Metropolis Folk Dance Festival enjoyed (attended) by 300+

The Metropolis FDF brought together Dancers & their families from parishes throughout the Metropolis, including those as far away as Holy Cross, Stroudsburg and St. Nicholas, Bethlehem, on November 16th – 17th. The weekend event hosted by Holy Cross, Pittsburgh and chaired by Neolea Dance Director, Georgia Yamalis.

Our Metropolis FDF is non-competitive and the environment is one of fellowship and learning. Folk Dance Instructors from various areas of the country to come teach dances that will be new to the participants. Did you know there are over 500 Greek Dances, many specific to islands & villages? This is what Keith Mastorides, Director of the Hellas Dancers of Holy Trinity, Clearwater, FL told us. His Instructors gave lessons on dancing from Crete, Cyprus, the Ionian Islands, Karpathos, Megara and the Pontian region.

On Saturday, there were instructional workshops and in the evening was full with a delicious dinner, performances by Senior dance groups and Greek dancing featuring the Greek Company Orchestra. His Eminence, Metropolitan Savas honored 3 long-time Dance Directors who have given over 100 years (combined) to the Folk Dance Ministry and other ministries of their parishes: Mary Doreza (Ypapanti, East Pittsburgh – Grecian Odyssey Dancers), Maria Nacopoulos (Koimisis Tis Theotokou, Erie Hellenic Dancers) and Eleni Paxos (St. Haralambos, Canton – St. Harlambos Hellenic Dancers). On Sunday following Divine Liturgy and brunch, the Junior Dance Groups performed. His Eminence remarked that he never expected to see such complicated dances from the Juniors, who gave performances that you would normally see at the Senior level.

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
NEW YORK – The Archdiocese’s Center for Family Care organizes a National Conference on the theme of “Pastoral Challenges in Marriage – Chronos & Kairos,” January 22-25, 2020. The conference will be hosted in collaboration with the Annunciation Greek Orthodox Cathedral in Houston, Texas.

Throughout the seasons of married life in created time (chronos), God acts decisively in the kairos moments of those seasons, both in the daily rhythms of married life and in milestone events, to draw us nearer to Him and, by His grace and our faithful response, to become like Him, being saved one day at a time within the blessed communion of marriage. This conference will seek to explore these concepts; and, to help equip professionals ministering to couples as they guide them through various marital challenges.

Workshops at the Conference will explore pastoral issues including: resolving conflict, issues with family of origin, infertility, families with special needs, the latter years of marriage, and vital characteristics of a healthy marriage. Keynote speakers include Dn. Michael and Gail Hyatt, Dn. Stephen Muse, PhD, LMFT, and Carrie Frederick Frost, PhD. George Stavros, PhD, MDiv, will lead an interactive session elucidating how to provide pastoral care to marriages experiencing intensive needs.

For more information, visit https://goacfc.wixsite.com/marriage