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Summer 2018

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Leadership 100 Chairman, Argyris Vassiliou, third from left, at Ribbon Cutting of Exhibit Hall of 44th Biennial Clergy-Laity Congress, with (L to R) Leadership 100 Founder, Chairman Emeritus and Honorary Chairman of Congress, Arthur C. Anton, Peter Bassett, Co-Chair, Metropolitan Apostolos of Derkoi, Metropolitan Maximos of Selyvria, Host Metropolitan Methodios of Boston, Archbishop Demetrios, and Michael Sophocles, Co-Chair. METROPOLITAN NICHOLAS AND METROPOLITAN SAVAS PRESENT CHRIST THE TRUE VINE ICON TO NEW MEMBERS AND OBELISKS TO FULFILLED MEMBERS AT 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Leadership 100 Conference IN February of 2018.



Metropolitan Nicholas Presents Icon to Nick and Panagiota Anagnostopoulos



Metropolitan Savas Presents Obelisk to James and Helen Ballerano



Metropolitan Nicholas Presents Obelisk to Demitrios and Georgia Halakos

# ELEADER

VOLUME 19 ISSUE 2 – Summer 2018 *Editorial Content* 

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THE LEADER

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# CONTENTS

### 2 MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIRMAN

8 LEADERSHIP 100 GRANTS AT WORK

#### NEW AND FULFILLED MEMBERS 25 AND IN MEMORIAM

### 27 NEWS OF OUR MEMBERS

### **MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIRMAN**



#### Dear Friends,

I am pleased to present the summer issue of The Leader, which primarily addresses Leadership 100 grants, the very essence of our mission. As we prepare to celebrate our 35th Anniversary in 2019, we can look with pride to the significant impact of our grants over these three decades and a half.

First, however, I wish to note our cover. I was privileged to join in the Ribbon Cutting of the Leadership 100-sponsored Exhibit Hall, as well as address the 44th Biennial Clergy-Laity Congress in Boston, July 1-5, 2018. This historic gathering of all the Hierarchs and Church leaders with the clergy and laity from more than 500 parishes across the nation was truly inspiring and built confidence in the future of our Greek Orthodox Church in America.

Inside the front cover we pay tribute to new members Nick and Panagiota Anagnostopoulos and fulfilled members James and Helen Ballerano and Demitrios and George Halakos who were honored at our Conference last February.

To date, we have distributed \$50.8 million in grants. Quite remarkable given our current total assets of \$90 million. The centerpiece of our grants has always been the support of Hellenic College/Holy Cross School of Theology. To date we have awarded \$20 million for scholarships to seminarians preparing for the priesthood at the School. We are currently considering another \$10 million grant at the rate of \$1 million per year. In line with this commitment, we continue to make it a top priority to support our clergy, through the Archdiocesan Presbyters Council, the National Sisterhood of Presvyteres, the Retired Clergy Association, and Clergy in Need.

In this issue, we have included a gracious and heartfelt letter, as well as, a resolution from the Archdiocesan Presbyters Council, in addition to a sincere note from another of our esteemed clergy.

Over its 35 years of existence, Leadership 100 has supported virtually all the National Ministries. We have been able to do this and continue to grow and thrive largely because we have been responsible, accountable and transparent in the management of the generous gifts of our members. We live in an era where all institutions are challenged. However, Leadership 100 continues to prosper because of our commitment to support our beloved Church, while at the same time remaining true to our fiduciary responsibility.

In the 2018 grant cycle, we have distributed \$2.7 million in grants, which includes prior grant commitments of \$1,385,400 for Hellenic College / Holy Cross Scholarship Program, a Digital Typikon Liturgical and Library Project, the Small Parish Program and Retired Clergy in Need.

The new grants of \$1,283,263 support the Department of Youth and Young Adult Ministries, Camping Ministries, the Orthodox Christian Studies Center at Fordham University, Ionian Village, the Orthodox Software Initiative, Department of Inter-Orthodox, Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations, Center for Family Care, Department of Stewardship, Outreach and Evangelism, and Orthodox Christian Fellowship (OCF). Several of these ministries are featured in this issue, along with an updated list of grants disbursed along with the pie chart of distributions.





Honorary Chairman, Arthur C. Anton, addresses 44th Biennial Clergy-Laity Congress Grand Banquet.

