’s house, ready to receive the gift of the Lord? The Magi adjusted their travels, coming from far away to witness the Nativity. During Christmas (and all year long) we can follow the example of the Magi… making every effort to be in the presence of the Savior. CHALLENGE: During this Christmas season, start by making the Christmas service THE priority instead of Christmas dinner or opening gifts. The food and the presents will still be there when you return from Church! Also, make a plan (or New Year’s Resolution) to be more active in the Liturgical life of the Church. “For where two or three are gathered together in My name, I am there in the midst of them.” (Matthew 18:20)

Christ is Born! Glorify Him!

2015 Dayton Basketball Tournament
The GOYA of Annunciation Church in Dayton, OH would like to remind you that registration is open for their GOYA Basketball Tournament. Now in its 41st year, this tournament annually hosts approximately 400 GOYAns, along with their advisors. The tournament dates are February 13-15, 2015. Team Registrations will be accepted until January 9, 2015. They are accepted on a “first come-first served” basis. So, do not delay in registering your team. Visit www.daytonannunciation.org for more information or to download important tournament documents. Questions? Please contact Joanne Karras at 937.554.2100 or jochanna@earthlink.net.

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UPCOMING REGIONAL YOUTH EVENTS

January 31—February 1, 2015
GOYA Olympics
Holy Trinity Church—Grand Rapids, MI

February 13-15, 2015
Dayton GOYA Basketball Tournament
Annunciation Church—Dayton, OH www.daytonannunciation.org

February 28, 2015
Upstate NY GOYA Pre-Lenten Retreat
Location: TBA

Check out the entire Metropolis Youth and Young Adult Ministries Calendar. Visit www.detroit.goarch.org/youth/calendar
Philoptochos News
By Margaret Yates—President

Everyone is invited to attend the open house on December 7 as we celebrate the name day of Metropolitan Nicholas, hosted by your Metropolis Philoptochos Board. Later in the week we will host the receptions following the St. Spyridon Vespers and Divine Liturgy on December 11 and 12.

Philoptochos members continue to be busy. Our outreach projects are varied and guided by love and dedication to our mission. In addition to these projects, chapters are in discussion on how to meet the goal of raising the equivalent of $100 per member for the St. Nicholas National Shrine at Ground Zero, while also meeting their National and Metropolis Commitments. National Board members have been assigned as liaisons to each chapter in our Metropolis to assist them when guidance is needed.

As October was Breast Cancer Awareness Month, the Holy Trinity—St. Nicholas Philoptochos in Cincinnati arranged for the UC Health Mammogram mobile van to be at the church on October 18 to screen women for mammograms. Additionally, they sent flyers to local churches inviting them to participate. This was a first time endeavor and was quite successful. The chapter also held an event for Dress for Success and, in addition to providing clothing for women entering the workforce, they raised $1,000.

St. Demetrios in Saginaw welcomed their new priest, Fr. Timothy Cook, and are helping him acclimate to the community. They have been busy making hugging heart pillows for the heart unit at the Covenant Hospital in Saginaw. Because of the economic conditions in the area, they have been more involved in the local community. Their Christmas luncheon and auction is devoted to projects either through the local schools, the local soup kitchen, women’s shelter and for families in need. They will also be taking orders for spanakopita, tiropita and baklava to raise funds for their philanthropy.

The Elpis chapter in Memphis has been collecting food items for the Highland Heights Food Pantry that will be delivered on December 1. They will be selling Thanksgiving dressing and rice pudding, hosting an annual Thanksgiving luncheon for parishioners, packing Blessing Bags for those in need, and feeding those in need in the community through More than a Meal. They are also sponsoring a Blessing of the Pets and hosting a Christmas Eve reception on December 24 following the Christmas Eve Service.

St. Catherine in Ithaca, NY has just committed to the initiative for Feed Our Starving Children and have involved the whole church community in this project. It is very heartwarming to see these partnerships between Philoptochos and either the church or community agencies.

St. Nicholas Philoptochos in Ann Arbor has had an incredibly busy October and November. They made 1100 trays of spanakopita and 450 trays of baklava for their holiday bake sale. In early November they sponsored their annual spaghetti dinner with proceeds used to purchase food certificates for those in need, made and sent dresses for little girls in Africa which were blessed by Fr. Nicolaos Kotsis in Church on November 16, rang the bell for the Salvation Army, made knit hats and scarves for a classroom in a poor section of Ypsilanti, made lap blankets for Arbor Hospice and shopped for warm winter clothing for children through the WARM the Children program. On November 15 they partnered with the Ann Arbor Public Schools Rec and Ed Department in a 5k Run for Rick’s Kids, named after a member of the parish and beloved physical education teacher who succumbed to cancer last year. All monies earned go toward scholarships for youngsters who are unable to participate in sports because their parents are unable to afford it.

