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

Upcoming Folk Dance Festival Focused on Education and Fellowship

OPA! Lots of excitement for the upcoming Metropolis Folk Dance Festival hosted by Holy Cross, Pittsburgh in November. The weekend includes instructional workshops, fellowship & dancing – lots of dancing! Does your parish have a Dance Group? If so, this is a must! You don’t have to be a part of a group to attend. Individual registrations welcomed. More info: y2am.pittsburgh.goarch.org/fdf

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.
For the eyes of the Lord are over the righteous, and his ears are open unto their prayers. (1 Peter 3:12)

My brothers and sisters in Christ, every year we go through the motions and make our way through the school year. After school lets out we eventually all find ourselves here at Camp Nazareth. This is my 11th year straight of Summer Camp and I want to share with all of you what camp has taught me, and how this place and the people it brought to me have impacted my life. I’m not trying to tell you what to do or think. I don’t want to pretend I know what’s best for you or for me. I only ask that you listen to what I have to say and to make the most of it. Hopefully, what I tell you will make going through the motions less mundane.

First: You are a reflection of everyone you have ever met. Be a good reflection for others and cultivate your soul to shine brightly on everyone you encounter. Second: Talk to God. Prayer is not always formal. God knows who you are better than you do. Do not hide yourself from Him. Do not hold back in prayer and tell God what you think He wants to hear. Be yourself. Third and finally, God can hear you. You can ask God a question and He will always give you an answer. It may not be the answer you want to hear, nor the time you want to hear it, but He will answer you. You just have to listen for Him and you will find clarity. God bless you all; I can’t wait to see what all of you do next.

(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.)

Bartz Scholarship Fund Sends Many to Camp

Over a decade ago, the Fr. George & Pres. Zafera Bartz Camp Scholarship Fund was initiated at the Annunciation community in Akron, OH, to help remove financial stumbling blocks preventing participation in the vital Summer Camp ministries of the Metropolis. As founding members of the Summer Camp program over 50 years ago, the late Fr. George and Pres. Zafera have been committed to the transformative power of an immersive experience of the Christian life for children, centered around worship and prayer, fun and fellowship, teaching and active personal engagement with our faith.

From its humble beginnings, the fund has provided 50% camp scholarships to 35-45 campers each year. Each year parishioners are invited to sponsor a camper for a day, few days, or a full week as part of the campaign to bolster the fund’s ability to help. One of the hopes in starting the fund was also to inspire other communities to emulate the efforts.

For more information about the Bartz Camp Scholarship Fund, contact Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church at 330-434-0000.

Above: 2019 HS Graduate Marco Dickos, pictured with parents Adrienne & Dn. Frank Dickos, from Holy Cross, Pittsburgh.