Notes From The Top

It’s a great honor to be addressing you again as president of our federation. I sincerely thank the board for their confidence in my leadership and for their support. I will do all in my power and ability to further our organizations tenets and aims. Our thanks to the parish and choir of St. Basil for hosting our 2019 conference. Their hard work over the last 2 years and throughout the entire long weekend was obvious and resulted in a great conference. Of course, our sincere thanks certainly goes out to our very talented accompanist, Georgia Fragale. The hierarchical liturgy was truly memorable.

Now on to 2020! We are so excited that St. Andrew’s of South Bend, Indiana will be hosting our 2020 conference. Fr. George Konstantopoulos and the entire community of St. Andrew’s are even more excited in hosting, what they call, an historic event, and indeed, it is. This is the first time St. Andrew’s has hosted our conference. It’s also the only parish in our metropolis in a different time zone! So, you will be seeing a lot of times listed as Eastern and Central time in the coming year. The conference committee has already planned a great deal of the weekend’s events. These Hoosiers are determined to put their best foot forward and plan a MAGNIFICENT conference. More details will follow shortly. Save the dates: September 25, 26 and 27 with a hospitality event Thursday September 24 since most of us will be arriving the night before. Yes, the dates are right! We are trying something new.....by moving the conference up to the last week of September, we are able to honor our dedicated choir members at our conference and allow them to be recognized in their home parish the following Sunday on National Church Musicians Sunday. This is in response to many suggestions to move the conference to allow our choirs to be present in their church on National Church Musicians Sunday. I look forward to seeing and working with all of you at our 2020 conference!

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St. Andrew South Bend Welcomes the Federation Conf. 2020

Saint Andrew Greek Orthodox Church in South Bend, IN is very honored and delighted to welcome the Metropolis of Chicago Federation of Greek Orthodox Church Musicians, for their next annual conference scheduled for Sep 25-27, 2020. We look forward to welcoming you to our parish and our city, which is home to Notre Dame University and the Fighting Irish, The Studebaker Museum, the Tippecanoe and Capsholm Mansions, The Morris Performing Arts Center, The South Bend Chocolate Company, the very delicious port-a-pit chicken, the St. Joseph River, lots of fine dining spots, and much more in the area of arts and entertainment.

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Now, here are the details for our conference for the conference liturgy. We will be singing Gallos Opus 2 with the new approved English included. The liturgy will be sung primarily in English. I am honored to be the director for this year’s conference liturgy. I hope to provide an interesting, invigorating yet spiritual expression of this beautiful music and offer you a fulfilling and rewarding liturgical experience. Our accompanist is Rosie DeSanto. Interestingly enough, Rosie and I are reprising our roles from the 1983 conference at St Basil! We plan on trying something new this year. We will begin a monthly area rehearsal for the conference music beginning sometime in January. The music is available as a 3 hole punch version at a deeply discounted price for us of $12 per copy……just supply your own black 3 ring binder. We will be sending our ordering information shortly.

Our thanks to St. Spyridon for hosting our 2019 Youth Conference. Thanks to Nicky Glikis for working with our youth choir and directing them during the Hierarchical Diving Liturgy. The children had a weekend packed with singing, learning and playing! Now on to St. Nicholas, Oak Lawn for the 2020 Youth Conference. More on that later, as well.

The board has a full agenda for 2019-2020, as we do each and every year. Our priority this year is to really put together a year around youth program, to engage our youth with programs, workshops and events throughout the year. This, coupled with our scholarship program and our foray into the St. John Chrysostom Oratorical and Arts Festival puts us on a solid footing to support and develop our youth.

We also are working on producing a Director’s Training Manual. We hope by creating formal training material will provide the needed support for those interested in directing choirs in our metropolis. Once developed, this manual will be presented to the National Forum and provided on a national level.

More projects continue and will be initiated throughout the year and we will keep you abreast of all the progress our board makes on behalf of our dedicated and hardworking choirs…..stay tuned!