These are just a few examples of how Philoptochos reaches out to those in need, as every chapter is involved in trying to make life a little brighter for those less fortunate.

As we celebrate the Nativity of our Lord, we wish everyone a blessed holiday season and a happy and healthy 2015. Our first event of the New Year will be the Vasilopita celebrations throughout the Metropolis.

Philoptochos Donations

CINCINNATI:
- $1,000 DRESS FOR SUCCESS

ANN ARBOR:
- $500 PHILABUNDANCE
- $2094 IOCC SUMMER DRIVE
- $2333 FOOD CERTIFICATES
- $500 RICK’S RUN FOR KIDS
Emmanuel: God with Us
By Father James Honeycutt

For as long as I can remember, the winter holiday season has been my favorite time of year. It still brings to mind images of sitting next to my grandmother’s fireplace with hot cocoa in hand, watching the twinkling lights, playing in the snow, and enjoying traditional Christmas movies with family and friends while hoping for that perfect gift I not-so-subtly suggested to my parents. For a growing number of people in our country today, the Nativity plays no significant role in the holiday, with simple pleasures like those listed above taking the lead as the “reason for the season.” Of course, there is nothing wrong with sharing in such wonderful blessings; and yet, as Orthodox Christians, we must be vigilant in seeing these events through the lens of our faith: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel…”

Emmanuel (or Immanuel) means “God with us” in Hebrew, and it is found in chapters seven and eight of Isaiah; the Gospel of Matthew (1:23) later explains that this was a foreshadowing of the Messiah’s virgin birth. The early leaders of the Church wrestled with the topic of Christ’s divinity and humanity, largely because the prevailing philosophy at the time argued that only spiritual things were good and material things were evil.

One of the earliest heresies was called Docetism (from the Greek word meaning “to seem”). This group argued that God only appeared to be born and suffer in human form, because it was absurd for them to imagine a holy God that would take on an evil material body. This heresy was condemned in the First Ecumenical Council, with Saint John having laid the ground work: “By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God” (I Jn. 4:2, italics mine).

We benefit from the efforts of those who have preceded us—men and women of great faith who assure us, through the Spirit, that we have a God of such overflowing love and compassion that He emptied Himself and fully took on our burdens, to speak with the simple words of a man, literally touch the suffering, redeemed us by His death, and yet remains with us. In the midst of this season’s food, family, and frivolity, we must not forget to turn our attention towards the Lord. As we hear the carol playing in the shopping mall, our hearts sing along: “O come, Thou Day-Spring, come and cheer our spirits by Thine advent here. Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death’s dark shadows put to flight. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.”

MEFGOX News (continued from page 2)

“By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God” (I Jn. 4:2)

Encourage your children to sing hymns at home or in the car more often, and as they get a little older, interest them in joining the choir or learning to chant. As a Church School or Greek School teacher, or a youth leader, you might add some hymn-singing to your classes and activities. As a communicant in the pews, you might simply sub-sing along with the choir. No matter which method you choose, you have the opportunity to grow your faith and make a difference! I hope you take advantage of this magnificent resource our Church provides for us!

On behalf of all the church musicians in our Metropolis, I wish you a Merry Christmas – Καλά Χριστούγεννα – and a Happy New Year!
Friends of the Metropolis

1 January — 30 November, 2014

His Eminence Metropolitan Nicholas

Ann Arbor, MI – St. Nicholas
St. Nicholas Parish
St. Nicholas Philopectochos
Paul, Presbytera Eva
Pliakas, Deacon Vasilios and Diakonissa Kyriakoula
Baldwin, James
Daniels, Tony and Clevie Fry, Jack D.
Garris, Steven and Stamatia Karam, Abe A.
Kinningham, Robert and Vicki Kolias, John and Helen Kussurelis, Peter and Zorene Polopolos, Holly Radwanski, Kurt and Sophia Grias Yates, Billy and Margaret

Binghamton, NY – Holy Trinity
Holy Trinity Parish

Bloomfield Hills, MI – St. George
Abell, Deacon Christopher and Diakonissa Alice Bouchar, Barsoum and Joanna Challis, Sylvia Sislock, Stella Sisson, Rocky and Connie