Given current circumstances, more was required of us in this grant cycle. Together with our former Chairman, George S. Tsandikos, and our Executive Director, Paulette Poulos, I met with the Chancellor of the Archdiocese, His Grace Bishop Andonios, to establish a protocol with the Archdiocese in which all grants go into an account restricted for their intended purposes. Any and all use of these funds is reported to the Leadership 100 Office, providing more transparency and monitoring. His Grace's letter outlining these steps is included on the following page.

In a final note, we are preparing the program for the 28th Annual Leadership 100 Conference, February 21-24, 2019, at the Boca Raton Resort & Club, Boca Raton, Florida. The Executive Committee and Board of Trustees meetings will be on February 20, 2019.

I look forward to joining you there to celebrate our 35th Anniversary.

With warm regards,

Argyris Vassiliou Chairman



Leadership 100 Chairman, Argyris Vassiliou, addresses 44th Biennial Clergy-Laity Congress Grand Banquet.

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GREEK ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE OF AMERICA

January 25, 2018

Mr. George Tsandikos, President Leadership 100 Endowment Fund Olympic Tower, Suite 403 645 Fifth Avenue New York, NY 10022

Dear Mr. Tsandikos,

ELEADER 4

Let me begin by expressing the heartfelt appreciation of the Archdiocese for the magnanimous support offered by Leadership 100 for the various programs and ministries throughout the years! With regards to grant monies received from this date forward, please know that the leadership of the Archdiocese is wholeheartedly committed to assuring the integrity of grant monies and that they are appropriately used. To that end, the following protocols will be followed:

- All grant monies will be deposited into a segregated account. Two signatures will be needed on checks/transfers from this account.
- On a quarterly basis, a copy of the monthly statement will be presented to the Director of Leadership, Miss Paulette Poulos, during her meeting with our CFO, Fr. Soterios Baroody, to review the use of the grants.
- The Audit Committee of the Archdiocese will include this segregated account in their annual review to assure adherence with the guidelines under which the funds were received.
- 4. As grant money is released/used for a particular program for which it was given, the Director of that program will immediately be notified when those monies are spent and a copy of the notification will also shared with the Leadership office.

Above and behind the aforementioned protocols please know that there is a firm commitment by the Officers of the Executive Committee (which includes His Eminence) as well as by the CFO and myself as Chancellor, that the Archdiocese will operate with transparency and accountability, not to mention and in accordance with appropriate accounting procedures. I trust the above satisfactorily address any concerns which Leadership may have regarding the proper handling and usage of grant monies received. Under NO circumstance will they be used for any other purpose than for the one for which they were awarded!

Again, we thank the membership of Leadership for their support of the Archdiocese and wish all its members every blessing from above.

Faithfully in the Service of our Lord, Oludoria +Bishop Andonios, Chancellor

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### ARCHDIOCESAN PRESBYTERS COUNCIL

"BROTHERS WHO LOVE AND SERVE ONE ANOTHER"



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METROPOLIS OF SAN FRANCISCO Rev. Fr. Photios Dumont Rev. Fr. Andrew Scordalakis June 29, 2018 Feast of the Holy Apostles Peter and Paul

Mr. Argyris Vassiliou, Chairman Leadership 100 645 Fifth Ave, Suite 403 New York, NY 10022

cc: Miss Paulette Poulos, Executive Director

Dear Mr. Vassiliou,

Greetings in Christ and continued prayers for the Lord's grace upon you and all the faithful members of Leadership 100.

The Archdiocesan Presbyters Council met recently at Saint Mark Church in Boca Raton, Florida, for the conduct of regular matters as well as to consider issues of concern to the clergy and faithful of our Holy Archdiocese.

During those discussions it was affirmed numerous times that the clergy, presvyteres and clergy families of our Holy Archdiocese have been greatly blessed by the tremendous support offered by Leadership 100 over the years. From the APC and NSP national retreats to Clergy-Laity workshops to the other grants that help grow our ministries, enrich our marriages and promote our wellness, we would not be able to develop and offer the beneficial opportunities we now can without Leadership 100.

In recognition of that, I am attaching, on behalf of the APC representatives, a resolution expressing our deep appreciation for all Leadership 100 has done and continues to do to the glory of God. Please share the attached document with your Executive Board, your members and any other recipients you choose.

We pray the Lord will continue to send faithful stewards of His Holy Church to continue to grow the membership, resources and blessings of Leadership 100, and may His blessings be on you all.