I remain in His service Nicholas Chimitris President

Wishing you all a wonderful Thanksgiving and a most joyous and Merry Christmas

Christ is Born Glorify Him
Dear Sydiakonoi in Christ,

"It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praises to Thy Name, O Most High; to declare Thy steadfast love in the morning, and Thy faithfulness by Night"
Psalm 92:1

The Church Ministry of Sacred Music is truly an instrument of joy and divine inspiration. You, the faithful members of our choirs, who truly "mystically represent the Cherubim and chant the thrice Holy hymn to the Life-giving Trinity," accomplish that which only the Angels of God unceasingly perform in heaven.

As all of you know the word eucharist means thanksgiving, and the very center of the Church's liturgical worship of our Lord is when, in commemoration of all His saving acts in Christ, the faithful "lift up their hearts" and give thanks unto our Creator.

We thank all of you for selecting our beloved parish of Saint Andrew in South Bend, Indiana for your 2020 Choir Conference. Not only is this a historic event for our humble community but a genuine blessing.

Our entire Greek Orthodox parish is most enthusiastic and eager to meet each and every one of you, to be inspired by your angelic voices and to thank you personally for your many years of Diakonia to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and to our Holy Orthodox Church.

May "the Grace of Our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God and Father, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all."

With adelphiki agape,

+ Father George D. Konstantopoulos and Mr. Christ kurtis, Parish Council President
From Page 1

**St. Andrew South Bend Welcomes the Federation Conf. 2020**

We have already begun planning to make the event both enjoyable and productive for everyone. We are looking forward to the family of metropolis choirs joining us for divine liturgy that Sunday, filling our church with their beautiful singing. It will be an unforgettable experience for our Christian family. Director Nick Chimitris and Organist Rosie DeSant will be leading the group who has selected Gallos Opus 2 for their musical selections. The registration fees will be $120 normal rate, $110 for seniors, and $65 for students. We have reserved a block of hotel rooms at the Hilton Garden Inn and the Inn at St. Mary’s at a rate of $139/night for double occupancy. We are still working on entertainment features, but for sure our Hellenic Dance Troupe is already preparing to perform at one of the banquets.

Saint Andrew has been in existence for over 90 years, serving Orthodox Christians of the Michiana Community. We are a small but mighty parish with also a small byzantine choir comprised of both men and women chanters. We are very excited to host a Metropolis function for the first time, and thank the federation for accepting our host bid. This event is giving us the opportunity to feel closer to the Metropolis to which we belong but are separated from by 100 miles. Welcome everyone! We look forward to hosting you!

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**The 2020 Federation Choir Conference will be held September 25-27, at:**

**St Andrew's Greek Orthodox Church**
52455 N Ironwood Rd
South Bend, IN 46635
Phone: 574-277-4688

This will be St. Andrew - South Bend’s first time ever hosting a Choir Conference. We thank them for welcoming all of us and look forward to a great year of planning with our fellow Church singers. We share their enthusiasm and excitement.

Don't miss it!
Dates: Sept 25, 26, 27 and hospitality night on the 24th.

Music: Gallos Opus 2 with official English translation. Primarily in English.
$12 per 3-hole punch book including shipping and handling.
Just supply your own black 3 ring binder. Ordering details to follow.

Director: Nick Chimitris
Organist: Rosie DeSanto
We will forward updates as we get them.

Blessings to all of you for this Holiday Season.
From your Federation Board

Gia Xenakis
Choir Federation
Metropolis of Chicago
Dear Members of the Clergy and Friends:

The Chicago Metropolis' Federation of Greek Orthodox Church Musicians hosted its 29th Annual Youth Choir Conference at St. Spyridon Church in Palos Heights, IL. the weekend of Nov. 9 and 10. Sunday School students, Greek School students, youth choir, siblings, and friends were all invited! There were 18 children registered and all enjoyed the activities that were planned for them.

On Sunday morning the children vested with their robes sang the entire liturgy at the direction of Nicky Glikis St. Spyridon choir director. His Eminence Metropolitan Nathanael along with Fr. Tilemshos and Archdeacon Vasilios Smith celebrated the Divine Liturgy with the children and encouraged the youth to remain active in this and other church activities. Each participant received a medal from His Eminence for their participation in the youth choir conference.

We wish to thank all those who were helping in this youth conference to make it the success it was. We all look forward to seeing everyone again at St. Nicholas Church next year.