Buffalo, NY – Annunciation
Annunciation Parish
Annunciation Youth Council Christakis, Fr. Christos and Presbytera Lisa Kallis, Fr. Perikles and Presbytera Cassandra Anas, Alexandros and Tina Bechakas, Nick and Gina Blakeslee, Ronald and Maria Gianiodis, Barbara Koutsandreass, Milton and Sophia Kuvshinoff, Boris and Barbara Pavlakis, Peter and Elizabeth Phufas, Thomas and Ellene Skaros, Nikolaos and JoAnn Surls, Virginia

Carmel, IN – Holy Trinity
Holy Trinity Parish
Holy Trinity Philopectochos Holy Trinity Choir Bartz, Fr. William and Presbytera Emily Mamalis, Presbytera Janet Andros, Cheryl Antonopoulos, Dean Apostoles, Stacey E. Bagios, Jim and Marika Bakas, James and Tamilyn

Baker, Dan J.
Batalis, Melanie Bekas, Kathy Michalarias Boutselis, Alex and Andrea Carlson, David Catavolos, George and Tona Christoff, Bill and Karen Christy, Nancy Churchill, William and Patricia Conrad, William and Kathleen Dallas, Christopher and Teresa Dervenis, Nick Dickos, C. Greg Dickos, Theone Dimos, Jim and Kathy Dine, Robert and Diana Doney, Tom and Irene Drukas, Doreen Dunbar, Pete and Lea Eleftheri, Lawrence and Beth Freudenberg, Jim and Cindy George, Charles S. Gounaris, George and Sarina Greis, Chris Hinchaw, Kathleen Hosteller, Duane and Eleny Houseman, Helen Hughes, Anthony and Tula Jannetides, Nick Johnson, Ronald and Sunday Kalyvas, Betty Kapsalis, Andrew Kokinos, Pete and Argie Kollias, Gail Kopsas–Kingsley, Brandie Kouroulis, Mario and Karen Linos, Constantine Lisch, Michael and Jean Martine, Gary and Niki Metaxas, John and Paula Metzger, William and Anita Michelson, Gary Moe, Jeffrey and Panayiota Mudis, Wendy Nicodemus, Wayne Oberlies, Toulia Pancol, Doreen Papakosmas, Alex and Hionoula Pappaoanou, George and Marjorie Pappas, George and Mary Pappas, James Pappas, Leon and Andrea Pappas, Nicholas and Tracy Pappas, Victoria Pasyanos, John and Liberty Pavlakos, Elias and Maria Payne, Martha Pease, Greg and Mary Pease, John and Maria Perry, Kevin and Victoria

Reckas, Menelaos Rowlas, J.L. Sarris, Irene Seat, Tony and Sheri Simopoulos, Greg and Zoi Sofianopoulos, Nick and Vickie Spirrison, Andrew and Michelle Theohares, Nick and Anne Tom, Matt Tridico, Andy and Kristina Vitsas, Constantine Vitsas, James, Jonathan, and Vanessa Vitsas, Sondra Woodruff, Jim and Cindy Young, Michael and Helen Young, Steven and Irene Zeheralis, Gail

Chattanooga, TN – Annunciation
Annunciation Parish Ballas, Fr. Stavros and Presbytera Thea Ballas, Aspasia Bougdanos, Maria Bouloukos, Dino and Maria Dimopoulos, Dennis and Barbara Dimopoulos, George and Brigitte Etherton, Wayne and Yolanda Fotiadi, Nicky Fox, Ann Gulas, Venetia Hadgu, Akberet and Berih Awala Hopper, Richard and Chrisi – In Memory of Tom Zaferes Jones, Helen K. Kosmidis, Alex Kouris, George Mena, Michael Moore, Trey and Fannie Mousourakis, John and Donna Pagnani, Anthony and Irene Ramsey, Karen Tigiros, Elias and Sharon Trohanis, Bill Vassiliev, Mikhail

Cincinnati, OH – Holy Trinity/St. Nicholas
Holy Trinity – St. Nicholas GOYA Redmon, Fr. William and Presbytera Elizabeth Apostolides, Vasso Assaley, Lewis and Patricia Beltso, Sam – Price Hill Chili Brown, William Carey, Efstratia Carumpalos, Constantine Galanes, George Kanaris, Irene Landers, Lauren Perdikakis, Gus and JoAnn Raptis, James and Maria Siegel, August C. Spanorigas, Nicholas Stringas, Emanuel Wright, Duane and Stacy

