Voice: (585) 244.3377 September 2020

From the Desk of Rev. Fr. Angelo Maggos Parish Registry, Progress Report
Upcoming Church Services and Events

Youth Ministry and Organizations News

From the Desk of Fr. Angelo

The Evolution of Holy Communion

For obvious reasons, two of the most popular videos on our Church's YouTube channel are, "It is Safe to Receive Holy Communion" and "How is Holy Communion prepared", each of which have over 14,000 views. In these videos, I discuss the science and the faith of receiving Holy Communion. In today's climate, this practice has become the topic of much debate with devotees on both sides of the "spoon" issue.

Before any unbiased and rational discussion can begin regarding any changes or modifications to the distribution of Holy Communion, it's important to understand the Church's history regarding the evolution of Holy Communion. To set the tone for this, I want to offer the words of our own Archbishop Elpidophoros on distribution of Holy Communion given in June 2020.

"What is more important for all of us, the [Holy] Communion, the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, or the way we receive the Body and Blood? ...It's not the way, it's the Communion itself that saves us and gives us eternal life. So anything else, like the common spoon, or whatever the Church has been practicing even in the last 1000 years, everything else can change, temporarily or not temporarily. The tradition of the common spoon is not something that is decided by any Ecumenical Council or Synod of Orthodox Churches in the history of the Church...and actually we all know that what's important is that we receive from the Common Chalice not the one common spoon."

These comments by our Archbishop of America tells us that use of the communion spoon is NOT doctrine and, therefore, is open for review.

HISTORY

While many Orthodox are proud of saying we are "the unchanged Church since the Early Church" the reality is that our Orthodox Church has experienced change in her history. Some in response to social changes and some due to practical needs. The use of a spoon for distributing Holy Communion is a classic case of this practicality.

Early Christians, up until about the 7th century, would receive Holy Communion in a manner exactly like the way Orthodox clergy receive today, that is the faithful would receive the Body in their hand and drink from the Chalice. The elements of Holy Communion were received under what we call *separate species*, that is the priest places a portion of the consecrated Bread into the person's hands, and then the person receives the wine directly from the Chalice.

Actually, in the Orthodox Church, once per year, on the Feast Day of St. James, the Brother of our Lord, during the Liturgy we recall this practice and the clergy distributed Holy Communion to the faithful in this way.

However, this method, if not carefully done, can cause accidents, so the Church adopted a new process of using tongs with which the priest would mingle the bread and wine together and place carefully into the

person's mouth. By the 7th century, however the spoon slowly replaced the tongs so that it had become the norm in Orthodox churches by the 11th century.

An interesting and humorous note regarding the use of the spoon is given by the Catholic Cardinal Humbert, the same one who delivered the Bull of Excommunication to the Orthodox Church at the great Church of St. Sophia which led to the Great Schism in which he published a scathing criticism of the communion spoon in 1053 saying that Christ had not told his disciples at the Last Supper to "take this and eat it with a spoon."

CURRENT SITUATION

Ok, so where does that leave us today. Some are asking for another evolution of the distribution of Holy Communion through the use of multiple spoons, disposable spoons, each person bringing their own spoon, or copying the Catholic practice of the Communion wafer, etc. Others hold the ultra-traditionalist view that those who even bring up the question of change are faithless and heretical for even suggesting such a thing.

Before rushing into adopting a change, let's understand the concept of "Byzantine Time." By this I mean, understanding how things happen in the East...slowly, carefully and with much dialogue. I realize that this is VERY alien to a Western mind. Especially here in America where progress in measured in months or weeks.

Now while I'll admit that this is at times very frustrating, my military and corporate experience has shown me that when we rush into a decision without taking proper time out to gather and analyze options *collectively*, those decisions have led to regrets as certain critical issues were overlooked or not considered. What this means then is

- Any decision regarding the current practice must consider both the science and the faith.
- Recognizing that while there are those who are strong in their faith, there are also those who are not as strong and have doubts.

