



Office of the Chancellor

Metropolis Council Meeting and Clergy-Laity Assembly

April 6 and April 16-17, 2021

At the last Clergy-Laity Assembly in February 2020, His Eminence Metropolitan Gerasimos announced my pending appointment as Chancellor to take place around summer 2021. Owing to the Coronavirus pandemic and its effect on the Metropolis and Churches, my administrative duties steadily increased and I assumed full-time Chancellor duties on September 1, 2021.

Upon the request of His Eminence Metropolitan Gerasimos, the Holy Eparchial Synod of the Archdiocese submitted my name to the Ecumenical Patriarchate for election as Bishop. On October 6, 2020 the Holy and Sacred Synod of the Ecumenical Patriarchate elected me as Bishop of Phocaea. Due to increased coronavirus restrictions in California, my ordination took place on December 19, 2020 at St George Greek Orthodox Church in Piscataway, New Jersey by His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros of America. Live streaming of the Ordination allowed for people all over the world to offer their prayers.

On October 6, 2020 the Holy and Sacred Synod of the Ecumenical Patriarchate also elected Archimandrite Spencer Kezios, Pastor Emeritus of St Nicholas Church in Northridge, CA as Bishop of Amastris. He was ordained on November 14, 2020 at Holy Cross Church in Belmont, CA. He serves as an Auxiliary Bishop to His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros.

His Eminence Metropolitan Gerasimos has entrusted me with the duties and responsibilities of assisting him in the administration and pastoral care of the Metropolis and its many parishes. I am humbled by his trust and paternal love and will endeavor to do my best to fulfill this office.

VICARIATES:

The Metropolis of San Francisco covers the territory of seven states and more than 65 parishes and missions. The Metropolis has a system of administration of regional senior clergy to represent the Metropolitan in various capacities such as serving as a regional court to review petitions for ecclesiastical divorce, representing the Metropolitan at official ecclesiastical and civic events and assisting the Metropolis with various clergy and parochial issues.

Since the onset of the Coronavirus restrictions closing the parishes, the Vicars have met weekly with His Eminence to discuss issues relating to the pandemic and items of importance to the clergy and to the parishes.

The Vicariates and Vicars are:

- Washington- Fr. Dean Kouldukis
- Oregon- Fr. Paul Paris
- Eastern California- Fr. Jon Magoulias
- Bay Area (San Francisco)- Fr. Peter Salmas
- North Los Angeles- Fr. Michael Prevas
- Los Angeles- Fr. Peter Stratos
- San Diego- Fr. Andrew Scordalakis
- Arizona- Fr. Andrew Barakos
- Clergy Syndesmos President- Fr. Photios Dumont

ORDINATIONS:

- Father Steven Tussing was ordained to the Holy Priesthood by His Eminence Metropolitan Gerasimos on September 27, 2020 at Holy Cross Church in Belmont, CA.
- Father James Kumarelas was ordained to the Holy Diaconate and Priesthood by His Eminence Metropolitan Gerasimos on October 10-11, 2020 at Ascension Cathedral in Oakland, CA.
- Father Alexander Eliades was ordained to the Holy Diaconate and Priesthood by His Eminence Metropolitan Gerasimos on October 17-18, 2020 at Nativity of Christ Church in Novato, CA.
- Father Anthony Cornett was ordained to the Holy Diaconate and Priesthood by His Grace Bishop Ioannis on February 13-14, 2021 at Saint Sophia Cathedral in Los Angeles, CA.
- Deacon Efstratios Jon Magoulias was ordained to the Holy Diaconate by His Eminence Metropolitan Tarasios of Rodopolis on March 7, 2021 at Annunciation Church in Modesto, CA.
- Pending- Justin Bosl to the Holy Diaconate on April 18, 2021 at Resurrection Church in Castro Valley, CA

Even in the midst of the pandemic, God provides that the Church will continue to function and grow. We pray that the Grace of the Holy Spirit which filled them at their ordinations continue to work through them that their ministries will be fruitful and bring glory to God.

CLERGY ASSIGNMENTS:

- Rev. Fr. Timothy Pavlatos has been assigned as Proistamenos of St Katherine Church in Chandler, AZ, effective September 1, 2020
- Rev. Fr. Daniel Triant has been transferred from St Demetrios Church in Seattle, WA and appointed Proistamenos of Holy Trinity in Spokane, WA, effective September 1, 2020.
- Rev. Fr. Christopher Kolentsas has been transferred from St Sophia Cathedral, Los Angeles CA and granted a two year leave of absence, effective September 1, 2020
- Rev. Fr. Steven Tussing is assigned Assistant Priest at St George Church in Eugene, OR and will serve as mission Priest at Holy Resurrection Church in Salem, OR effective, September 28, 2020.
- Rev. Fr. James Kumarelas is assigned Assistant Priest at St Demetrios Church in Seattle, WA, effective October 12, 2020.
- Rev. Fr. Alexander Eliades is assigned as Assistant Priest at Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral in Phoenix, AZ, effective October 19, 2020.

- Rev. Fr. Gabriel Alan Boyd requested to be transferred to the Holy Metropolis of Atlanta from St Basil Church in San Jose, CA, effective December 1, 2020.
- Rev. Fr. Christopher Retelas has been transferred from St Anthony Church in Pasadena, CA and appointed Proistamentos at St John the Baptist Church in Anaheim, CA, effective January 1, 2021.
- Rev. Fr. Gary Kyriacou has been transferred from St Demetrios Church in Camarillo, CA and is appointed Pastor of Youth and Young Adult Ministries, Metropolis of San Francisco, effective February 1, 2021.
- Rev. Fr. Constantine Trumpower has been transferred from St John the Baptist Church in Anaheim, CA and appointed Proistamenos at St Demetrios Church, Camarillo, CA, effective February 1, 2021.
- Rev. Fr. Anthony Cornett is assigned Assistant Priest at Saint Sophia Cathedral in Los Angeles, CA, effective February 15, 2021.

RETIREMENTS FROM ACTIVE MINISTRY:

- Rev. Fr. Steven Supica from Holy Trinity Church in Spokane WA on August 31, 2020.
- Rev. Fr. Philip Armstrong from Saint Katherine Church in Chandler, AZ on August 31, 2020.
- Rev. Fr. John Kariotakis from St John the Baptist Church in Anaheim, CA on December 31, 2020.

We appreciate the many years of ministry, dedication to the Church, preaching the Word of God and ministering to the People of God. They are indeed “Priests forever after the order of Melchizedek.” Although they have retired from active service we pray and hope that they will continue to give us the wisdom of their experience.

PASTORAL VISITATIONS:

Coronavirus Restrictions have limited in-person Pastoral Visitations. His Eminence and I have been meeting and engaging with clergy and laity through Zoom meetings. The Chancellor’s Office has coordinated the following meetings for His Eminence:

Weekly Metropolis Clergy Meeting
 Individual Parish Meetings with Council and Leadership
 Parish Leadership Town Hall
 Parish Council Presidents Zoom Meeting
 Parish Council Treasurers Zoom Meeting
 Individual Meetings with Clergy

We pray that circumstances will soon allow for in-person meetings, travel to parishes, celebration of parish milestones and events.

Respectfully submitted,

+ Bishop Ioannis of Phocaea
 Chancellor