Friends of the Metropolis

DONATE
Grand Blanc, MI – Assumption
Assumption Parish
Assumption Philoptochos
Daughters of Penelope – Iris Chapter
#242
Brown, Andy
Chinonis, Dennis E. and Debra
Chinonis, John and Linda
Chinonis, Nancy and Jeff Lauster
Chinonis, Sandra
Costa, John and Laura
Greenberg, Camellia
Hountalas, Dimitri
Hountalas, Ioannis
Jonascu Family
Kalatzis, Athena
Kallis, Agape
Kalousis, John and Karen
Komodromos, Tessie
Lowe, Ted and Ann
Mandelaris, John and Pauline
Martorelli, Sophia
Mersinas, Chrysafis G.
Politis, George and Rita
Potso, Emanouil
Steinhoff, Georgia
Yeotis, Catherine

Grand Rapids, MI – Holy Trinity
Holy Trinity Parish
Bogdan, Fr. James and Presbytera Joan
Cassisi, Deacon George and
Diakonissa Vicki
Afendoulis, Angelynn
Afendoulis, Chris and Phyllis
Afendoulis, Cynthia
Afendoulis, Katherine
Anton, Gust
Cassisi, James and Christine
Christopoulos, Peter and Maria
Crosier, Ronald and Susan
Fotieo, Themis and Linda
Karatsinis, Spiro and Paulette
Missler, Stephen and Maria
Monoyios, Terry and Akrivi
Nicholas, James and Georgia
Richardson, Patrick
Sellas, Chrisa
Theodore, Mary G.
Triant, Linda
Vander Schel, Connie
VanKuiken, Raymond and Marilyn
Zarafonetis, Stratton

Indianapolis, IN – Holy Apostles
Holy Apostles Parish
Parthenakis, Fr. Thomas and
Presbytera Cathy
Bantuvanis, Ann
Bezirganian, John
Lambrou, Gus and Family

Jamestown, NY – St. Nicholas
St. Nicholas Parish
Cheronis, James and Christine
Gertska, Thomas
Giopulos, John and Shirley

Kalamazoo, MI – Assumption
Cavas, Anastasia
Doe, Joseph and Alice
Ingalls, Bob and Andriana
Stamos, Peter

Lansing, MI – Holy Trinity
Holy Trinity Philoptochos
Sietsema, Fr. Mark and
Presbytera Katherine
Anonymous
Evanoff–Joseph, Yvonne
Farran, Richard and Pamela
Frangos, Philip and Tula
Gavrilides, Nick and Dana
Gavrilis, Dimitrios and Jane Arnold
Heos, Pamela
Hilliard, Charles
Munk, Jerry and Jan
Pascalenos, Olga
Perentesis, Stephanie
Platsis, George J.
Papgooris, Peter
Rahib, Margaret
Sinadinos, James P.
Skorich, Dan
Spalding, Robert and Eleanor
Tolas, George
Tolas, Petro
Vlahakis, Louis and Mary

Lexington, KY – Panagia Pantovasillissa
Kiriacopoulos, Ken and Kate
Radulescu, Vlad and Aurelia

Little Rock, AR – Annunciation
Annunciation Parish
Verdasar, Fr. Nicholas and
Presbytera Maria
Delfos, Fr. Pierre and Presbytera Harriet
McCoy, Terry and Crystal
McDowell, James
Mice, Dragi
Pappas, James and Eva
Tyer, Gordon and Martha
Verdasar, John and Marlene
Vratsinas, Gus and Irene

Louisville, KY – Assumption
Boukis, Fr. Jon and Presbytera Doreece
Wingenbach, Fr. Gregory C.
Adams, Sam and Thelma
Blackford, Charles and Patricia
Caneris, Thomas and Joanna
Geromes, Marcus and Nancy
Leathers, Ryan and Laura
Lococo, Christina
Makris, Mary

Zafieres, Patricia J.

Dayton, OH – Annunciation
Emroll, Fr. Mark and Presbytera Ginny
Accu-Grind and Manufacturing Co.
Castleman, Maria
Gustin, Eileen
Jannides, Michael
Moraite, John
Valassaiades, John and Evanthia

Detroit, MI – Annunciation Cathedral
Annunciation Cathedral Philoptochos
Annunciation Cathedral Pioneers
Annunciation Parish Council
Annunciation Choir
Annunciation Sunday School
Manias, Fr. George and Presbytera
Maria
George, Fr. Athanas and
Presbytera Jeanne
Bennert, Constance
Bertolus, Sevasti
Chengges, Steven
Gaggos, Harry and Irene
Gaggos, Jim and Mary
Gaggos, Mary
Glikis, Mary
Inempolidis, Evelyn
Kazolis, Koula
Lianos, Ethel
Lianos, William and Kim
Pervanis, Koula
Politis, Dean
Tapazoglou, Nicolaos and Christine

