Metropolis Clergy-Laity Assembly | May 5-6, 2025

Saint Nicholas Ranch and Retreat Center | *Dunlap, CA*

Metropolis of San Francisco

Our Faith Can Move Mountains

". . . for assuredly, I say to you, if you have faith as a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move; and nothing will be impossible for you." Matthew 17:20

Χριστός Ανέστη! Christ is Risen!
Αληθώς Ανέστη! Truly He is Risen!



Special Guest

His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros of America

Monday, May 5, 2025

10:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.	Registration for Clergy-Laity Assembly and Ministry Pavilion
12:00 p.m.	Lunch
1:00 p.m.	Convening of Assembly .... **His Eminence Metropolitan Gerasimos of San Francisco** • Opening Prayer Service ..... **His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros of America** • Designation of Presiding Officer and Secretary ..... **His Eminence Metropolitan Gerasimos of San Francisco**
1:15 p.m.	Archpastoral Message ..... **His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros of America**
1:30 p.m.	Keynote Address ..... **His Eminence Metropolitan Gerasimos of San Francisco** *Celebrating 20 Years of Ministry*
2:15 p.m.	Break
2:30 p.m.	Our Faith Can Move Mountains *(Part 1)* ..... **Rev. Fr. Martin Ritsi** *Executive Director, OCMC*
4:30 p.m.	National Youth and Young Adult Ministries ..... **Eva Konstantakos**
5:30 p.m.	Great Vespers at the Monastery of the Theotokos the Life-Giving Spring
7:00 p.m.	Dinner
8:00 p.m.	Ministry Pavilion – Outdoor Reception
9:30 p.m.	Beauty First Films Screening:..... Saint Peter Conference Room Amphilochios: Saint of Patmos *(Optional)*

Conclusion of Day 1



Guest Presenter

Rev. Father Martin Ritsi is a 1987 graduate of Holy Cross School of Theology, earned his Master of Divinity, and then obtained a Master of Theology in missiology from Fuller School of World Missions. He also completed coursework in philanthropy and fundraising at Indiana University. Following his ordination, he and his family served for four years in Kenya, where he taught at the Makarios III Orthodox Seminary, ministered across East Africa, served as parish priest of St. Anargyroi Cathedral, and oversaw Archdiocesan finances. He then spent six years in Albania, helping rebuild the Orthodox Church after decades of persecution. His work included catechizing and baptizing hundreds, founding the country's first Orthodox youth group, teaching at Ngjallja Seminary, and leading Diaconia Agape, the Church's relief and development office. Since 1998, Fr. Martin has served as Executive Director of the Orthodox Christian Mission Center (OCMC), where he has expanded the organization's impact to over 50 countries. Under his leadership, OCMC has developed a career missionary program, built a missionary training and administrative center in St. Augustine, Florida, supported hundreds of mission clergy, and distributed millions of dollars for philanthropic and development projects. With over 35 years of global missionary experience, Fr. Martin remains deeply committed to spreading the Gospel, strengthening Orthodox communities, and sharing Christ's love with the world. He and his wife, Presvytera Renee, reside in St. Augustine, Florida.

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Our FAITH CAN MOVE MOUNTAINS

Schedule Continued

Tuesday, May 6, 2025

8:00 a.m. Hierarchical Divine Liturgy | Monastery of the Theotokos the Life-Giving Spring
Twenty-One Year Memorial for +His Eminence Metropolitan Anthony

10:30 a.m. Brunch

11:15 a.m. Group Photo on the Lawn

11:30 a.m. Continuation of Assembly

- Opening Prayer....**His Eminence Metropolitan Gerasimos of San Francisco**
- Metropolis Philoptochos.....**Jeannie Ranglas**
  Metropolis Philoptochos President
- Approval of Minutes from the 2024 Clergy-Laity Assembly
- Report of Metropolis Council .....**Isidoros Garifalakis**
  Metropolis Council Vice President
- Metropolis 2024 Financial Report ..... **Michael Syrengelas**, *Treasurer*
- Review and Approval of
  2025 Metropolis Budget ..... **George Psefteas**, *Finance Committee Chair*
- New Business

12:30 p.m. Saint Nicholas Ranch
and Retreat Center .....**Archdeacon Justin Bosl**, *Ranch Board President*
Stefan Metrakos, *Executive Director*

1:00 p.m. Hellenic College
Holy Cross School of Theology.....**Dr. Demetrios Katos**, *President*

1:30 p.m. Parish Planned Giving.....**Melpomeni Murdakes**

2:00 p.m. Our Faith Can Move Mountains *(Part 2)*.....**Rev. Fr. Martin Ritsi**

3:30 p.m. Closing Remarks... **His Eminence Metropolitan Gerasimos of San Francisco**

4:00 p.m. Adjournment and Prayer

CLERGY RETRETAT BEGINS FOLLOWING VESPERS AND DINNER.

**Schedule subject to change.*

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