

**MDF 2026**  
Frequently Asked Questions  
[As of 9 January 2026]

Important dates:

- Early Bird registration will end January 16, 2026.
- The deadline for Group registration is January 25, 2026.
- Our next Director meeting will be Thursday, January 15th at 7pm on Zoom
  - <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81219677131?pwd=9mRqJa1TTehOb4Q3xOyM7RZo rtlmzE.1>

Frequently Asked Questions:

- Do participants need a liability insurance form?
  - All participants are the responsibility of their parish's insurance.
- Do priests need to sign off on registration forms?
  - Not this year.
- Do we need to have all information already complete for our dance routine (music, region, village) when we register?
  - If you already have it finalized, please include it. If you need to make changes, you can do so by sending them by Jan 31 to Anna Yortzidis at [anna.yortzidis@gmail.com](mailto:anna.yortzidis@gmail.com).
- How does an individual (not a dancer or singer) get registered with a parish?
  - Register a group, then click add members - here you can add the type of member (advisor, priest, etc.)
- Will the birthdays of advisors added to a group be factored into the age breakdown?
  - No. While, birthday is asked for everyone (advisors etc.), only those marked as dancer or choir will be factored into the age breakdown.
- Itemized pricing
  - Available as a print out under the metropolis website as FEES & SCHEDULE
  - See <https://www.nj.goarch.org/mdf>
- Costumes
  - Judging of costumes is separate from dance judging - you will be given comments to give you productive feedback, but this will not be included in scoring.
    - Ethnic presentation and presentation not costume
    - Wearing a costume correctly (ex. How headscarves are tied)
  - Costumes receive a separate award
  - Please send up the costume(s) you want to be judged (however many). Also, a director can go up with the kid(s).
- Competition - how many groups per church?
  - You don't need 5 groups! - The groups are based on the average age of the group. If you have mostly young GOYAns, then your group will compete against others with a similar average age.
  - What are the categories?

- Exhibition - for 5-6 year old average
  - Primary
  - Junior
  - Intermediate
  - Senior
  - Advanced
- How do you pay?
  - Payment by card or check
- Are children size T-shirts available?
  - We will have that added to registration.
- Can you please clarify the one email address per registration?
  - Each group (dance or choir) needs to have one email address to which we will send a confirmation email. You cannot then use that same email address to register another group or another individual.
- Is there prop set up time?
  - 5-10 minutes between performances, so 5-10 minutes to set up
- How does the timing by the judges work for short songs?
  - If less than a minute, it's not scored.
- Can 5 and 6 year olds participate?
  - If average age is 7 and under, they will be exhibition. But if the director wants them to compete, they can. They will still pay full price.
  - In notes under the second round, please mark exhibition if your group is age 7 and under if you are not competing.
- Are human props allowed?
  - If they aren't dancing, they do not need to register. But if they're dancing they are a dancer and are calculated into the average age.
- Please register your priest with your group.
- Can we get more clarity on what will happen on Friday?
  - Agenda details will be available at our last meeting leading up to MDF.
- Where do we send research for dance?
  - Please send to Anna Yortzidis at [anna.yortzidis@gmail.com](mailto:anna.yortzidis@gmail.com).
- Does a church have to have a Dance group or can they send only a Choir?
  - You do not need both. We are happy to have your community's youth participating in MDF 2026 in either or both categories!
- Everyone must register in advance for the Awards banquet as we will have a seating chart.
  - We'll work to seat everyone together
  - Please also register in advance for the Glendi.
- Will the Choir be provided a keyboard?
  - No. Please bring your own keyboard if you are using one for accompaniment.
- Does the Choral award during dancing need to be for a certain length to qualify?
  - No.
- Do you need to send costume photos in advance?
  - If possible, yes please.

- Also include who made them and share where the pattern is from etc.
- What workshops will be available this year?
  - Workshops will be announced soon.
- Liturgy will be assigned seating - attendance is mandatory
- Can GOYAns serve as Altar servers during liturgy?
  - Yes! If your GOYAn would like to serve, please email Fr Symeon at [frsymeon@nj.goarch.org](mailto:frsymeon@nj.goarch.org) so he can coordinate.
- Do parents have to attend with their children?
  - No. But each parish needs to have an advisor to child ratio that will allow them to supervise all youth in their care.
- ALL Advisors and directors must be fully compliant with youth safety.
  - For more information see: <https://www.nj.goarch.org/youth-safety>

For more information on judging:

- Please email Anna Yortzidis at [anna.yortzidis@gmail.com](mailto:anna.yortzidis@gmail.com).
- For more information on specifics of judging, please see:

<https://web.cvent.com/event/ce5c7597-769d-490f-bb2b-dc276a2b35f6/websitePage:9208a523-7bc7-445b-939b-e11f8e094cd6?environment=P2>

Questions outstanding

- Can we edit our registration ourselves?
  - We will ask Cvent.
  - You can register additional dancers later, but you'll need to tell us who to add if editing capabilities isn't possible.
- Will you provide props of tables and chairs?
  - We will ask the hotel if they can provide 2 rectangular tables (dining room size) and 8-12 tables.
- How many microphones will there be available for dance for instruments/singing?
  - We will work to have 2 or 3 available.
- What are the stage dimensions of the stage?
  - Stage dimensions for older and younger groups are the same as last year.
    - We can get dimensions next week.
    - We will confirm different flooring from last year.
- What is the schedule for workshops and practice rooms?
  - This schedule will go out once all competition schedules have been set. It will be emailed and posted to the website.