Elmira, NY – St. Athanasios
St. Athanasios Parish
Scott, Fr. Richard

Farmington Hills, MI – Holy Cross
Holy Cross Parish
Holy Cross Philoptochos
Hountalas, Fr. Dean and Presbytera
Olga
Andris, Theodore and Eleni
Anonymous
Boudouris, Constantino and Joanne
Brock, Angel
Casoglos, Thomas and Mary
Fekaris, Steve and Betty
Ganas, James
George, John and Debbie
Hountalas, Chris
Liadis, Kathleen
Nuechterlein, Lanny and Andrica
Pesaros, Panayotis and Sonia
Rafail, Chris and Angelynn
Shukla, Margarita

Fort Wayne, IN – Holy Trinity
Collis, Eva
Maggos, Eleftherios and Paraskevi
Nakos, Nikos
Spirou, Arthur and Mary

Ithaca, NY – St. Catherine
Parthenakis, Fr. Thomas and
Presbytera Cathy
Bantuvanis, Ann
Bezirganian, John
Lambrou, Gus and Family

Jamestown, NY – St. Nicholas
St. Nicholas Parish
Cheronis, James and Christine
Gertska, Thomas
Giopulos, John and Shirley

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Presbytera Katherine
Anonymous
Evanoff–Joseph, Yvonne
Farran, Richard and Pamela
Frangos, Philip and Tula
Gavrilides, Nick and Dana
Gavrilis, Dimitrios and Jane Arnold
Heos, Pamela
Hilliard, Charles
Munk, Jerry and Jan
Pascalenos, Olga
Perentesis, Stephanie
Platsis, George J.
Papgooris, Peter
Rahib, Margaret
Sinadinos, James P.
Skorich, Dan
Spalding, Robert and Eleanor
Tolas, George
Tolas, Petro
Vlahakis, Louis and Mary

Lexington, KY – Panagia Pantovasillissa
Kiriacopoulos, Ken and Kate
Radulescu, Vlad and Aurelia

Little Rock, AR – Annunciation
Annunciation Parish
Verdasar, Fr. Nicholas and
Presbytera Maria
Delfos, Fr. Pierre and Presbytera Harriet
McCoy, Terry and Crystal
McDowell, James
Mice, Dragi
Pappas, James and Eva
Tyer, Gordon and Martha
Verdasar, John and Marlene
Vratsinas, Gus and Irene

Louisville, KY – Assumption
Boukis, Fr. Jon and Presbytera Doreece
Wingenbach, Fr. Gregory C.
Adams, Sam and Thelma
Blackford, Charles and Patricia
Caneris, Thomas and Joanna
Geromes, Marcus and Nancy
Leathers, Ryan and Laura
Lococo, Christina
Makris, Mary
Friends of the Metropolis

Continued...

1 January — 30 November, 2014

Taber, David and Carol
Taras, Nick and Donna
Vaughn, James Douglas

Nashville, TN – St. John Chrysostom
Turner, Fr. Parthenios and
Presbytera Marion
Pappas, Tom
Pittman, Michael
Waggoner, Michael, Kari, and Thaddaios
Wagner, Charles and Edith

New Buffalo, MI –
Annunciation–Agia Paraskevi
Martin, Fr. Paul and Presbytera Nikki
Anton, Gust J.
Kerhoulas, Mike and Louisa
Lepeniotis, Christos and Anastasia
Litnerski, Robert and Mariann
Martin, Doris
Stotis, Bill

Plymouth, MI –
Nativity of the Virgin Mary
Demetriou, Cleo
Randall, Michael and Anne
Stassinos, Lambros and Helen
Takis, Jerry and Mary – In Memory of
Presbytera Angela B. Sarelis
Zervos, George and Lisa

Rochester, NY – Annunciation
Annunciation Philoptochos
Annunciation GOYA
Mot, Fr. Catalin and Presbytera Felicia
Destounis, Stamatia
Gines, George and Maria
Gkourlias, Athanasios and Jennifer
Hagen, Maria – In Memory of Dimitrios
Georgantopoulos
Markakis, Kathryn
Mokhiber, Amiel Jr.
Sanchez, J. Michael and Dorothea
Stathopoulos, Demetrios and Doris
Stefanou, Constantine and Florence

Rochester, NY – Holy Spirit
Holy Spirit Philoptochos
Cowles, Fr. Patrick and Presbytera Mary
Chipouras, Arthur and Christine
Georgantas, Irene
Gesell, Melody
Lyttle, Douglas

Saginaw, MI – St. Demetrios
Cook, Fr. Timothy and
Presbytera Katherine
Ahejew, Petro and Sandra
Bazakis, Andrew and Ann
Calder, Larry and Peggy
Kelso, Ronald and Constance
Kookoostedes, Gust and Mary
Metropoulos, Pete and Maria
Ostler, Dennis
Rouman, George and Fran