Faithfully yours in Christ,

Father John Touloumes President, APC

THE SOUL OF A PRIEST OUGHT TO BLAZE LIKE A LIGHT ILLUMINATING THE WORLD." ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM (350-407 AD)



### ARCHDIOCESAN PRESBYTERS COUNCIL

"BROTHERS WHO LOVE AND SERVE ONE ANOTHER"

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ELEADER 6

### RESOLUTION: THANKING LEADERSHIP 100

We, the representatives of the Archdiocesan Presbyters Council, on behalf of all the clergy of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America, express our deep respect and sincere gratitude to the Board of Trustees, Executive Committee, Executive Director and all members of the Archbishop lakovos Leadership 100 Fund for their generous and continuous support of many vital and visionary programs, projects and initiatives that have served to strengthen and support the ministries, marriages and wellbeing of the clergy of our Holy Archdiocese, and we hereby call upon all our brother clergy to offer thanks and prayers to our Most Gracious Lord on behalf of Leadership 100 as it strives to grow and prosper in its mission to be "a philanthropic driving force within the Church, the Greek American Community, and in the nation and the world that transforms institutions and lives."

> Adopted Unanimously APC Spring 2018 Meeting April 18, 2018 Boca Raton, Florida

THE SOUL OF A PRIEST OUGHT TO BLAZE LIKE A LIGHT ILLUMINATING THE WORLD. ST JOHN CHRYSOSTOM (350-407-AD)



Annunciation Greek Orthodox Cathedral Columbus, OH

Dear Argyris and Pauletta, May the Lord our God also bless and keep you both! Truly He is Risen. Thank you for all that you have done for me and continue to do for our Holy Church. We, the clergy, are truly blessed by the gifts and leadership you offer. Again, thank you for your service that helps so many also become servants.

Your servant in the Lord's vineya. Fr Christophes Zaferes

#### THE CENTER FOR FAMILY CARE By Rev. Fr. Alexander Goussetis

With its seeds sown at the 2002 Clergy-Laity Congress in Los Angeles, the Center for Family Care (CFC) of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America was founded in 2005. The ministry arose from a calling, in the words of His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios, "to affirm the importance of family as a blessed gift from God and to address the specific needs of families as they try to live in a very challenging culture and world." In the ensuing 13 years the CFC has diligently worked to deliver a variety of multimedia resources and participate in numerous events throughout the Archdiocese, with most of those efforts funded by generous support from Leadership 100, for the spiritual formation of the Archdiocese's faithful.

Fr. Constantine Sitaras, well known for his many years as the Director of Saint Basil Academy, was selected to lead the CFC in 2005. In 2016, Fr. Alexander Goussetis was appointed as the new Director, with Fr. Sitaras still retaining a role with the CFC as an adviser. Currently, the CFC staff is composed of six employees, two of whom are full time.

It should be noted that the CFC operates from a dual understanding of *family*. Of course, there is the family of the household, the basic social structure of any culture, traditionally comprised of parents and children. Conversely, all Orthodox Christians are, indeed, family, not by shared genetics, but

through baptism into Christ's Body, His Holy Church. Therefore, the ministry efforts of the CFC extend also to the greater family of faith. From the apostolic age there was no ministry for different populations but, rather, a holistic family ministry. Ministry is ultimately about connection, not merely running programs to fill calendars. And while it is challenging to address issues confronting people, parenting, eldercare, special needs, and addictions for example, they

are concerns that require acknowledgment and corresponding Orthodox Christian pastoral care. This may occur through faceto-face engagement or by utilizing every possible medium, electronic and otherwise.

#### **MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTS**

The CFC produces several printed resources and includes regular contributions to the Orthodox Observer as well as scheduled submissions for the Department of Religious Education's *PRAXIS* magazine. The CFC has also penned parent companion material for that same department's *Zine* series for young people. The CFC writes *Family Gospel Lessons* to connect families to the Sunday gospel readings. *The Journey of Marriage in the Orthodox Church*, authored by Dr. Philip Mamalakis and Fr. Charles Joanides, is a premarital preparation program that

embodies Orthodox Christian principles as well as sound research. The program is used in many parishes throughout the Archdiocese, and certain Metropolises use it exclusively for couples preparing for marriage.