What does not help guide a logical and well thought plan are extremist statements like, "There is no way you can get sick from receiving communion." "...to continue to accept that you cannot obtain a disease from Communion borders on medieval dementia and reflects sadness about feared financial losses."

The Church must as St. Paul says, "...became weak, to win the weak. I have become all things to all people so that by all possible means I might save some." (1 Cor 9:22)

I'd like to close with the words of Bishop Zizioulas, a well-respected modern day Orthodox theologian who reminds us that the Church has a responsibility to minister to ALL people, those who have great faith AND those who are weak in the faith saying, "Personally, I would like and desire that the faithful have no fear (from the Holy Communion). I consider that the Body and Blood of Christ is truly the receiving of medicine immortality and I don't think it is dangerous. However...., since there is already fear among a group of faithful, we must avoid scandalizing them. The Church must find a solution for them as well, to meet their needs, in order to avoid accusations that we Christians transmit infections or disease."



By Alexei Krindatch (akrindatch@aol.com), Coordinator National Census of Orthodox Christian Churches / 2020 US Religion Census Holy Communion during the Pandemic

in American Orthodox Parishes

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Holy Communion is the pivotal point of the Orthodox Christian worship experience. This Sacrament has been traditionally served with the same spoon and from a common chalice for all faithful present at the Liturgy. The spread of COVID-19 has made many church members apprehensive about continuing to use a common spoon, and a number of parishioners have stopped receiving Holy Communion out of fear of contagion. Consequently, some American Orthodox jurisdictions, dioceses, and parishes have introduced various temporary changes in administering the Eucharist. This report examines the wide range of questions related to these changes through the eyes of Orthodox parish clergy. Each chapter can be read separately depending on the reader's particular interests. The study was initiated by the Orthodox Theological Society in America (www.otsamerica.org).

Data were gathered July 21-31, 2020, via an online survey of 609 parish priests representing all Orthodox jurisdictions and from all parts of the country. The following major subjects are discussed in the report:

- The impact of the pandemic on participation of parishioners in the Sacrament of Holy Communion
- New ways of administering the Holy Communion in various American Orthodox jurisdictions
- How parishes distribute Holy Communion to parishioners who cannot attend worship services
- Clergy's opinions about what is and is not acceptable with regard to different methods of offering the Holy Communion
- Personal ideas of the priests about possible new ways of administering this Sacrament

Several open-ended questions allowed us to learn about unique experiences of local parish communities, as well as personal opinions of the clergy about serving Holy Communion during the pandemic. This report includes both an analysis of answers to these open-ended questions and numerous direct quotations.

Data and findings are presented for all parishes combined and individually for the following jurisdictions: Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese, Greek Orthodox Archdiocese, Orthodox Church in America, Russian Orthodox Church Outside of Russia.

A few examples of key results are given below:

- By the end of July 2020, about half (47%) of all US Orthodox parishes continued to administer the Holy
 Communion exactly the same way as they did prior to the pandemic. But the percentage of such
 parishes varies greatly from jurisdiction to jurisdiction. The parishes of the Greek Orthodox
 Archdiocese (GOA, 61% of parishes) and, especially, of the Russian Orthodox Church Outside of
 Russian (ROCOR, 70%) adhere most strongly to serving Holy Communion in a traditional manner. On
 the contrary, in the Orthodox Church in America (OCA), only one-quarter (25%) of parishes have
 retained the traditional way of administering the Eucharist.
- The practice of having multiple reusable spoons (one per communicant) is presently being used by 12% of all American Orthodox clergy and is most common in the OCA (25% of clergy).
- A number of parishes simultaneously offer multiple options (sometimes, by using two chalices) so that
 parishioners can choose how to commune, depending on their preferences and personal circumstances.
- Over one-third (36%) of the clergy reported that they "have found ways to offer Holy Communion to
 all or most parishioners: even outside of Liturgy and/or the parish." These clergy were asked to
 describe how they distribute Holy Communion to parishioners who are not present at worship
 services. The report offers an analysis of their responses.
- The manner of administering Holy Communion in a parish is related to the likelihood that its parishioners will refrain from receiving this Sacrament. More than half of the clergy who use either the traditional approach to offering Holy Communion (one spoon and with lips closing on the spoon) or the "one spoon tilt head back don't close the lips" method have reported that some members have stopped receiving Holy Communion out of fear of disease transmission (53% and 68%, respectively). In comparison, only 41% of the priests who sanitize spoons between communicants and 39% of the priests who use multiple reusable spoons (one per communicant) have noted that parishioners are abstaining from Holy Communion.