Butler, Michele

Marquette, MI – Assumption
Annunciation Parish
Annunciation Philoptochos
Ahepa – Memphis Chapter #7
Daughters of Penelope – Memphis
Chapter #180
Berends, Fr. James and Presbytera Anne
Vieron, Fr. Nicholas and Presbytera Bess
Austin, Larry
Bagatelas, Todd and Cynthia
Boosalis, Inga
Buchanan, Angela
Bullard, Tim
Bunn, Jan
Caldwell, Richard
Cotros, Charles and Constance
Coulouratis, Jerry and Julia
David, Brent and Suzan
Demos, Chris and Shawn
Dense, Brian and Lisa
Detty, Jackson
Dietz, George and Kristine
Domer, Paul
Douglas, Andrew and Tina
Farrell, Richard and Linda
Fox, Nick and Marty
Futris, Katherine
Futris, Petro
Gallagher, Evangelia
Graves, Alan and Renee
Grayes, Theodore
Hawkins, Charles and Elizabeth
Hong, Tony and Ramona
Hoover, Ken and Vicki
Jennings, Al and Tina
Joyner, Bill and Denise
Kavelaras, Diane
Kennedy, James
Kish, Sarkis and Jenny
Koplin, Jonathan and Pauline
Liollio, Angelo and Tina
Louza, Samya
Matika, Yolanta
McKee, Scott and Weilin
Melonas, Emily
Melonas, Peter and Kathryn
Meng, James and Susan
Moore, Michael and Maria
Morisson, Robert and Kathy
Nicholas, Nick and Linda
Obradovic, Mitch and Linda
Otto, Greg and Elaine
Paris, Dorothy, Evangeline, Anna
Peters, Manuel and Susanna
Poplos, Ted and Stephanie
Ruby, Pete and Katerina
Semos, Vasili and Luane
Sinis, Harry and Magda
Smith, Jimmy and Georgia
Taras, Dimitri and Mary Katherine
Taras, Kosta and Loretta
Tashie, David and Christine
Tashie, George and Cecile
Tashie, Jimmy and Nancy
Tashie, John
Tashie, Judd and Debbie
Terranova, Anastasia
Tobias, Richard and Angela
Touliatos, Joy
Vergos, Alex
Vergos, John and Ellen
Vergos, Tasia
Wassef, Magdi and Amira
Vasiliki, Whitten

Middletown, OH –
Sts. Constantine and Helen
McCormick, Donald and Mary Lou

Muskegon, MI – Annunciation
Annunciation Parish
Annunciation Philoptochos
Honeycutt, Fr. James and
Presbytera Julie
Yankopoulos, Presbytera Ann
Anton, Ted and Francine
Karis, Othon and Kristi
Keat, Peppy
Ladas, Paul and Patricia
Micheil, Richard and Teresa

Nashville, TN – Holy Trinity
Holy Trinity Parish
Hohnholt, Fr. Gregory and
Presbytera Sofia
Billo, John and Kassiani
Boonstra, Sandra
Botsaris, Chris
Brown, Michael and Laurie Kerhoulas
Carden, Kathryn
Davis, Mark and Stephanie
Delvizia, Michael and Rebecca
Gaddis, Jim and Tasoulia
Gaddis, Thoma and Carrie
Gore, James and Stacy
Harman, Todd and Dawn
Hayes, Martin and Litsa
Hnarakis, Emanuel
Lamberson, Lambert and Helen
Malakelis, James and Bethany
Miller, John M.
Rogers, Helen and Lawrence Kamm
Sweeney, Anna

