

February 2023

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**



GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF SAN FRANCISCO  
ΙΕΡΑ ΜΗΤΡΟΠΟΛΙΣ ΑΓΙΟΥ ΦΡΑΓΚΙΣΚΟΥ

Beloved Church Musicians,

It is a joy to offer this greeting and to convey my ongoing appreciation and gratitude for the beautiful ministry of music that you offer to your parishes and our Metropolis. By participating as choir members, chanters, directors or organists, you are giving of yourselves in an unselfish manner, and you are offering your God-given gifts back to Him for His Glory! This is a most noble gesture and truly demonstrates your love and commitment to Jesus Christ.

All of the good works in our Metropolis Music Ministry are as a result the hard work of your leadership who have offered a wide variety of programs, trainings and resources to improve the quality of music that fills our worship services. These efforts do not happen without proper preparation, and also require financial support so they can be adequately shared in a meaningful and relevant way.

This month is your Stewardship Appeal, and what an ideal time as we approach Great and Holy Lent. One of the areas of focus for our Lenten journey is that of almsgiving. You have the opportunity to invest in a ministry and provide for the development of new resources that will strengthen the music ministry of today, and expand it for tomorrow.

It is said that "Charity begins at home", and in this case, you may feel that applies to you, given all that you offer to music ministry. After all, you are volunteering your time and talent for the church. But just as you are offering your gifts back to God through your music, you are also called to offer your first fruits to build up the core of this ministry and provide for its sustenance and growth.

I am immensely proud of what you have done, and the many more achievements yet to be realized through your loving and giving hearts.

Praying that your journey through Great and Holy Lent may be peaceful and that your steps may be guided by the Lord's Mighty Hand, I remain,

With Love in Christ,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Metropolitan Gerasimos of San Francisco". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

✠METROPOLITAN GERASIMOS OF SAN FRANCISCO

## Your Help is Vital to our Key Efforts

A photograph of an organ console, showing the keyboard and various controls. The image is partially obscured by text.

*in Supporting  
Church Music*

IN OUR METROPOLIS!

As the new year begins and is time for our annual stewardship appeal, we are deeply grateful to God for carrying us through the last challenging years, allowing us to innovate and grow our resources and programs to support our parishes and individual church musicians of all ages. We are grateful to our past stewards for their generous donations which offered us the financial stability to carry out forward thinking approaches to education and communication.

***Please prayerfully consider your continuing contributions which will allow us to...***



# Sustain Scholarships...

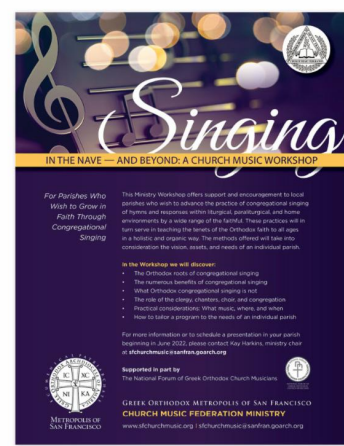
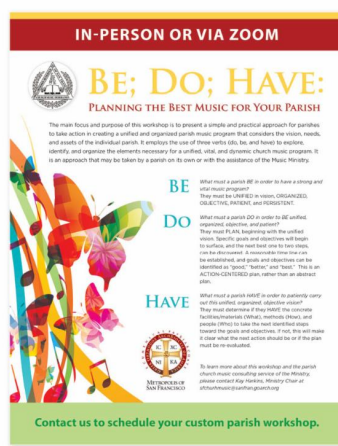


- Since 2019 the ministry has given nearly \$10,000 to 19 qualified recipients to pursue individualized courses of study to strengthen their church music skills to serve their parishes. Six of these individuals were under the age of 18.



- There are now over **40 instructional videos on our YouTube Channel** available on our website covering music literacy, hymnology, and more.
- Ten In-person and online workshops have been presented

since 2019. **“Singing in the Nave and Beyond,”** our one-day customizable workshop to support parishes who want to grow in faith through congregational singing, and **“Be; Do; Have”** another customizable in-person or online workshop for planning the best music program for individual parishes are ready to schedule in regional or parish settings.



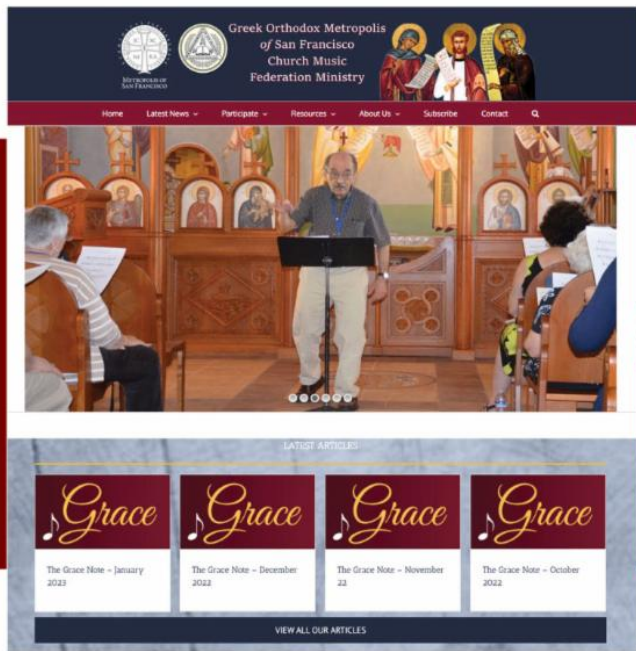
- Our **Individual Parish Consultation Outreach** has begun by the Church Music Development Team to identify the specific music education needs of our Metropolis parishes. This enables us to create and plan workshops, seminars, and YouTube videos that serve not only individual parishes but to plan regional events as well.



- Our utilization of the Constant Contact communication platform has allowed us to send the lively monthly newsletter, The Grace Note, and other timely updates to our growing mailing list.
- Constant Contact also allows us to streamline the communication and registration process for in-person and online workshops, assisting local parishes in easily setting up events.
- Our Zoom platform has allowed us to hold our required twice yearly Plenary Information and Planning Meetings in a format that allows full access and participation to every steward and interested church musician. Zoom also enables us to present our on-line programs as well.

**Our ministry Leadership Circle has worked tirelessly in efficient, thoughtful, and prayerful discussion and planning meetings to make the most of our financial and time resources. We earnestly invite anyone interested in sustaining and growing our work to not only make a financial contribution, but also to reach out with your positive and constructive suggestions and to join us in one or more of our five Ministry Teams.**





# Contributing IS SIMPLE...

Just go to our [website](#) for secure online payment. If you wish to contribute by check, please find the stewardship form there as well.

**Thank You!**

## No news is ... *no news!*

We would love to share stories and photos from your parish. Items sent by the last week of the month will be featured in the next month's issue of our Grace Note. Can't wait to see and hear what's been happening with you.

**Greek Orthodox Metropolis of San Francisco**  
Church Music Federation Ministry

[Contact Us](#)