Numerous presentations are conducted throughout the Archdiocese including marriage and family retreats as well as seminars and workshops covering any number of topics. There have also been four national conferences located in different Metropolises since 2013. The themes at each conference have alternated between subjects in family ministry and pastoral challenges in marriage. Again, the generosity of Leadership 100 has benefitted these events through scholarship awards that allowed funding for two representatives from each Metropolis and the Direct Archdiocesan District to attend as well as funding for the general administration of the conferences.

The CFC website is a wide channel of information including many articles and resources to support families in living out their faith as well as parish communities ministering to families and individuals. There is also a *Family Link* e-mail for current family ministry features that reaches over 1800 subscribers on a semimonthly basis. Through social media, the CFC Facebook page communicates to 2000-plus followers. The Facebook page's frequent features "*Becoming One*" and "*Marriage Minute*" are



devoted to increasing communication and compatibility between husbands and wives for marriage enrichment.

There are also several exciting recent projects. The CFC has entered a new relationship with Ancient Faith Radio and hosts a podcast titled *"Family Matters."* Also, *"Soak Up the Son"*, the CFC video summer program, recently began its second run. It exhorts families to not "take the summer off from the Church" through continued participation in prayer, worship, and other spiritual activities. In collaboration with the Department of Religious Education and the Department of Youth & Young Adults we are working on a comprehensive program titled *Personhood & Sexuality* to confront the many issues families face from living in a culture saturated with sex. This program will look at the ageappropriateness of when certain topics should be addressed with our youth and how best to address those questions within the context of the Church's teaching.

#### **CLERGY COUPLE CARE**

As a sub-ministry of the CFC, Clergy Couple Care (CCC) was formally launched in 2011. Its primary objective is to minister to the unique and challenging needs of clergy and seminarian marriages. Presvytera Kerry Pappas, of Stamford, CT has served as Coordinator of CCC from its inception. Leadership 100 has faithfully supported CCC with yearly grants that fund its ongoing work and initiatives. Its formation came about as a pastoral response to the increasing numbers of divorce and distressed marriages within this demographic.

The inception and subsequent development of CCC has been largely informed by the collective experience of clergy couples within the Archdiocese. In addition, consistent research findings have driven our endeavors, particularly the Danielsen Institute's telling study *"Trauma, Relational Spirituality, and Resilience: A Study of Greek Orthodox Priests and Presvyteres."* Its results revealed clergy couples regularly face challenges such as isolation, boundary issues, vicarious trauma, and taxing time demands, all of which can inordinately stress a clergy marriage and family.

The resources and projects of CCC are entirely designed to promote spiritual, physical, and emotional wellbeing for clergy couples and their families. There are online resources such as the CCC website, which is only accessible to clergy couples, webinars which also have a restricted audience, and other CCC-led internet interactions that foster communion between Presvyteres.

The Pastoral Institute in Columbus, Georgia is the only residential program in the United States specializing in clergy and clergy couple therapy that has an Orthodox therapist, Rev. Dr. Stephen Muse. The *Kairos* program at this center has become a place of transformation for clergy couples in distressing and/or transitional periods. A 2017 grant from Leadership 100 has provided funds for 4-5 couples to attend this program, which has been life transforming for all who have attended.

The CCC has increasingly become a contact point for clergy couples experiencing duress and is able to provide support and referral according to the specific difficulty. Face-to-face engagement is also a prominent part of CCC's work. Clergy peer learning groups have come about as a result of the Danielsen Institute study's findings and three priests and Presvytera Pappas have been trained as facilitators. Presvytera Pappas also leads the Seminarian Wives' and Couples' Ministry at Holy Cross to help prepare these groups for a life in ministry.

#### **CURRENT GRANTS**

#### FAMILY MINISTRY WEBINARS

The CFC is especially thankful to Leadership 100 for the grant awarded earlier this year allocated for family ministry webinars. CFC webinars have rapidly become one of the most popular resources offered, and the one with the greatest reach. Altogether, the webinars have been viewed over 12,000 times in addition to the range of 50-200 registrants that participate during each live broadcast. After the initial airing, webinars are archived and supplemented with study materials for further utilization. Parishes, families, and individuals are encouraged to view archived webinars as a cost-effective way to 'bring' noted Orthodox Christian speakers into their communities and homes. This funding will ensure suitable honoraria for webinar speakers as well as the means for sufficient administration and promotional efforts.

#### NATIONAL CLERGY COUPLE RETREAT

The CCC is greatly appreciative for the financial support of Leadership 100 for the grant awarded earlier this year that will enable the sponsorship of its first national clergy couple retreat in 2020. The idea for such a gathering originated from the emerging popularity of CCC programs as more clergy and clergy couples have become familiar with its work.