Shuff, Charles
Taylor, Robert
Zady, Madelon

Memphis, TN – Annunciation
Annunciation Parish
Annunciation Philoptochos
Ahepa – Memphis Chapter #7
Daughters of Penelope – Memphis
Chapter #180
Berends, Fr. James and Presbytera Anne
Vieron, Fr. Nicholas and Presbytera Bess
Austin, Larry
Bagatelas, Todd and Cynthia
Boosalis, Inga
Buchanan, Angela
Bullard, Tim
Bunn, Jan
Caldwell, Richard
Cotros, Charles and Constance
Coulouratis, Jerry and Julia
David, Brent and Suzan
Demos, Chris and Shawn
Dense, Brian and Lisa
Detty, Jackson
Dietz, George and Kristine
Domer, Paul
Douglas, Andrew and Tina
Farrell, Richard and Linda
Fox, Nick and Marty
Futris, Katherine
Futris, Petro
Gallagher, Evangelia
Graves, Alan and Renee
Grayes, Theodore
Hawkins, Charles and Elizabeth
Hong, Tony and Ramona
Hoover, Ken and Vicki
Jennings, Al and Tina
Joyner, Bill and Denise
Kavelaras, Diane
Kennedy, James
Kish, Sarkis and Jenny
Koplin, Jonathan and Pauline
Liollio, Angelo and Tina
Louza, Samya
Matika, Yolanta
McKee, Scott and Weilin
Melonas, Emily
Melonas, Peter and Kathryn
Meng, James and Susan
Moore, Michael and Maria
Morisson, Robert and Kathy
Nicholas, Nick and Linda
Obradovic, Mitch and Linda
Otto, Greg and Elaine
Paris, Dorothy, Evangeline, Anna
Peters, Manuel and Susanna
Poplos, Ted and Stephanie
Ruby, Pete and Katerina
Semos, Vasili and Luane
Sinis, Harry and Magda
Smith, Jimmy and Georgia
Taras, Dimitri and Mary Katherine
Taras, Kosta and Loretta
Tashie, David and Christine
Tashie, George and Cecile
Tashie, Jimmy and Nancy
Tashie, John
Tashie, Judd and Debbie
Terranova, Anastasia
Tobias, Richard and Angela
Touliatos, Joy
Vergos, Alex
Vergos, John and Ellen
Vergos, Tasia
Wassef, Magdi and Amira
Vasiliki, Whitten

Middletown, OH –
Sts. Constantine and Helen
McCormick, Donald and Mary Lou

Muskegon, MI – Annunciation
Annunciation Parish
Annunciation Philoptochos
Honeycutt, Fr. James and
Presbytera Julie
Yankopoulos, Presbytera Ann
Anton, Ted and Francine
Karis, Othon and Kristi
Keat, Peppy
Ladas, Paul and Patricia
Micheil, Richard and Teresa

Nashville, TN – Holy Trinity
Holy Trinity Parish
Hohnholt, Fr. Gregory and
Presbytera Sofia
Billo, John and Kassiani
Boonstra, Sandra
Botsaris, Chris
Brown, Michael and Laurie Kerhoulas
Carden, Kathryn
Davis, Mark and Stephanie
Delvizia, Michael and Rebecca
Gaddis, Jim and Tasoulia
Gaddis, Thoma and Carrie
Gore, James and Stacy
Harman, Todd and Dawn
Hayes, Martin and Litsa
Hnarakis, Emanuel
Lamberson, Lambert and Helen
Malakelis, James and Bethany
Miller, John M.
Rogers, Helen and Lawrence Kamm
Sweeney, Anna

Shuff, Charles
Taylor, Robert
Zady, Madelon
Siradakis, Efthios and Beverly

Sault Ste. Marie, MI – St. George
Gianakura, Peter and Georgia

Southgate, MI – St. George
St. George Parish
St. George Philoptochos
Cook, Fr. Anthony and Presbytera Elizabeth
Anonymous
Bass, John and Panagiota
Cranford, Joanne
Hailer, Dorothea
Handrinos, Anastasia
Kircos, Angelo and Sophia
Kircos, Louis and Paula
Kontos, Chris and Frances
Kontos, John and Marika
Kozaitis, Mina
Minton, Barbara
Minton, Charles
Minton, Nicholas
Poulos, George and Marika
Vougliouklakis, Peter and Christina

Springfield, OH – Assumption
Assumption Parish
Chakeres, Pauline
Gianakopoulos, James
Lagos, James H. Lagos Company, Inc.
Lagos, Thomas and Matina

St. Clair Shores, MI – Assumption
Assumption Parish
Assumption Senior Citizens
Varlamos, Fr. Michael and Presbytera Tina
Brennan, Stephanie
Callas, Kalliopi
Caris, Niki
Dallas, John and Beth
Gaggos, George and Anna
Gianopulos, Sam and Georgia
Harlatis, Panagiots
Hatzichronoglou, Helen
Kohl, David and Chrysanthe
Manos, Chris and Kathy
Moschouris, Nick and Vivian
Nichols, Peter and Angela
Niforos, Theodore and Anna
Petrouleas, George
Samaras, Robert
Voudoukis, Ignatiou
Yanoukali, Katherine
Zachary, Ernest
Zingas, Christopher and Marsha
Zoto, Mary

Sterling Heights, MI – St. John
St. John Parish
St. John Choir
St. John GOYA
Kyriltses, Fr. Nicholas
George, Bessie