• Majority (55%) of the clergy believe that "participation in the Holy Communion is critical, but not the manner of its distribution," while one-third (33%) of the priests disagree with this view (the remaining 12% have no clear opinion about this matter). However, this overall national picture is much more nuanced when looking separately at various jurisdictions. In the GOA and OCA, the clergy who believe that "participation in the Holy Communion is critical, not the manner of its distribution" hugely outnumber those who disagree with such approach. But this is not the case in ROCOR, where percentages of the supporters and opponents of this statement are comparable, or the Antiochian Archdiocese, where more clergy oppose this statement than agree with it.

- The use of multiple reusable spoons (one per communicant) is viewed as acceptable by 40% of US
 Orthodox clergy. Among the clergy of the four individual jurisdictions, an absolute majority of OCA
 priests (56%) are willing to accept this method as compared to 36% of Antiochian, 32% of GOA, and
 22% of ROCOR clergy. Overall, clergy in the Orthodox Church in America are more willing to accept
 various new methods of administering the Holy Communion than the clergy of other jurisdictions.
- Clergy were asked: "Would you suggest any other possible method of administering the Holy Communion?" This report offers an overview of the most interesting suggestions offered by the respondents.

CHURCH OPERATION PROCEDURES DURING COVID - FACT SHEET

The following represent a set of guidelines for us to following to reopen our church and maintain conformance to current State and Metropolis guidelines. This Fact Sheet highlights the most critical aspects of church operation while COVID precautions remain in place. FOR COMPLETE DETAILS ON OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES PLEASE REFER TO THE FULL CHURCH OPERATIONAL POLICY THAT IS POSTED ON OUR CHURCH WEBSTIE at annunciation rochester.org.

All requirements presented here are considered mandatory for each parishioner working, visiting or worshipping here at Annunciation.

1. GENERAL CHURCH ATTENDANCE GUIDELINES

- State and Metropolis guidelines require us to record the names and phone numbers of each attendee at every service in the event that a subsequent infection requires tracing.
- Currently we are maintaining a 25% occupancy rate which for our church is 125 persons. This is currently the
 Metropolis mandate. As church attendance increases, we will adapt some type of reservation process to ensure
 we maintain this occupancy rate.
- All on-site Religious Education (Sunday School) and Greek School are suspended until further notice.

2. POLICY DURING ANY SERVICES

- Before entering church, the temperature of each person will be taken by a designated person. If the temperature
 is above 100.4°, they will politely be asked to return to their home.
- All monetary offers for donations will only be accepted at the Narthex in the tray.
- Please restrict your movement during the time services are being conducted and masks are required any time you
 are not seated.

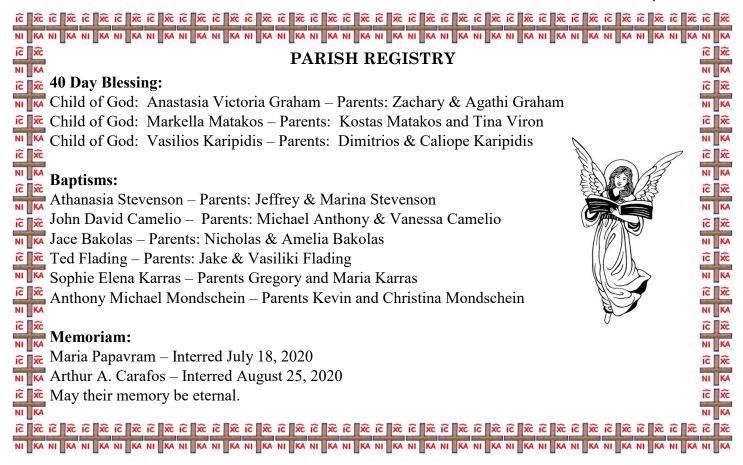
3. DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

