



GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF NEW JERSEY

ΙΕΡΑ ΜΗΤΡΟΠΟΛΙΣ ΝΕΑΣ ΙΕΡΣΕΗΣ

August 4, 2022

To Very Reverend and Reverend Clergy,
Esteemed Members of the Parish Councils and Philoptochos Sisterhood
Beloved Youth Directors and Advisors and
All Faithful Orthodox Christians of the Sacred Metropolis of New Jersey

My beloved,

It is truly with tremendous joy and enthusiasm that I announce that His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros of America, upon the recommendation of His Grace Bishop Apostolos of Medeia, has appointed Mr. Konstantinos Loukas to the position of Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministries for our sacred Metropolis of New Jersey, effective June 15, 2022.

Konstantinos Loukas was born in Baltimore, Maryland, and grew up attending St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church. After completing High School, he enrolled at Hellenic College/Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology, graduating with his Bachelors in Religious Studies in 2018 and his Masters of Divinity in May of 2021. In addition, Konstantinos completed the Byzantine Music program offered by our *Scholi* and received a Certificate in Byzantine Chant in 2021. Since graduation, he has worked on the parish level as Pastoral Assistant and Youth Director of St. George Greek Orthodox Church in Bethesda, Maryland.

Konstantinos is succeeding the Rev. Fr. Peter Thornberg, who faithfully served as the Metropolis Youth Director for the past year. He has already eagerly assumed his new responsibilities, which will include the Metropolis-wide youth programs of Camp Good Shepherd, the annual Hellenic Folk Dance Festival, the Oratorical Festival and the Annual GOYA Olympics, as well as overseeing all of the various regional and parish youth events and ministries. For any information regarding youth programs, Konstantinos may be contacted by phone at the Metropolis Office (908-301-0500) or by email at kloukas@nj.goarch.org.

In closing, I am pleased to announce that with the blessing of His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros of America, His Grace Bishop Apostolos of Medeia will ordain Mr. Konstantinos Loukas to the Holy Diaconate on Saturday, September 17, 2022, at St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church in Baltimore, MD.

Conveying to you the archpastoral blessings of His Eminence and praying that our loving Lord continues to bless you and your service to His Church, I remain

At the Direction of the Archbishop

+ Archimandrite Christoforos Oikonomidis
Chancellor