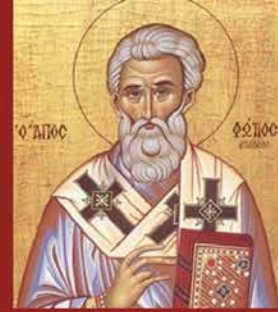


# A Good Word - Λόγον Αγαθόν

## NEWSLETTER OF THE GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF PITTSBURGH



### 2024 St John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival



Introduced in 1983, the St. John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival provides Greek Orthodox youth the opportunity to write and talk about their faith. The Oratorical Festival Program begins at the parish level and is divided into three divisions:

- Elementary Division (local festival only) for students in grades 4–6
- Junior Division for students in grades 7–9
- Senior Division for student in grades 10–12

The top speakers in the Junior and Senior Divisions advance to the district or metropolis level. The top speaker in each Metropolis division is then selected to participate in the Archdiocesan Finals, which is hosted by a different metropolis each year.

This year our Metropolis Festival was held on April 20 2024, at St. John the Forerunner in Youngstown, OH. A total of 45 Goyans representing 16 of our parishes participated in Speech, Poetry, Essay and Iconography Divisions.

Through the generosity of our parishes, Metropolis Philoptocos Society, Ahepa Power District #4 Lodge and generous individuals in our Metropolis we were able to award \$500 scholarships to the top two speakers in the Speech Divisions and \$100 scholarships to the Essay, Poetry and Iconography First place participants.

Our Poetry winners were Theofania Nacopoulos, Koimisis Tis Theotokou, Erie (Junior) and Markella Nacopoulos, Koimisis Tis Theotokou, Erie (Senior). Placing first in the Essay Division were Claire Gaitanis, Holy Trinity Cathedral, Camp Hill (Junior) and Emanuela Santiago, St. John The Forerunner, Youngstown (Senior). Our Iconography winner was Evangelos Agganis, Anunciation Cathedral, Columbus.

In the Speech Division Markella Nacopoulos (Senior) and Theophany Goudas Ksenyak from Sts. Constantine and Helen Cathedral, Cleveland Heights (Junior) were selected to represent our Metropolis at the National Oratorical Festival which was held June 6-8, 2024 at St. George Greek Orthodox Church in Buffalo, NY.

Starting next month we will be featuring our Poetry and Essay winners.

**Metropolitan Savas invites YOU to the First Annual**

Are You a Musician, Band or Artist?

Want to Perform or Display Art?

Contact Fr. Joe DiStefano

frjdistefano@yahoo.com

The Meraklides Clergy Supergroup

**St. Demetrios Community Center**  
3223 Atlantic St. NE  
Warren, OH

**Saturday August 17th**  
11am - 9pm

**Free Admission & Parking**

Fun for All the Family!

2 Music Stages

Karaoke

Art & Craft Exhibits

Food & Beverages

Scan me!



**MUSIC & ARTS FESTIVAL**

**GOMOP-ALOOZA**

All Proceeds go to the GOMoP Youth & Young Adult Ministries

Metri & the Metro Individual Artists & Groups

**Please consider donating to the Metropolis Scholarship Fund so that we may continue to offer scholarships to our talented youth. For your convenience we have set up this link for online donations. Donations can also be mailed directly to the Metropolis to the attention of Alyssa Kyritsis. Please write "Oratorical Scholarship" in the memo line of your check.**

# Wonderfully Made Day Retreat

In June, Youth & Young Adult Ministries hosted our first ever Wonderfully Made Day Retreat! We welcomed families from across the Metropolis and focused on the theme In Her Embrace. Participants learned about the Panagia, sang songs, made crafts, celebrated the Divine Liturgy, and got to know one another. Thank you to the MANY hands who made this event possible. We look forward to growing this vital ministry for years to come. ❤️



\*\*Wonderfully Made is a new ministry through the Metropolis of Pittsburgh's Y2AM Office for those friends with moderate to intensive needs. Our prayer is that this program can become a welcoming environment for participants with disabilities and their families, reminding them that they are wonderfully made in His Image!

CONGRATULATIONS to Theophany Goudas Ksenyak from Saints Constantine & Helen, Cleveland Heights, OH (Junior Div.), who was awarded Honorable Mention and received a \$1500 scholarship and to Markella Nacopoulos from Koimisis Tis Theotokou, Erie, PA (Senior Div.) who placed 3rd in the Senior Division at the National Festival and was awarded a \$4000 scholarship.

## 2024 St John Chrysostom Oratorical National Festival



40<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM ORATORICAL FESTIVAL [JUNIOR DIVISION]  
#goarchORATORICAL  
DEPARTMENT OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (DRE) | GREEK ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE OF AMERICA



40<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM ORATORICAL FESTIVAL [SENIOR DIVISION]  
#goarchORATORICAL  
DEPARTMENT OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (DRE) | GREEK ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE OF AMERICA

### 2024 CLERGY-LAITY ASSEMBLY





Philoctochos Assembly  
**September 21, 2024**

Clergy-Laity, Religious Educators, and Youth Workers  
**September 28, 2024**

**Holy Cross, Pittsburgh**

For more information, Assembly Registration and Hotel Reservations please visit:  
[pittsburgh.goarch.org/2024-clergy-laity-assembly](http://pittsburgh.goarch.org/2024-clergy-laity-assembly)

**Registration \$50.00/pp** Philoctochos members attending both assemblies - use discount code: PHIL30%

Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Pittsburgh, 5201 Ellsworth Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15252  
412-621-5529 | info@pittsburgh.goarch.org | pittsburgh.goarch.org

Join us!

### 2024 REGIONAL YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULT PARAKLISIS SERVICES



**WESTERN REGION**  
ST. NICHOLAS  
LORAIN, OH  
FRI. AUGUST 2  
6:00 PM



**CENTRAL REGION**  
DORMITION OF THE THEOTOKOS  
OAKMONT, PA  
WED. AUGUST 7  
6:00 PM



**EASTERN REGION**  
HOLY TRINITY CATHEDRAL  
CAMP HILL, PA  
TUES. AUGUST 13  
6:30 PM

### SUPPORT HIS EMINENCE AND 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](http://pittsburgh.goarch.org) [info@pittsburgh.goarch.org](mailto:info@pittsburgh.goarch.org)