- Communicants must line up row by row to be released by a Narthex attendant. You must remain six feet apart as
 designated by social distancing X's that have been placed in the church.
- Masks may only be removed momentarily to receive Holy Communion.
- The red communion cloths will not be used. In its place, a napkin will be handed to the parishioner for their personal use, which will be discarded after receiving Holy Communion in a provided receptacle.
- The communion spoon will be sanitized in boiling water after EACH use by the communicant.
- · Antidoron will be distributed in plastic bags at the end of the service.

4. AFTER SERVICES

- Clergy will wear a mask during distribution of Holy Communion and mask and gloves when distributing antidoron
 and will not offer their hands for reverence.
- There will be no shaking of hands or hugs.
- Sunday Coffee Fellowship hours are suspended until further notice.

CHURCH SANCTUARY, ALTAR AND NARTHEX AREAS WILL BE CLEANED AND SANITIZED BETWEEN EACH SERVICE IN ACCORDANCE WITH CDC GUIDELINES, ESPECIALLY OBJECTS THAT ARE ROUTINELY TOUCHED, LIKE DOOR HANDLES OR PEWS.



EVENTS:

- 7 September Labor Day Office closed
- 8 September Divine Liturgy Nativity of the Theotokos, 10:00 AM
- 14 September Divine Liturgy Exaltation of the Holy Cross, 9:00 AM -- Note we have changed the time
- 15 September Good News Submission articles
- 27 September Executive Philoptochos Board Meeting 12:00 PM
- 28 September Golf Tournament at Cobblestone Creek Country Club Tee time begins at 8:00 AM
- 30 September Joint Paraklisis at Annunciation, 6:00 PM
- 12 October Columbus Day
- 15 October Good News submission articles
- 19 October thru October 31 Father Compassionate Leave

HALL RENOVATION PLEDGE DONORS TO DATE

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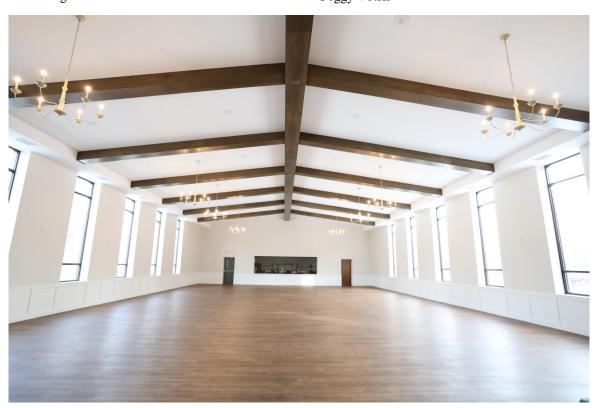
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Philoptochos Society

Peggy Votsis



PHILOPTOCHOS

Dear Annunciation Family,

The last seven months have surely been a whirl wind. Many of you, including myself, have certainly been wondering what the heck is up with all of the happenings not only in our own personal lives but in our communities and not to mention the universe. The planet has tuned itself upside down and off its axis. As we begin the new liturgical calendar on September first, it has brought us back to full circle with the Birth of the Theotokos on September 8th. With that in mind, we as a family will begin to ponder and exam what our next steps will be. These steps that we will take, lead us to the possibility of some of us returning to church, our children and grandchildren going back to school, colleges and universities trying to establish their new norms. Work schedules altered to fit the needs of our current situation.

Philoptochos too must grasp and see what its next steps will be according to its environment. This environment at this time continues with no end in sight. I, on the other hand, hope that as the Birth of the Theotokos begins in September, the ladies of Philoptochos will start a new chapter for the 2020-2021 year. This will not be easy but We as a community will rise to the occasion.

