



METROPOLIS OF  
SAN FRANCISCO

# Gala

CELEBRATING OUR MINISTRIES  
HONORING EXTRAORDINARY LEADERSHIP

METROPOLIS

## Gala

HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS

A special room rate of \$199 per night has been secured at the **Westin St. Francis on Union Square** for guests of the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of San Francisco Gala.



To secure your room for the Gala weekend please call 800-937-8461 (Group Name: Greek Orthodox Metropolis Gala 2023) or scan this QR code to reserve online.

***Room reservations must be reserved by October 11, 2023.***

The Greek Orthodox Metropolis of San Francisco requests the honor of your presence at our

# 2023 Gala

CELEBRATE OUR MINISTRIES AND HONOR THE EXTRAORDINARY LEADERSHIP  
OF THE HIERARCHS WHO HAVE SERVED THE METROPOLIS OVER THE PAST CENTURY

2023 Recipient of the Theofanis Economidis Award | His Eminence Metropolitan Gerasimos of San Francisco

Saturday, October 28, 2023

*Six o'clock in the evening | Reception*

*Seven o'clock in the evening | Dinner and Entertainment | Dancing to follow*

WESTIN ST. FRANCIS ON UNION SQUARE

335 Powell Street | San Francisco, California

BLACK TIE

*The favor of a response is kindly requested by October 6, 2023. Seating is limited.*

METROPOLIS

Gala

RSVP

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Mobile Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_





# CELEBRATING OUR MINISTRIES

In the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of San Francisco, we have woven a tapestry of seven states, sixty-seven parishes, and fourteen innovative ministries. Within our vibrant Metropolis, there are a multitude of reasons for celebration. This Gala, from which we derive invaluable support, assumes paramount significance in fueling the growth of these cherished ministries which enrich the lives of our faithful, nurture their spiritual

connection with the Lord, and uplift their souls. We are especially blessed to integrate our Metropolis-offerings with the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America to support the efforts of the national church which is under the guidance and jurisdiction of the Ecumenical Patriarchate.

Our ministries flourish as active and dynamic reservoirs of our faith, breathing life into our congregations, fostering an immersion in knowledge, extending compassionate outreach to the wider community, igniting inspiration for our youth, and safeguarding our invaluable cultural heritage.

- ✦ The good works of the **Metropolis Philoptochos** focus on philanthropic outreach into the very communities we call home, allowing us to tangibly embody Christ's boundless love for humanity.
- ✦ **Family Wellness** is committed to providing resources, training, support and information through online and in-person seminars and workshops to parishes, individuals, and to bring people together to connect through the heart for deeper Christ-centered relationships.
- ✦ **Christian Education** strives to provide content, catechist training, programs and connections to support a life-long journey of catechetical learning and understanding.
- ✦ Our innovative **Missions and Evangelism** ministry continues to nourish the spiritual and numerical growth of the Greek Orthodox Church throughout the West.
- ✦ Music is an integral component of worship, and our **Church Music** ministry offers a variety of resources for the perpetuation of our rich musical heritage.
- ✦ Monthly webinars continue to be offered by our **Stewardship** ministry, which has developed an impressive library of online materials for helping parishes increase engagement in the sharing of time, talent, and treasure.
- ✦ So that our communities can continue to grow and thrive, our **Orthodox Parish Leadership** ministry provides seminars and trainings for lay leaders to contribute meaningfully to the direction of their local community, including guidance on strategic planning, mission and vision.
- ✦ **Clergy Continuing Education** develops learning opportunities for our clergy to assist in their personal growth and ministerial effectiveness.
- ✦ For over 46 years, the **Folk Dance and Choral Festival** has been at the center of inspiring a sense of connection between the young people in our Metropolis through faith, dance, and fellowship, bringing together the largest gathering of youth across our Archdiocese.
- ✦ A variety of **Youth and Young Adult** ministry programs are offered, including Summer Camp which thrives at full capacity, attracting an ever-increasing number of young hearts yearning for spiritual enlightenment.
- ✦ Young Adults are participating in record numbers in the annual **YAL (Young Adult League) Conferences** which focus on four pillars of involvement: Service, Worship, Fellowship and Witness.
- ✦ Youth develop a deeper appreciation for our Hellenic culture as they engage in immersive educational experiences such as the **Greek Village Camp** where they receive instruction in language, customs, music, dance and more.
- ✦ Established in 1979, **Saint Nicholas Ranch and Retreat Center** is situated on nearly 250 acres in the Sierra Nevada foothills. The Ranch offers a place of spiritual renewal and growth in an atmosphere promoting the wholeness of the individual – body, mind, and spirit – and is a resource center for parishes through programs offered for faithful of all ages.
- ✦ The **Greek Language and Culture** ministry provides training and coordinates resources for Greek language schools.

*These examples only scratch the surface of the vast offerings within our Metropolis—all for you! Through your generous support, we will fortify our existing ministries and enrich their offerings, ensuring an even brighter and more promising future for the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of San Francisco as we serve our faithful. **Join us in celebrating our ministries!***





## HONORING THE EXTRAORDINARY LEADERSHIP OF THE HIERARCHS WHO HAVE SERVED THE METROPOLIS OVER THE PAST CENTURY

In 1904, Greek Orthodox Christians founded the first parish in San Francisco. By 1922, when the Archdiocese was established, San Francisco was one of the four original Districts, comprised of parishes in San Francisco, CA; San Diego, CA; Los Angeles, CA; Oakland, CA; Sacramento, CA; Seattle, WA; Portland, OR; Pueblo, CO; Price, UT and Salt Lake City, UT. Over the past century, the Metropolis of San Francisco has established itself as a vibrant center of Orthodoxy which includes 67 parishes and two chapels in the states of Alaska, Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada, Oregon and Washington. There are also three dynamic monastic communities in Florence, AZ; Dunlap, CA; and Goldendale, WA. The Metropolis is comprised of more than 1.2 million square miles of land and water - one of the largest territories in the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America, which is under the spiritual guidance and jurisdiction of the Ecumenical Patriarchate.

