January 24, 2023 ★Xenia, Deaconess of Rome

Beloved Clergy and Parish Councils of the Metropolis of San Francisco,

"Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven." Matthew 5:16

It is time to once again prepare for the clergy and lay leaders of our parishes to come together for our annual Clergy-Laity Assembly. This important gathering provides us with the opportunity to learn and grow in our faith, gain new insights into the ministries and programs offered by our Metropolis, and take an active role in the governance of our Church.

This year's Assembly will be held on Monday, April 24 beginning at 12:00 p.m., and will conclude on Tuesday, April 25 at 4:00 p.m. We will meet at Saint Nicholas Ranch and Retreat Center in Dunlap, CA. The Ranch facilities have recently undergone extensive renovations and we look forward to welcoming you back to witness the vibrancy and renewal of this cornerstone ministry of our Metropolis. A detailed agenda and registration materials will be provided no later than 60 days prior to the convening of the Assembly.

As specified in the 2019 Uniform Regulations of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America, each parish is expected to have four delegates in attendance at the Clergy-Laity Assembly, comprised of the following:

- 1. The Parish Priest.
- 2. The President of the Parish Council, and in his or her absence the Vice President, or in his or her absence any member of the Parish Council designated by it.
- 3. Two members of the Parish elected by the Parish Assembly.

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Please make sure this important item is placed on the agenda of your upcoming Parish Assembly Meeting so that you may elect these delegates to ensure full participation from your parish.

I look forward to the active participation of all our communities. Please come with an open mind and an open heart, ready and willing to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ and be a beacon of God's love in your parishes.

With Love in Christ.

★Metropolitan Gérasimos of Sán Francisco