As we enter the fall season, it's unfortunate that Philoptochos is unable to gather for its traditional 3M's (Mezedethes, Membership, Mimosos). We ask that you continue to be current with your dues. Please reach out to Maria Economides at (671-4034). We look forward to this event in the year 2021. For those that are not in Philoptochos but would like to support the Ladies Of Philoptochos, please send in your donation to Maria too. Mail to: 23 Blue Pine Cir., Penfield, NY 14526.

With that said, we will continue to follow all CDC rules and Annunciation guidelines in regards to the famous Philoptochos Bake Sale which we hope will be on November 22, 2020, the Sunday before Thanksgiving. Philoptochos will keep you updated.

Please keep a look out for the beautiful flyers and posters created by our very own parishioner and designer Jordan Testa, at *jordannerissa thoughtful design studio* www.jordannerissa.com

The Tsourekia sales were a great hit during the Panagia Service weekend of August 15, 2020. We thank all those that purchased the tsourekia during that time. All 104 tsourekia were sold that weekend. Thank you for your support.

God Bless America and the Annunciation on East Avenue. President-Niki Chamberlain

Religious Education Update – SEP 2020

Unfortunately, the continuing presence of COVID continues to restrict Religious Education (Sunday School) for our kids. In consultation with the Metropolis of Detroit, the decision stands that no on-site classroom education can be conducted for either Sunday School or Greek School.

Therefore, until we can resume classes I will continue with the **Kid's Sunday Sermon video** starting in September. As I mentioned in our August newsletter, this was well received during the time when our church was shut down for COVID and we were averaging between 70-90 views. This is great as we are reaching 70-90 families and their children each week to help educate them on our Orthodox Faith.

Our Religious Education teachers have now provided us a list of topics for the entire school year so that our videos will follow that guideline, at least until we can return to the classrooms.

Our Tuesday (7pm) Zoom Bible Discussion continues to work well, averaging about 10-12 people each session. This format allows people to learn and engage from the comfort of their home and downloadable handouts which allow attendees to follow along as we explore Orthodoxy, the Gospels, and current events each week. Currently, we are working through the Gospel of Mark. Please join our group and you can find the latest Bible Study handout entitled Gospel of Mark Study Guide on our website under "Education" then "Resources".

Our Thursday night YouTube "Orthodoxy – Questions and Answers" is also quite popular as we have crossed over to 1600 subscribers and approximately 400-500 views per broadcast. There have been some really great questions and quite a few loyal followers, both national and international. This has been a remarkably successful method of outreach to those interested in Orthodoxy but not quite ready to come to church or to engage with a priest face-to-face.

We are currently in the process of installing an **upgrade to our livestream capabilities** which will offer improved clarity, increased visibility, and the camera is remote control allowing us to rotate the camera to capture all aspects of our weekly church services, to include the sanctuary area. This livestream capability has become a vital link for those who are homebound or in the hospitals to stay connected with their church and community and we have received quite a few thank yous from them.

I am certain that each of these methods will be extremely helpful during winter when travel to church is difficult and continue to expose more people to our church, our community, and our faith.

In His Service,

Fr Angelo Maggos

Fr Angelo Maggos

Annunciation Greek School

Rochester, New York

GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH OF THE ANNUNCIATION

Invites you to:

Annual Golf Tournament

at

COBBLESTONE CREEK COUNTRY CLUB

MONDAY, September 28, 2020

ree times beginning at 8:00 a.m. with Lunch at the turn or before you tee off with two (2) complementary drinks

COST: \$ 165/person *includes*: Registration, tee gifts, greens fees, cart, lunch, and beverages on the course.