In a relatively short time, the Center for Family Care has made tremendous strides in its mission to make family ministry a part of the collective consciousness of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America. The staff is extremely grateful for the steadfast support of Leadership 100. This generosity helps to deliver needed resources to homes, parishes, and clergy while funding a wide array of functions. With God's grace, the ministry looks forward to serving the needs of the Archdiocese family for many years to come.

#### TOTAL GRANTS FROM LEADERSHIP 100, INCLUDING MARRIAGE AND FAMILY = \$1,795,490

#### **Rev. Fr. Alexander Goussetis**



Rev. Alexander Goussetis serves as Director of the Center for Family Care of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese. He is a graduate of Drexel University (B.S. in Accounting), Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology (M.Div.), and Andover-Newton Theological

Fr. Alexander Goussetis

School (D.Min. in Psychology and Pastoral Counseling). Prior to his appointment to the Center for Family Care, Fr. Alexander served more than twenty years as a parish priest, taught World Religion classes at the university level, and authored four books on Orthodox life and faith. His pastoral emphasis is making the Orthodox faith relevant for families in their everyday lives and encouraging participation in all facets of our Holy Tradition. He is the host of Family Matters, a podcast on Ancient Faith Radio. He is married to Presvytera Lisa, and they have three children – Julia, Nicholas, and Sophia.

### DEPARTMENT OF STEWARDSHIP, OUTREACH & EVANGELISM

The Department of Outreach & Evangelism was created in January of 2003 with the following five-point mission:

1. Revitalize the faith of active Orthodox Christians;

2. Reach out to inactive Orthodox Christians;

3. Meet the needs of those inquiring about the Orthodox Christian faith;

4. Offer the tools for parish renewal; and

5. Offer guidance in the establishment of new parishes.

In 2009 Stewardship was added and the Ministry became the Department of Stewardship, Outreach & Evangelism. Our mission continues to focus on the parish, providing parish leadership with practical tools and training to engage active and inactive members, inquirers and those unaware of Orthodox Christianity personally in order that they learn more about the faith and ministries of the Greek Orthodox Church, leading them to become fully committed members of the Body of Christ, actively participating in and supporting the ministries of the local parish, the Metropolis and the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese. Efforts are made to coordinate programs and initiatives with other departments and organizations of the Archdiocese.

From the start, the Department would receive inquiries on methods of promoting "church growth." We read in the Book of Acts (2:47) that "...the Lord added to their numbers daily those who were being saved...." These parish leaders were seeking to allow for church growth by making their parish a healthy and vibrant place of worship, fellowship and service to others. The Department seeks to offer various tools to assist them in this effort.

One comprehensive tool came to our attention several years ago when the Director was invited to participate in "making Orthodox" a process called Natural Church Development (NCD). This program, in use for over 30 years and in over 80,000 parishes worldwide, is designed to assist parishes to objectively evaluate, assess and measure church health by focusing on eight quality characteristics of ministry. The most attractive aspects of the ONCD program are that it is quantifiable and engages church members in the process. The program was piloted in the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese in the two Long Island parishes of Resurrection in Brookville, and Archangel Michael in Roslyn Heights/Port Washington. Both implemented the program through several cycles and saw positive results.

With the assistance of a Leadership 100 Grant, we were able to implement the program in additional parishes throughout the Archdiocese. The success of this rollout has shown the program to be a viable tool for evaluating and improving parish ministry in a quantifiable way. An additional benefit of this program is the engagement of parishioners in the process through surveys, meetings and focus groups.

#### **PLANNED GIVING**

The National Stewardship Ministries Subcommittee on Planned Giving provides a complete set of resources to assist parish members in end-of-life issues and estate planning, encouraging them to remember the Church in their plans. An investment by the parish in this program could yield exponential results for the parishes while providing our members with much-needed guidance and materials, including an Orthodox Christian Living Will, for end-of-life planning from an Orthodox Christian perspective. Printing of these materials was done with the support of a generous grant from Leadership 100.