Beginning in 1885 the first Greek immigrants who arrived in San Francisco worshipped in a Russian Orthodox church. Some of the earliest priests of the region travelled far and wide to minister to the needs of the faithful due to a lack of sufficient clergy. From these humble beginnings, our Metropolis developed from a District to a Diocese and now a Metropolis. This is a testament to the sophistication and commitment of our faithful. They have nurtured the seed planted in the soil of the West Coast to become a thriving and vibrant vineyard of Christ's Gospel.

Since its founding, the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of San Francisco has demonstrated the enduring power of devotion and the transformative impact of faith in Jesus Christ. We are united by our unwavering commitment to the Orthodox faith and our love for each other. As our journey unfolds, our Metropolis will continue to support the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America and the Ecumenical Patriarchate as a shining light, guiding its faithful to the Kingdom of Heaven.

### Distinguished Hierarchs of San Francisco

- ✦ Bishop Philaret (Ioannides) of Chicago, 1922 - 1927, *locum tenens for San Francisco*
- ✦ Bishop Kallistos (Papageorgakopoulos) of San Francisco, 1927 - 1931
- ✦ Bishop Eirineos (Tsourounakis) of San Francisco, 1941 - 1944
- ✦ Bishop Athenagoras (Kokkinakis) of Elaia, 1950 - 1954
- ✦ Bishop Demetrios (Makris) of Olympus, 1955 - 1967
- ✦ Bishop Meletios Tripodakis of Christianoupolis, 1967 - 1979
- ✦ Bishop Anthony (Gergiannakis) of San Francisco, 1979 - 1997
- ✦ Metropolitan Anthony (Gergiannakis) of the Dardanelles, 1997 - 2002
- ✦ Metropolitan Anthony (Gergiannakis) of San Francisco, 2002 - 2005
- ✦ Metropolitan Gerasimos (Michaleas) of San Francisco, 2005 - present

I would like to sponsor the Metropolis Gala (*see sponsor details on opposite page*) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ seats at \$300 each for the Metropolis Gala  
*Please list the names of the guests in your party on the back panel.* \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ Young Adult seats at \$150 each for the  
Metropolis Gala (ages 18 - 30, maximum of two tickets per person)  
*Please list the names of the guests in your party on the back panel.* \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to offer this additional donation in support of the  
good works of the Metropolis of San Francisco. \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I regret that I am unable to attend, but please accept this donation  
in celebration of the ministries of the Metropolis of San Francisco \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Amount Enclosed** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Check enclosed (*payable to: Greek Orthodox Metropolis of San Francisco GALA*)

☐ Please charge my credit card: ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ American Express ☐ Discover

**Pay Online** Card No. \_\_\_\_\_



Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_ CVV \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

*Reservation deadline: October 6, 2023*

# Gala Committee



His Eminence Metropolitan  
Gerasimos of San Francisco  
*Honorary Chair*

George and Christine Psfteas  
*Co-chairs*

His Grace Bishop Ioannis  
of Phocaea  
George Anagnostopoulos  
Philippos Athanasiades  
Rev. Deacon Justin Bosl  
Diakonissa Annemarie Bosl  
Kristen Bruskas  
Hon. (Ret.) Connie Contes  
Hon. Steve Counelis



METROPOLIS OF  
SAN FRANCISCO

Stacia Counelis  
Presvytera Dimitra Dogias  
Roberta Economidis  
Theofanis Economidis  
Isidoros Garifalakis  
Paul Gikas  
Vicki Holloway  
Katie Jouthas  
Sotiris Kolokotronis  
Theodore Konopisos  
Presvytera Alikì Kyriacou  
Metropolis of San Francisco  
Ladies Philoptochos Society  
Vasilios Marutsos  
Bill Navrides



Chris T. Pallis  
Frosene Phillips  
Gerry Ranglas  
Jeannie Ranglas  
Byron Scordelis  
Paul Sogotis  
Michael Syrengelas  
Yiannoula Theodorou  
George Valaskantjis  
Foula Vasilogiorgis  
Dr. Anna Yallourakis  
Michael Yallourakis  
Stephanie Katherine  
Yallourakis

245 VALENCIA STREET | SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94103

415.753.3075 | metropolis@sanfran.goarch.org | www.sanfran.goarch.org

## SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

*Yes, I /we are pleased to offer this sponsorship for the Metropolis Gala.*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

*(As you would like it to appear in printed materials)*

- \$100,000** ☐ **Legacy** (includes three tables of ten with premier seating, plus other exclusive benefits)
- \$50,000** ☐ **Illustrious** (includes two tables of ten with prime seating, plus other exclusive benefits)
- \$25,000** ☐ **Signature** (includes one table of ten with priority seating, plus other exclusive benefits)
- \$10,000** ☐ **Distinguished** (includes one table of ten with preferred seating, with additional benefits)
- \$6,000** ☐ **Executive Table Host** (includes one table of ten, with featured seating, plus name recognition in program)

*Additional details for sponsor benefits can be found online at: [www.sanfran.goarch.org/Gala](http://www.sanfran.goarch.org/Gala)*



## TABLE NAMES

Please list the names of the guests at your table below  
*(limit 10 per table; please enclose additional names for multiple tables)*

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_\_
8. \_\_\_\_\_
9. \_\_\_\_\_
10. \_\_\_\_\_

*Please indicate Vegetarian (V) or Gluten Free (GF) as needed for your guests.*