



GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF CHICAGO

ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM ORATORICAL & FINE ARTS FESTIVAL

March 2024

Dear Friend,

This year, the Saint John Chrysostom Oratorical and Fine Arts Festival celebrates a remarkable milestone. For 40 years, the youth of our Chicago Metropolis have been given a forum to share their love of Jesus Christ and witness their Orthodox faith. Whether through the medium of oratory or essay, poetry or iconography, vocal solo or vocal chant, the youth of our Metropolis have expressed their faith for four decades. We are honored to continue this tradition in 2024 at the Metropolis of Chicago Festival, which takes place on Bright Saturday, May 11 at the host parish of Holy Apostles Greek Orthodox Church in Westchester, Illinois.

Thanks to the generosity of individuals and organizations across our Metropolis, we have been able to expand the offerings of our Festival over time, appealing to the diverse strengths and interests of our youth. Last year, we increased the scholarships awarded to our first-place oratory participants, and we hope to extend these gifts to first-place participants across categories in 2024 and beyond.

As someone who has given of your time, talents, and treasures in support of Orthodoxy, we ask that you consider including this year's Metropolis Oratorical Festival as a recipient of your philanthropic giving. With your help, we can once again organize a memorable program for our youth and their families—one that will strengthen their faith and warm their hearts.

For 40 years, participants, parents, and parishes have experienced the impact of this powerful program. We aspire to share this rich, inclusive tradition with future generations and are grateful for your generous support.

With our sincere appreciation,

The Metropolis of Chicago Oratorical & Fine Arts Festival Committee

Audrey Polite, *Co-Chair*

Andrea Tsakopoulos, *Co-Chair*

Cathy Brousalis

Theo Covello

Cathy Hareas

Nicolette Polite

Kathy Siavelis

Joanne Stavrakas

Carole Yarovsky

Tina Yarovsky

Diakonissa Mary Zaharis

Rev. Father George Dokos

Spiritual Advisor

Holy Apostles Greek Orthodox Church

Rev. Father Luke Melackrinos

Director, Youth and Young Adult

Ministries, Metropolis of Chicago