Planned Giving resources include:

1. A General Outline of the Various Ways to Make a Planned Gift;

2. A Tri-Fold Brochure for general distribution in the parish;

3. A Parish Implementation Plan for a Planned Giving Program;

4. A Planned Giving Poster for Display in the Parishes;

5. Sample Documents for Making the desired Planned Gift(s);

6. An Article co-authored by parish priests of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese titled "Preparing to Say Good-Bye: Do You Have a Plan?" offering guidance from an Orthodox Christian perspective; and

7. An Orthodox Christian Living Will/End-of-Life Planning Document that is legally binding in most states (in final stages of preparation).

LEADER 10



### REACHING THE DISTANTLY CONNECTED: An Urgent Ministry for the Orthodox Church

Produced in 2016 and distributed throughout the Archdiocese, this handbook for reaching the distantly connected is distilled from extensive research done by Fr. Charles Joanides, PhD, LMFT, who served the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese for 16 years as a researcher in the area of Interfaith Marriage. This volume applies Fr. Charles' research on intermarried couples and the non-Orthodox spouse to the topic of reaching those distantly connected to the Orthodox Church, outlining the case for this ministry and providing a roadmap and resources for addressing this area of Outreach & Evangelism. This research and the printing of the handbook have been made possible by generous grants from Leadership 100.

### NATIONAL CONFERENCE: Bringing Orthodoxy to America

In October 2016, with the generous support of a Leadership 100 grant, over 150 Orthodox Christians from throughout the United States converged on Saint John the Baptist Church, just outside of Portland, Oregon, for a 3-day National Conference on Missions & Evangelism. This first-ever Greek Orthodox conference dedicated to domestic mission was presented by the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese Department of Stewardship, Outreach & Evangelism and the Metropolis of San Francisco Commission for Orthodox Missions & Evangelism (C.O.M.E.) with a generous grant from Leadership 100. Speakers included Fr. Luke Veronis, Fr. Theodore Dorrance, Fr. Evan Armatas and Fr. Barnabas Powell. The conference welcomed representatives from every Metropolis and the New York District of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese or America, as well as guests from Kenya, Romania, Canada, and other jurisdictions.

#### TOTAL GRANTS FROM LEADERSHIP 100 = \$1,428,530

### DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AND YOUNG ADUILT MINISTRIES

By Steven Christoforou

It all started with a cell phone.

I joined the Department of Youth and Young Adult Ministries in June of 2013. Our task was clear yet daunting: how could we rethink and reimagine ministry for young people in a way that was both more effective and more Christ-centered? We all know why the stakes are so high. Every parishioner in the Orthodox Church knows that, over the past few decades, we've had increasing difficulty connecting with young people.

Research shows that as many as 60% of American Christians disconnect from faith as they transition from youth into young adulthood. And, though we don't have any precise numbers for the Orthodox Church, there's very good reason to believe our disconnection may be even more severe. In my own life, for example, about 90% of the young people I grew up with have fallen away from the Church.

These are daunting, and potentially demoralizing, numbers. Yet, as we considered what to do in the summer of 2013, these statistics became our greatest inspiration.

We reimagined the youth office and created  $Y^2 A M$ , a newly invigorated team with a renewed sense of ministry vision and purpose. And we put our new direction to the test as we launched our



Y<sup>2</sup>AM Studio at the Archdiocese

first project: "Be the Bee." We filmed our first 40 episodes in a laughably crude way. I would open a script as a Word document and, with that on my laptop screen, scotch tape my iPhone to my old MacBook. That sounds ridiculous, but my iPhone actually had a significantly better camera. And we certainly couldn't afford anything like a real camera, let alone a teleprompter.

Despite the crude production process, "Be the Bee" instantly made a big impact around the world. Feedback poured in from young adults who energized about the Church as never before, and from parents who were amazed that their children wanted to watch our videos and then pray as a family and attend Church services. We even heard from people who converted to the

11 ILEADER

Orthodox Church because of the clear and compelling message in every episode of "Be the Bee."

The Archdiocese eventually got us a new camera, which helped give "Be the Bee" more of a professional look. And, even more significantly, Leadership 100 decided to invest in the future of our program by funding our



Steven Christoforou at Y<sup>2</sup>AM Studio at the Archdiocese

second season of "Be the Bee" retreats (BeeTreats). It allowed us to create a valuable and transformative ministry experience, not just for youth but for parents and youth workers and other adults as well. It allowed us to spend a full day with Orthodox Christians: praying together, learning together, growing in faith together.

