



# GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF SAN FRANCISCO

## ΙΕΡΑ ΜΗΤΡΟΠΟΛΙΣ ΑΓΙΟΥ ΦΡΑΓΚΙΣΚΟΥ

November 19, 2025

Beloved in the Lord,

*“An example of the Faith and a life of humility, as a teacher of abstinence  
you did inspire and lead your flock and through your truthfulness of your deeds  
were exalted by greatness through your humility uplifting all and by poverty gaining wealth.  
Father and hierarch Nicholas intercede with Christ our God that our souls be saved.”*

*Apolytikion of Saint Nicholas*

Each year on December 6, we joyfully celebrate the Feast of Saint Nicholas the Wonderworker, Archbishop of Myra, honoring his life of faith, compassion, and steadfast devotion to the truth. Saint Nicholas embodied the love of Christ through his care for others, his courage in defending the faith, and his spirit of generosity that continues to inspire us today. In that same spirit, Saint Nicholas Ranch and Retreat Center stands as a living tribute to his legacy, offering a place where the faithful of all ages encounter the beauty of God’s creation and experience renewal in body, mind, and soul.

For 47 years, Saint Nicholas Ranch has served as a spiritual home for our Metropolis family. It is a sacred space where people come together to grow in faith, deepen their understanding of our Greek and Hellenic culture and heritage, and build lasting bonds of friendship and fellowship. Through summer camp, retreats, and programs for clergy and laity alike, the Ranch continues to nurture the hearts of our faithful and strengthen the foundation of our Church’s future.

This beautiful ministry relies on the generosity of donors to maintain operations and the integrity of its facilities. Thus, I am asking that **each parish pass a special tray** on Sunday, December 7, to directly support Saint Nicholas Ranch and Retreat Center. I also ***encourage individuals and families*** to consider making a personal gift to this beloved ministry. Your generosity will help sustain the Ranch as a place of faith, learning, and hospitality for generations to come.

With heartfelt thanks for your continued dedication and support, and praying that the Lord will bless you with His peace and abundant grace, I remain,

With Love in Christ,

*Metropolitan Gerasimos of San Francisco*

✠Metropolitan Gerasimos of San Francisco

**Send your donations to:**

Saint Nicholas Ranch and Retreat Center

P.O. Box 400

Dunlap, CA 93621-0400

***Donate online: [www.stnicholasranch.org/donate](http://www.stnicholasranch.org/donate)***