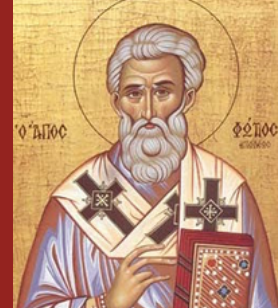




A Good Word - Λόγον Αγαθόν

NEWSLETTER OF THE GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF PITTSBURGH



2026 CLERGY-LAITY, PHILOPTOCHOS, YOUTH WORKER & RELIGIOUS EDUCATORS ASSEMBLY ALL SAINTS, CANONSBURG, PA - SEPTEMBER 26, 2026

On Saturday, September 26, 2026 we came together to participate in the Metropolis of Pittsburgh Annual Clergy-Laity Assembly at All Saints, Canonsburg, PA. We began proceedings on Friday evening with an informal social 'sneak peek' gathering at the New Metropolis Center, Washington, PA to welcome delegates. With His Eminence Metropolitan Savas' blessing, we opened the one-day Assembly welcoming 183 delegates (a record number), and 40 parishes to the Assembly.

Reports were provided by the Secretary, Treasurer, Vice-President and Chancellor, the Assembly was also given an update on the New Metropolis Center and a review of the Archdiocesan Clergy-Laity Congress. We continued the Assembly with reports from the following committees; Audit Committee, Registry Department, Finance Committee (including the approval of the 2027 Metropolis Budget), Administration, Religious Education, Youth & Young Adult Ministries (Y2AM), Camping Ministries, Youth Safety, Oratorical, Family Ministry, Greek Education & Culture, Stewardship, Outreach & Evangelism, Metropolis Benefactors, Communications, Scholarships, Metropolitan Maximos Endowment, Regional Archons, Clergy Syndesmos and Philoptochos.

We'd like to take this opportunity to say a big thank you to All Saints, Canonsburg for graciously stepping in and hosting the Assembly at short notice, assisting with the preparations for the Assembly and providing delicious refreshment throughout the day, catered by George Loutsion. We are truly grateful for everyone's dedication, hard work and devotion! Glory to God!



2026 YOUTH WORKER & RELIGIOUS EDUCATORS TRACK

Our Metropolis is unique in that during the Clergy-Laity Assembly, we simultaneously host a Youth Worker/Religious Educator Track. What a joy it was to bring so many people together who have a heart and a passion for bringing the faith to our young people! We were blessed with a multitude of amazing speakers, such as Dr. Drew Baker (virtual), Fr. John Touloumes, and our new Camping Ministries Coordinator, Sophia Milinkovic. Our participants were also given 'homework' and asked to bring their best icebreakers to share, giving all of us wonderful ideas to bring to our ministry. Please continue to pray for our youth leaders, youth and young adults! Glory to God for all things!



2026 PHILOPTOCHOS ASSEMBLY

We welcomed 48 Philoptochos delegates to the Assembly. In addition to the regular business items, the 2027 Budget was approved, and delegates had an opportunity to select a smaller discussion group to share ideas on the topics of membership growth, fundraising ideas, budget preparation, and social services. In the afternoon, Cate Colesar and Brenda Lutz from the Asservo Project of Western PA gave an excellent presentation on Human Trafficking awareness. President Joyce Spanakis, on behalf of the Metropolis Philoptochos, presented a \$1,000 check for the Asservo Project to Cate and Brenda so that the organization can continue its vital mission. In line with its effort to support victims of Human Trafficking, the Philoptochos will also be sending a \$1,000 check to the ARISTEVI Foundation which is a part of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese FREEDOM Ministry for Human Trafficking.

In addition to these two donations, delegates approved the disbursement of \$38,000 in various Philoptochos commitments, including \$18,000 for our Metropolis of Pittsburgh seminarians, and \$5,000 to the Archon Pilgrimage of Discovery Program.

The Metropolis Philoptochos is grateful to Fr. Dimitri Kyritsis and the parish of All Saints for allowing us to use their facility and for the assistance provided throughout the day. Thank you to George Loutsion and his team for the delicious breakfast and lunch.



PLEASE SUPPORT OUR METROPOLIS MINISTRIES!

It costs approximately \$1,000 per day to operate our Metropolis - including Metropolitan Savas's Archpastoral visitations, preparations for summer camp and GOYA retreats, our vital registry, and more.

Please consider sponsoring a day in the life of the Metropolis:

Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Pittsburgh, 5201 Ellsworth Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15232

412-621-5529 (Main) 412-465-0460 (Camp) 412-621-8543 (Youth)

pittsburgh.goarch.org info@pittsburgh.goarch.org