"Be the Bee" ended with 133 episodes and was a fixture in homes

and parishes around the Church. One

Metropolis reported that 70% of its parishes used "Be the Bee" in their Sunday School programs. Summer camps from multiple Orthodox jurisdictions revealed that "Be the Bee" was an important part of their curriculum.

We even heard from a young man in South Africa who, with his parish priest, organized a weekly study group so people could watch "Be the Bee" together and deepen their faith. Even as the series

ended, we continued to reach multiple generations of Christians in face-to-face, prayerful, and transformative ministry experiences because of Leadership 100's generous decision to continue funding our BeeTreats.

As we prepared to launch a new series, Leadership 100 again opened doors for us. A generous grant allowed us to build an inhouse studio at the Archdiocese, complete with a sophisticated 4K camera. This setup became the backbone of "Live the Word," a weekly video series explaining the Sunday Gospel and Epistle readings.

We recently ended this series, having produced 73 episodes in all. Parish priests used it to prepare sermons. Parents told us how amazed they were to see their kids actually read the Bible on their own. Young adults told us that their lives developed a deeper

#### TOTAL LEADERSHIP 100 GRANTS,

sense of purpose as they began to understand themselves in light of the Scripture and God's unfolding story of salvation.

And yes, that young man from South Africa has been using "Live the Word" in his weekly fellowship meetings, as have families and parishes from Virginia Beach to Venice Beach.

As we look ahead, we're excited about the doors that Leadership 100 continues to open for us. We're currently working on an innovative new

cutting-edge video

Introduction to Orthodox

Christianity. With the support

of Leadership 100, this series

will be our most impressive yet;

we're going to retain a leading

animation studio to help us

create an engaging and

dynamic series unlike

ministry course, which we hope will change the way Orthodox Christians form new generations of Christians. Apart from the online component, we hope to use Leadership 100's generous funding to organize a conference to really help people dig into the difficult questions of ministry and how best to inspire young Christians.

In the fall, we're going to turn our attention to completing a



Indianapolis BeeTreat at Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church in Carmel, IN (May 2017).

*ch in Carmel, IN (May 2017).* anything we've ever produced. And, along the way, we're going to continue leading BeeTreats across the Archdiocese: meeting people face-to-face, praying with them, helping lead life-changing (and life-giving) ministry for multiple generations of Orthodox Christians.

As a young adult myself, someone who knows and loves far too many people who have fallen away from the Church over the years, I'm grateful to Leadership 100 for taking the big dreams of  $Y^2AM$  seriously.

Five years ago, we thought we could nourish the faith of young people with a cell phone and a simple challenge: to be the bee and find God in everything, every day. Leadership 100 saw the potential in our call and has helped us energize and revitalize the faith of tens of thousands of people around the world.

Glory to God for all things.

### INCLUDING PREVIOUSLY ADMINISTERED OFFICE OF CAMPING MINISTRIES, IONIAN VILLAGE AND ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP = \$3,861,730 EXCLUDING PREVIOUSLY ADMINISTERED OFFICE OF CAMPING MINISTRIES, IONIAN VILLAGE AND ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP = \$794,730

### ORTHODOX CHIRISTIAN FELLOWSHIIP

#### By James P. Gianakis

Orthodox Christian Fellowship (OCF) (www.ocf.net) is the official campus ministry of the Orthodox Church and one of the seven official agencies of the Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops, charged with transforming the lives of college students by guiding them along the path to Jesus Christ and His Church during these formative years.

Founded in 1966 by Bishop Demetrios (Couchell) of Xanthos during his early years of working at the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese, and then formally revived in 2001 by three seminarians – Fr. Michael Anderson (OCA), Fr. Mark Leondis (GOA), and Fr. Michael Nasser (Antiochian) – OCF was a direct response to the reality that every year, thousands of young adults leave the comfort and security of their respective Orthodox homes and parishes that have nurtured them from birth to take an important step in their personal, educational, and social development. Often, that step brings them miles away to colleges

and universities with student bodies of diverse and different backgrounds, different cultures, and wide-ranging perspectives on issues of morality and faith.

OCF's goal is to ensure that Orthodox college students continue to make Christ and His Church a driving force – in love, support, service, and

fellowship – with each decision they make during that time and the years that follow. Knowing that there is support from fellow students, clergy, and faculty members who share their Orthodox faith, encourages them. Knowing that there are Orthodox resources that are tailored to the contemporary moral issues they face, motivates them to embrace debate and to seek out answers. These factors give them greater confidence in demonstrating to their peers what it is like to be and to live as Orthodox Christians.