I remain in His service
Ruth E. Faklis
Chairperson
# AWARDS 2019

**Federation of Greek Orthodox Church Musicians**  
**Chicago Metropolis**  
**2019 Years of Service Award Recipients**

**Federation Logo Pin for 60 Years of Service**  
- Angie Anast, SS Peter & Paul - Glenview, IL  
- Nick Boosalis, St. Mary - Minneapolis, MN

**Mother of Pearl Cross for 50 years of Service**  
- Maryann Subley, SS Constantine & Helen - Palos Hills, IL  
- Georgia Fragale, St. Basil - Chicago, IL  
- Kathleen Wendland, St. Mary - Minneapolis, MN

**Icon of Kassiani for 35 Years of Service**  
- Mike Koutelakis, Kimissis Tis Theotokou - Racine, WI  
- Michael Condes, St. Demetrios - Hammond, IN  
- Effie Galetsis, St. Nectarios - Palatine, IL

**Certificate of St. Romanos for 25 Years of Service**  
- Gust Dimoulias, Annunciation Cathedral - Chicago  
- Ana Therman, Annunciation Cathedral - Chicago  
- Jim Toliis, Holy Apostles - Westchester, IL  
- Bess Chidichimo, SS Peter & Paul - Glenview, IL  
- Minda Arsenault, Chanter, St. George - St. Paul, MN  
- Steve Arsenault, Chanter, St. George - St. Paul, MN  
- Anna Christoforides, St. George - St. Paul, MN

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AWARDS 2019

Federation of Greek Orthodox Church Musicians
Chicago Metropolis
2019 Years of Service Award Recipients

Certificate of Recognition for 10 to 24 Years of Service

Diane Hoffmeyer (10 years) All Saints - Joliet, IL
George Miller (10 years) Assumption - Chicago, IL
Elizabeth Brewster (16 years) Holy Apostles - Westchester, IL
Chris Robaidek (10 years) Kimissis Tis Theotokou - Racine, WI
Angela Socha (10 years) Kimissis Tis Theotokou - Racine, WI
Lia Larsen (13 years) Kimissis Tis Theotokou - Racine, WI
Kate Jefferson (13 years) Kimissis Tis Theotokou - Racine, WI
Sofia Haritos (11 years) St. Basil, Chicago, IL
Marcie Papadakis (11 years) St. Basil, Chicago, IL
Audrey Polite-Covello (10 years) St. Demetrios - Hammond, IN
Brianna Condes (10 years) St. Demetrios - Hammond, IN
Jonathan Harris (10 years) St. Demetrios - Hammond, IN
Dimitri Chioros (14 years) St. Demetrios - Hammond, IN
Jenny Hibberd (10 years) St. Mary - Minneapolis, MN
We have been notified of the passing of several of our dedicated church musicians in the past year. May their memories be eternal.

_Holy Trinity - Fond du Lac, WI_
Tony Agnos - chanter for 55 years

_SS Constantine & Helen - Palos Hills, IL_
Edna Costopoulos - member for 47 years
Lewis Pazolas - member for 36 years
Georgia Tsakalakis - member for 36 years

_SS Peter and Paul - Glenview, IL_
Olympia Mott - member for 56 years

_St. Athanasios - Aurora, IL_
Dr. Michael Kontos - member for 37 years

_St. George - St. Paul, MN_
Miriam Paraschou - member for one year

_St. Iakovos - Valparaiso, IN_
Andriani Bozell - member for 9 years
Emerald Spanopoulos - member for 34 years
Hello Federation Members, we have been asked to share this information with all of you. Please share this with your family and friends.

St. George Church in DeKalb, IL is in the process of recruiting a Chanter / Choir Director. The information we currently have is the following:
- This position will come with a small stipend;
- They would like to encourage both Greek and English languages;
- Their goal is to have someone who is a team player and willing to help and encourage congregational singing during the Divine Liturgy.

Should you or someone you know be interested in discussing this position with Fr. Dustin Lyon, please contact him directly at dustin.lyon@gmail.com.

St. George Greek Orthodox Church
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DeKalb, IL 60115
Phone: (815) 758-5731
Fax: (815) 758-5709
Email: st.george5@frontier.com

Thank you,
Choir Federation Board
Metropolis of Chicago
Choir Loft
Peter Condos
1612 Apache Dr.
Naperville, IL 60563

www.chicago.churchmusic.goarch.org