

January 30, 2025 ★Synaxis of The Three Hierarchs: Basil the Great, Gregory the Theologian, and John Chrysostom

Beloved Clergy and Parish Councils of the Metropolis of San Francisco,

"But above all these things put on love, which is the bond of perfection. And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to which also you were called in one body; and be thankful." Colossians 3:14-15

Preparations are underway for the 2025 Clergy-Laity Assembly for our Metropolis. This is an opportunity for our clergy and lay leaders of our parishes to come together, to learn and grow in our faith, gain new insights into the ministries and programs offered by our Metropolis, and take an active role in the governance of our Church.

This year's Assembly will be held on Monday, May 5 beginning at 12:00 p.m., and will conclude on Tuesday, May 6 at 4:00 p.m. We will meet at Saint Nicholas Ranch and Retreat Center in Dunlap, CA. Clergy will remain at the Ranch for a Clergy Retreat which will commence immediately following the Clergy-Laity Assembly, and conclude on Wednesday, May 7 at 3:00 p.m.

We look forward to welcoming you to the Ranch, a beautiful gathering space and cornerstone ministry of our Metropolis. A detailed agenda and registration materials will be provided no later than 60 days prior to the convening of the Assembly.

As specified in the 2019 Uniform Regulations of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America, <u>each</u> parish is expected to have four delegates in attendance at the Clergy-Laity Assembly, comprised of the <u>following:</u>

- 1. The Parish Priest.
- 2. The President of the Parish Council, and in his or her absence the Vice President, or in his or her absence any member of the Parish Council designated by it.
- 3. Two members of the Parish elected by the Parish Assembly.

Please make sure this important item is placed on the agenda of your upcoming Parish Assembly Meeting so that you may elect these delegates to ensure full participation from your parish.

I look forward to the active participation of all our communities. Please come with an open mind and an open heart, ready and willing to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ and be a beacon of God's love in your parishes.

With Love in Christ,

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