September 26-28 Metropolis Clergy-Laity, Philoptochos, & Youth Workers Assembly: Camp Hill, PA

The annual gathering of clergy and lay leaders from around the Metropolis will be hosted by the Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral in Camp Hill, PA.

The Assembly will begin with the Keynote Dinner on Thu. Sep. 26, and will conclude with Lunch on Sat. Sep. 28.

There will be three meeting tracks this year: one for the parish representatives, one for the Philoptochos delegates, and one for parish youth workers.

Among the topics to be discussed at the Clergy-Laity portion:

- 2020 Clergy-Laity Congress in Cleveland
- New Metropolis Center Progress and Updated Design
- 2018 Metropolis Audit
- 2020 Metropolis Budget
- Election of Lay Delegates to 2020-2022 Metropolis Council, and 2 Lay Delegates to the Archdiocesan Council for the same term

Each Community is entitled to a voting delegation including:

- For the Clergy-Laity: 1 priest, 1 parish council president (or another council member in their place), and 2 lay delegates elected by the parish assembly
- For the Philoptochos: 1 chapter president (or another board member in their place), and 2 chapter delegates

Non-voting observers are also welcome from each community. We encourage the second priests, pastoral assistants, and other youth workers to actively participate in the Youth Worker track, which will feature critical updates about Youth Safety and other pertinent topics.

For more information, visit: https://pittsburgh.goarch.org/2019-assembly

Historic Altoona Parish Celebrates Centennial & Icon Blessing

His Eminence Metropolitan Savas joined the members of the Holy Trinity GOC of Altoona over the first weekend in June to celebrate over 100 years of their Orthodox witness in Blair County. During the festivities, His Eminence also blessed the final piece of their multi-year renovation project by sanctifying their new icon of the Panagia above the Holy Altar.

The weekend began with Great Vespers on Saturday evening followed by a dinner at the Parish. At the next morning’s Divine Liturgy, His Eminence also blessed with Holy Chrism.

Support His Eminence and the Metropolis Ministries

It costs approximately $1,000 per day to operate our Metropolis—including Metropolitan Savas’s pastoral visitations, preparations for Summer Camp and GOYA retreats, our vital registry (tracking marriages, baptisms, chrismations, and deaths), and more. Please consider sponsoring a day in the life of the Metropolis. To contribute, visit https://pittsburgh.goarch.org/support
**Thank You**

Thank you for giving me a place to ground myself and reset.
Thank you for showing me the Crying Icon of the Theotokos.
Thank you for giving me my first real Confession.
Thank you for bringing people into my life that I want to have in my life for the rest of it.
Thank you for giving me a place that I can let down my walls.
Thank you for the 3:00 a.m. talks about what weighs me down.
Thank you for being a place to escape the enclosing societal walls.
Thank you for introducing me to people who show me that I can be a better person in how I treat other people.
Thank you for helping me grow into a better person.
Thank you for making me feel loved.
Thank you Camp Nazareth.

*(During the 4th session of Summer Camp, approximately 60 graduates were given the opportunity to express their feelings via Graduate Speeches. In August and September we are highlighting two of those speeches.)*

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**National Missions & Evangelism Conference: Columbus OH**

The Metropolis of Pittsburgh is hosting the next National Missions & Evangelism Conference at Annunciation Cathedral in Columbus, Feb. 3-5, 2020. Featured presenters include Fr. Evan Armatas, Fr. Theodore Dorrance, Fr. Aris Metrakos and Mr. Steve Tibbs. The conference theme is ‘Leading Change Toward A Healthier Parish’ and registration is open now at www.goarch.org/evangelism2020. Space is limited. Please contact Stacey Stathulis (staceys@pittsburgh.goarch.org) with any questions you may have.