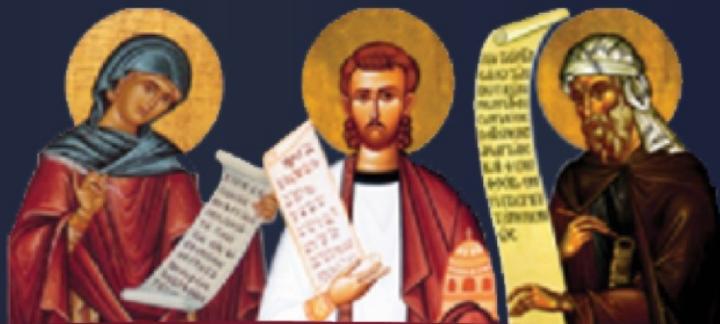


April 2022

GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF SAN FRANCISCO
CHURCH MUSIC FEDERATION MINISTRY



METROPOLIS OF
SAN FRANCISCO



THE *Grace* NOTE
YOUR MID-MONTHLY DIGEST OF CHURCH MUSIC NEWS



PROVIDING THE BEST RESOURCES TO OUR PARISHES

SUBSCRIBE TO OUR NEWS AND UPDATES

Kali Anastasi!

May the joy of Pascha
fill every corner
of your hearts.



On Saturday April 2, clergy and church musicians from 13 parishes of the Metropolis enjoyed an inspiring greeting and message from His Eminence Metropolitan Gerasimos, and an update of the ministry's initiatives and finances. This was followed by our Mini-Workshop, "Be; Do; Have: Planning the Best Music for your Parish" presented by Ministry Chair, Kay Harkins, introducing the Church Music Development Team's individual parish consulting service.

While we eagerly look forward to more in-person events in 2022, we have discovered that Zoom is a great platform for our Plenary Information and Planning Meetings. Our next meeting will be Saturday, August 6, 2022 from 1-3 PM. This will be have voting items, so be sure to mark your calendars!

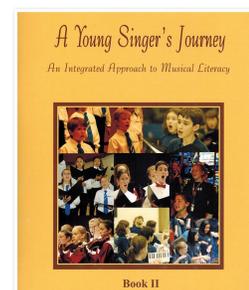
Did you miss the workshop? Pop on over to our YouTube Channel on the website to catch the 15-minute Mini-Workshop video, and contact us with any questions or to schedule a parish music consultation!

**YOUTUBE
CHANNEL**

ANYONE READY *to Learn* to Read Music?

Speaking of the Ministry's YouTube Channel...As new folks join and faithful voices return to our choirs and chant stands, now is a great time for those who haven't yet learned to read music to dive in to the **[basics offered in the short video segments listed in our Music Theory/Literacy playlist.](#)**

In addition, here's our recommendation for a great in-print book for those who want to develop and strengthen their music literacy. **[A Young Singer's Journey. An Integrated Approach to Musical Literacy,](#)** by Eileen Baldwin and Jean Ashworth Bartle. *(Not just for young singers! Great for any age or groups.)*



Reverend Father Michael Pallad is the Spiritual Advisor for our Metropolis Music Ministry. He has been an anchor and encouragement to us as we have faced the challenges of the last few years, particularly in seeing us through the pandemic.

Father Michael is the Presiding Priest at St. Haralambos Greek Orthodox Church in Peoria, AZ, and is a noted musician and composer of beautiful hymns, especially those set in English. He is also the director of the Orthodox Christian Choral Fellowship,

which reaches out to singers across many jurisdictions to provide opportunities to sing

and grow in faith through the One Day, One Hymn, One Church project, and to create wonderful recordings of virtual choral performances, which we have enjoyed so much during the time we have not been able to sing together in person.

We have relied upon him to bring prayers at our meetings, provide a listening ear and wise counsel to the Chair and the Leadership Circle, all the while praying for our ministry.

He continues to be a light and an example to us in his faithful support of our Chair and the Ministry Team leaders. We are grateful to God for Father Michael's love and care.

MINISTRY SPOTLIGHT

Father Michael Pallad



Would you or someone in your parish benefit from receiving up to \$500 to build his or her musical skill to strengthen church music in your community?

The Greek Orthodox Metropolis of San Francisco Church Music Federation Ministry is pleased to once again offer eight (8) FRANK DESBY and XENIA ANTON DESBY MEMORIAL CHURCH MUSIC SCHOLARSHIPS of up to \$500 each for qualified Metropolis church musicians in 2022. As parishes continue to move forward in the renewal of their church music programs, our goal is to assist church musicians who wish to strengthen their musical skill and understanding by obtaining education and training in singing, chanting, and conducting with qualified professional instructors in order that they may continue to serve their Greek Orthodox parishes..

Our 2021 scholarship recipients shared some of the specific benefits of their studies with their highly qualified instructors:

- *The most useful takeaway from my course was learning to maintain consistent rhythm. Using an appropriate tempo for an heirmologic score, a Theotokion, or a Doxasticon, and adhering strictly to it gives a feeling of sharpness. Unless this rhythm is strictly followed, the congregation will recognize a hymn as “choppy.” The Festal Menaion course enhanced my execution of rhythm in Vespers and Divine Liturgy services at both the parishes where I chant.*
- *My studies have helped me tremendously in a practical sense also. I have been able to join my church’s choir and chant along with the head chanters. The classes have helped me learn to read and sing quite a bit better than I used to. The courses have also opened up my eyes to the wealth of dogmatic theology that the church has placed within her hymnography. This has helped me to be able to present excerpts of this theology to the Orthodox Christian Fellowship at my University.*
- *I was able to quickly implement a number of very fundamental changes with (my instructor’s) guidance that have improved my singing, including warm up exercises, thinking specifically about the shape of vowels, how and where to breathe in music, posture, etc. She was able to explain clearly how these exercises would be particularly helpful and what they were ultimately trying to help me to accomplish. We also spent time working on pieces in the Orthodox music repertoire that were upcoming in the schedule of services or were of interest to me. Her knowledge of the services of the Orthodox Church and in particular the specific structure and notation of the music lent to our being able to explore pieces in detail.*

[Applications are now being accepted with a deadline of August 1, 2022. Guidelines and Application Forms are available on our ministry website.](#)

Flash Back TO '15!



Some happy memories from our time In Las Vegas. Thanks St. John the Baptist for a great time! Love seeing those faces of kids in Pres Maria's choir who are all grown up now!

Be sure to send us your news!

Share photos and stories of how your parish music program is rebuilding.
(And let us know any ways we may help!)

Greek Orthodox Metropolis of San Francisco
Church Music Federation Ministry

[Contact Us](#)



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