Sponsorships Available: All Sponsors Receive: Beverage (5) \$ 500 Advertisement at Tournament \$ 750 Hole Sponsors get signs on Course Lunch (5) Golf Ball Sponsor (2) 1 Left! \$ 1000 Golf Ball Sp. - Logo on Golf Balls Tee signs (unlimited) \$ 100 Raffle will be held while on course \$ 1000 results will be posted at end. Golf Hole (18)

Each hole sponsor will have a custom flag at their hole which will be framed and sent to you after completion of the tournament with your company name.

1st Door Prize: LCD TV

Donated by Ajay Glass & Mirror Co.

Contact Steve or Jim Stathopoulos for Sponsorships
All proceeds to benefit the Greek Orthodox Church of the Annunciation

Donated Door Prizes are encouraged

CONTESTS THROUGHOUT THE TOURNAMENT

For directions to Cobblestone go to http://www.cobblestonecreekcc.com

PREPAYMENT is required.

TOURNAMENT IS LIMITED TO 152 GOLFERS! WE EXPECT A FULL FIELD SO PLEASE, REGISTER EARLY!!!

Deadline for Registration is September 24, 2020 No Cancellations or Refunds After this date.

For Questions/Registration

Contact Jim Stathopoulos Email: <u>jims@ajayglass.com</u> (585) 393-0082 (585) 393-0105 fax

Make Checks payable to: Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church

Mail Payment & Form to:

Mr. Jim Stathopoulos c/o Ajay Glass Co. 101 North Street Canandaigua, NY 14424

SIGN ME UP:	Name:		Continuo gos, 11 1424	
☐ PAIR ME UP with other Singles/Doubles		OR	☐ Our FORESOME will include:	
Name	Company	Phone#	Email	
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PHILOPTOCHOS WANTS YOU!

CONTINUED DONATIONS ARE GREATLY APPRECIATED



JOIN TODAY \$30 DUES

All Donations & Dues Contribute to Sponsoring our Philanthropic Works

Please submit payment to: Maria Economides 23 Blue Pine Circle, Penfield, NY 14526

Check payable to: Philoptochos Society

Thank you for your continued support



ANNUNCIATION GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

Rev. Fr. Angelo Maggos, Presbyter 962East Ave., Rochester, NY 14607 585-244-3377 website: annunciationrochester.org

FROM: Director of Greek School, Annunciation GOC

Dear Greek School Families,

I hope this note finds you healthy and enjoying your August days. I am writing to give you an update and also share our plans for the Greek School 2020-2021 school year.

Our path to returning to Greek School is guided by three principles:

- 1. The continued mission of engaging our youth in Greek Language acquisition and culture.
- The connection to our faith and our Annunciation community.
- 3. The safety of our community of students, teachers, and parish members.

Due to the continuing restrictions set forth by the Metropolis of Detroit regarding on-site education for both Sunday School and Greek School, this year's Greek school program will begin remotely on Saturday mornings. Our hope is that this will allow for a smooth transition to regular in person classes on Saturday mornings when the Metropolis gives us the "go ahead". This is a fluid situation and we will let you know when the Metropolis allows a return to classroom attendance.

In discussion with Fr Angelo, our teachers, I am preparing plans for a remote learning experience. The teachers will use the traditional reading and workbooks as well as other resources to support the instruction. Teachers can zoom, video record a mini lesson, and distribute and collect work via google classroom or even email. Teachers can provide feedback on submitted work and return the work to students for reflection. Each teacher will communicate his or her specific plans. They are ready to support our children remotely until we can be together again in person.

The first day of Greek School will be September 26th.

We ask that you please fill out the registration form for each of your children that attend Greek school.

I appreciate your patience and dedication to the Greek School Program. As always, feel free to email me any questions or concerns.

Thank you,

Maria Dembeyiotis

Maria Dembeyiotis Director, Greek School Annunciation Greek School Rochester, New York GOOD NEWS August, 2020

Annunciation Policies

MEMORIAL FUNDS DISTRIBUTION POLICY

All monies received during a funeral or memorial service that are made out to the church, that is, checks marked with "Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church" or cash with the envelope marked with "Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church" will be used for purposes in support of church operation.