Karamanos, Peter and Mary
Kotsis, Andrew and Irene
Kotsis, Harry and Katherine
Lionas, James and Helene
Patouhas, Spyros and Katina
Raphtis, Mike and Betty
Salonikas, George and Niki
Souris, Bernice
Tangalos, John and Mary
Tangalos, Philip and Alexandra
Tangalos, Theodore and Mary
Vekos, Gloria

Syracuse, NY – St. Sophia
St. Sophia Philoptochos
Smith, Fr. David and Presbytera Donna
Boucounis, Andrew
Kantor, Walter and Dorothy
Sterio, Dimitri and Krystyna
Theodore, Dorothea
Theodore, Eleanor

Toledo, OH – Holy Trinity Cathedral
Holy Trinity Cathedral
Legakis, Fr. Larry and Presbytera Jennifer
Damaskos, Fr. Aristotle and Presbytera Debbie
Anagnos, Joyce
Ballas, Constantine
Biernacki, Gerald and Pauline
Dedes, George and Mary
Gangas, Angelo
Mupoloupolos, George and Ann
Papadimos, Steven
Photos, Thomas
Sares, George and Margaret
Sieben, Paul and Susan
Yakumithis, Manuel K.
Zervos, Chris and Kalliopi

Traverse City, MI – Archangel Gabriel
Archangel Gabriel Parish
Archangel Gabriel Philoptochos
Strezza, Fr. Ciprian and Presbytera Sinziana
Ealy, Ray and Martha
Psaros, John and Donna
Pomnad, Johnnie and Nicola
Sobkowsi, Nikki
Underwood, Robert and Theresa
Weston, Judith

Troy, MI – St. Nicholas
St. Nicholas Philoptochos
Dalamangas, Fr. Chris and Presbytera Niki
Arms, Steve and Anita
Asher, Michael
Athans, Aristea
Bollas, Jobel
Chalker, Jess and Patty
Constantine George Pappas
Architecture/Planning
Corombos, Mark and Molly

Demery, Beck
Feles, Andrea
Feles, Gust and Anne
Feles, Paul
George, Christian
George, John and Marlo
George, Jordan
Kardasis, Marie
Karras, Irene
Korstanje, Ingmar and Marlo
Kutlich, Anna
Lafer, Mary
Lavrakas, John
Malis, Alexis
Morris, Georgia
Morris, George and Hionia
Patches, Angeliki
Strumbos, Christine
Strumbos, Peter
Yanoulaki, Peter
Zampetis, T.K. Family Foundation
Zographos, Mary

Vestal, NY – Annunciation
Annunciation Parish
Michalopulos, Presbytera Magdalena
Gianakouris, Harry and Katerina
Ivan, James and Lynda
Abdo, Moufid and Anita

Watertown, NY – St. Vasilios
St. Vasilios Parish

Westland, MI – Sts. Constantine and Helen
Saints Constantine and Helen Parish
Saints Constantine and Helen Philoptochos
Petruuti, Fr. Teodor and Presbytera Roxana
Alexander, Alex and Katherine
Angelopoulos, Ioannis and Aspasia
Bogdanos, Connie
Charalambopoulos, Elaine
Chuey, Mark and Jean
Kasotakis, Paul and Nanette
Ochsleus, William and Georgene
Vasiliades, Lynne

Other Friends
Anonymous
Bartz, Presbytera Zafera
Demetris, Olga
Duro, Christian
Metropolis of Detroit Philoptochos
Palmieri, Tony and Lisa
Pappas, Martha
Radelescu, Deacon Alexandru and Diaconissa Silvana
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

I am pleased to support the work of Metropolitan Nicholas and the Metropolis through the Annual Metropolis Stewardship “Friends” Program

☐ $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 __________

Send this card in an envelope to:
The Metropolis of Detroit
2560 Crooks Road, Troy, MI 48084

General: Fully fund the expenses of the Metropolis offices, programs and travels.

Education: Enhance scholarships and adult education programs, as well as support the Metropolis students at Hellenic College/Holy Cross.

Support: Develop and provide educational and instructional seminars and services to clergy and parishes.

Youth: Maintain and support the youth office and activities of a full-time Youth and Young Adult Ministries Director.

Outreach/Missions: Create opportunities to introduce our faith to society, participate in inter-Christian and inter-faith activities as well as provide quick responses to national disasters.

Hellenism: Develop programs for Hellenic Cultural Outreach, including language, history and arts.

Leadership: Organize Metropolis Clergy-Laity Conferences, Oratorical Festivals, Christmas Pageants and Adult Education Programs.

Special Programs: Website development, hospitality to visiting dignitaries and guests, Charity and Philanthropy.