



# Office of the Chancellor

## *Metropolis Council*

March 27, 2023

The Chancellor of the Metropolis of San Francisco assists the Metropolitan on issues affecting assigned Clergymen, the Parishes, the Ministries and administration of the Metropolis.

With respect to clergy, this office facilitates: 1) the process of ordination of candidates for holy orders and incardinations of clergy from other Orthodox Jurisdictions; 2) process and monitor requests of clergy to travel to other Metropolises or other clergy to enter the Metropolis; 3) assist clergy and parishes with hierarchical protocol; 4) coordination of Clergy synaxes, retreats and continuing education opportunities; 5) assist Clergy with the proper protocol, registration and documentation of sacraments.

With respect to Parishes, this office: 1) processes the Parish Council Ratifications; 2) facilitates the approval of Parish Bylaws with assistance of the Bylaws/ legal committee; 3) works with the Metropolis Finance Committee in monitoring parish contributions to the Total Commitment Program and Pension Benefits Obligation; 4) facilitate review of Parish Real Estate Transactions by the Metropolis Real Estate Committee; 5 facilitate review of construction, renovations and iconography by the Metropolis Art and Architecture Committee.

This office also develops, at the direction of the Metropolitan, personnel related policies and procedures in consultation with the Archdiocese Human Resources Department. The Chancellor's Office prepares and submits corrections to the Patriarchal and Archdiocesan yearbooks. The Chancellor also maintains files and correspondence concerning clergy and parishes.

I thank the following Directors and Office Staff people who assist me in the execution of these responsibilities: Mr. Paul Gikas, Director of Ministries and Administration; Ms Kristen Bruskas, Director of Communications and Development; Presvytera Alikì Kyriacou, Registrar; Ms. Foula Vasilogiorgis, Office Assistant.

### **CLERGY UPDATE since October 2022:**

#### **--ORDINATIONS:**

- Rev. Fr. Florin Ristache, February 4,5, 2023 at St John the Baptistm Las Vegas, NV by Bishop Ioannis of Phocaea

- Rev. Fr Matthew Jouthas, February 11,12, 2023 at St Nicholas Church, Northridge, CA by His Eminence Metropolitan Gerasimos

## **--RETIREMENTS**

- Rev. Fr. John Bakas, February 1, 2023, from Saint Sophia Cathedral, Los Angeles, CA

## **--ASSIGNMENTS AND TRANSFERS:**

- Rev. Fr. Gary Kyriacou, Proistamenos, Saint Sophia Cathedral, Los Angeles, CA, effective February 1, 2023.
- Rev. Fr. Florin Ristache, Assistant Priest, St John the Baptist Church, Las Vegas, NV, effective February 6, 2023.
- Rev. Fr. Seraphim Majmudar, transferred from St Nicholas Church, Tacoma, WA to the Palestinian-Jordanian Vicariate (Ecumenical Patriarchate, effective February 28, 2023
- Rev. Fr. Matthew Jouthas, Assistant Priest, St Nicholas Church, Northridge, CA, effective February 13, 2023.
- Rev. Fr. Anthony Cornett, Proistamenos, St Nicholas Church, Tacoma, WA from St Sophia Cathedral Los Angeles, CA, effective March 1, 2023.

## **--DEATHS**

- Presvytera Kay (Kantiana) Efstathiou in Petaluma, CA on February 7, 2023  
*May her Memory be eternal!*

## **EPISCOPAL VISITATIONS:**


His Eminence Metropolitan Gerasimos accompanied His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros on several trips to the Metropolis of San Francisco.

- The Archbishop attended the annual Folk Dance and Choral Festival in Phoenix, AZ from February 16 to 20, 2023
- The Archbishop made Pastoral Visits to the Sacramento and San Francisco Bay area from February 25 to March 1, 2023.

The 2023 Conference of the Assembly of Bishops was held on January 28-31, 2023 at Saint Sophia Cathedral in Los Angeles under the Chairmanship of Archbishop Elpidophoros. The Metropolis of San Francisco and the Saint Sophia Cathedral provided logistical and organizational support for a successful conference. Prior to the Conference, His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros chaired the first synaxis of all Hierarchs of the Ecumenical Patriarchate in the United States.

His Eminence Metropolitan Gerasimos underwent a successful medical procedure in early December 2022 and we give Glory to the *Physician of our Souls and Bodies* that he has recovered to continue his pastoral visits to our Metropolis parishes and events.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Bishop Ioannis of Phocaea". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style. The word "Bishop" is written in a larger, more prominent script, followed by "Ioannis of Phocaea".

✠ Bishop Ioannis of Phocaea  
Chancellor