These could include support of recognized church ministries, sacramental articles purchased for the church proper or for ongoing campaigns such as Hall Renovation or other capita improvements.

If it is desired that these monies are to be used for other wishes that the family may have the family must ensure that they announce that these checks or cash be designated as such.

All monies received for funerals are tracked, and family members will receive a listing of those who donated and a total amount of the donation, typically within 40-60 days following the date of the funeral. In addition, for all monies received designated "Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church," donors will receive a letter thanking them for their donation to the church in memory of the deceased.

POLICY FOR DOCUMENT PREPARATION:

There is a required processing charge of \$40 per document. This charge covers research, preparation and routing of documents such as Certificate of Residency, Certificate of Freedom to Marry, Reissued Marriage Certificate, Reissued Baptism Certificate and Certificate of Death. Additional documents are \$20.00 per document.

WEDDINGS:

We have wedding candles in the office for purchase which is required at the time of the ceremony. The donation for the plain one is \$30.00. \$100 would be for the decorated ones. Lena has them in the office. Also, available are four sets of Stefanas while they last. The donation for each of these is \$100 a pair.

BAPTISMS:

We also have baptismal candles, \$30 for the large plain candle and \$7 each for the two (2) smaller plain candles. If you are interested in purchasing decorated candles, the larger one is \$50, the two (2) smaller ones are \$25 for the set.

MEMORIALS:

Coffee Hour scheduling for family memorials is the responsibility of the Philoptochos unless other arrangements have been made by the family sponsoring the Memorial. The family which is sponsoring the Memorial is asked to:

- 1. Contact the Parish Secretary to arrange scheduling for Coffee Hour that day. The Secretary will contact the Philoptochos President.
- 2. Arrange for or pay for Coffee Hour food items that are in excess of the standard menu (coffee, drinks, and simple snacks).
- 3. Coordinate the preparation and delivery of Koliva (if used). The Philoptochos or Church office can provide information on persons who can prepare Koliva. The standard rate for the preparation of koliva is \$150.

GOOD NEWS August, 2020

2020 ADVERTISING/SPONSORSHIP COMMITMENT FORM

In order to help defray costs of printing and mailing and to increase awareness among our community of the broad range of experience and services available from our parishioners, we are inviting both parishioners and any vendors to our church to consider advertising in our monthly newsletter. Just complete the form below and mail, email or drop off to the church office. For email use office@agocroc.org

Name	Phone		
Address	City Zip		
Contact	Email		
ADVERTISING OPTIONS:	NOTES:		
□ Full Page\$500/yr	Newsletter is printed 11 months per year as June/July is a combined newsletter		
□ Half Page\$300/yr	For best quality, artwork should be high resolution jpeg files or similar		
□ Business Card\$150/yr	Emailed ads must be 600 dpi or greater PDF		
	Please include or email artwork		

GOOD NEWS August, 2020



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 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. I would like to invite you to join forces with the faithful throughout the Metropolis of Detroit 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 blessings and prayers,

+NICHOLAS Metropolitan of Detroit

MORE INFO AT: WWW.DETROIT.GOARCH.ORG/FRIENDS

GENERAL SUPPORT

Fully fund the general expenses of the Metropolis office, including programs and travels.

OUTREACH/MISSIONS

Create opportunities to introduce our faith to society. Participate in inter-Christian and interfaith activities. Provide quick responses to national and international disasters.

EDUCATION

Enhance various scholarship opportunities, adult education programs, and support Metropolis students at Hellenic College/Holy Cross.

HELLENISM

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

CLERGY/PARISH SUPPORT

Develop and provide instructional seminars and services for clergy and parishes.

YOUTH MINISTRIES

Support the youth & young adult ministries, including our summer camps, as well as the activities of a full-time Metropolis Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministries.

LEADERSHIP

Organize Clergy-Laity Conferences, Oratorical Festivals, Youth Worker and Religious Education Training, and Adult Education Seminars.

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

Continued website development, hospitality to visiting dignitaries, charity and philanthropy.

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