OCF is structured as a collaborative Orthodox effort, with jurisdictions pledging to work together to maximize limited resources and be present in connecting with Orthodox college students on a greater number of campuses. Presently, OCF is active on more than 400 campuses across the country, which is an increase from 320 last year and 247 the year before.

OCF contacts new students during their first days on campus and connects them with fellow Orthodox students and with a local parish while attending school. This is done through regular chapter meetings, activities, and an OCF Smartphone App of daily scripture, reminders and college focused resources. Students are engaged in service efforts in local communities and

ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

around the globe – with over 40 regional and district retreats planned each year, national conferences organized in different locations across the country, and "Real Break" mission trips to such places as Alaska, Albania, Constantinople, Jerusalem, New Orleans, Mexico, Romania, and Thessaloniki. With students working alongside clergy, lay volunteers, and OCF staff at every level of its ministry, OCF is the perfect training ground for young adults to develop their leadership skills while serving their peers, enriching their communities, and discovering and deepening their own Orthodox faith.

His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios has appointed His Grace Bishop Gregory of Nyssa of the American Carpatho-Russian Diocese of the U.S.A. to serve as OCF's Episcopal liaison to the Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops. The OCF's current Board of Directors consists of representatives of the Departments of Youth and Young Adult Ministries of many of

> the Assembly's jurisdictions: Dn. Alexander Cadman (OCA), Steven Christoforou (GOA), Natalie Kapeluck-Nixon (Ukrainian), Eva Konstantakos (GOA), Fr. Anthony Yazge (Antiochian), and Fr. Miles Zdinak (Carpatho-Russian). The Board of Directors also includes Nicholas Furris, James P. Gianakis, Paul Kotos, Steven Laduzinsky, and

Timothy Tassopoulos. Members of the staff of OCF include Christina Andresen (Manager of Chapter Relations and the Summer Leadership Institute), Christine Burke (Bookkeeping), and Donna Levas (Manager of Operations and National Programs).

Since 2011, OCF has been blessed to have directed the efforts of its national office from the campus of Hellenic College Holy Cross School of Theology, where it increasingly looks to promote its mission and ministry through its interaction and cooperation with the administration, faculty, and seminarians of our most important Orthodox college community. OCF has also initiated collaborative efforts with sister agencies of the Assembly, such as the International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC), the Orthodox Christian Mission Center (OCMC), and the Orthodox Archdiocese Department of Religious Education, Leadership 100, the Greek Orthodox Ladies Philoptochos Society, and FOCUS North America, in its goal of reaching as many college students as possible, and through them, expanding the depth and breadth of its impact.

TOTAL LEADERSHIP 100 GRANTS = \$279,000

### SUMMER LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE



Each year, OCF selects a group of 18 students from campuses across the country and varying Orthodox jurisdictions to serve as its Student Leadership Board (SLB), representing their peers at the regional level. They help to plan and to implement OCF's national programs, to produce media and publications targeting the needs of college students, and to create new resources and programs for Orthodox students on campus.

In August, OCF will host its annual week-long leadership intensive program known as the Summer Leadership Institute (SLI). It is the only leadership program designed specifically for Orthodox college students and allows OCF to prepare Orthodox young adults to be leaders in the Church and their communities. The curriculum is updated with each year's program, and workshops are led by key Orthodox clergy, thinkers, and speakers in conjunction with the OCF Board of Directors and staff to provide a robust leadership training program. SLI also provides students with opportunities for prayer and reflection,

team building, ministry orientation, and programmatic and strategic planning.

The initial idea behind SLI was to provide OCF's top student leaders with a program that emphasized personal development and leadership training, in addition to preparing them for the specific work of serving on the SLB. With the generous support of Leadership 100, OCF successfully expanded SLI in 2017 to include all college students interested in becoming active and informed Orthodox leaders – with 39 student attendees from across the United States and Canada! This year, again with Leadership 100's generous support, the target is 50 student leaders! By expanding this leadership training beyond the SLB, Leadership 100 has allowed OCF to: enlarge the pool of students to serve as future SLB members, College Conference committee members, and District Student Leaders; develop stronger student leaders for OCF chapters; expand the influence and impact of national OCF by creating a stronger and more consistent connection between the SLB and other student leaders across the OCF network; and invest in the future leaders of our parishes by empowering more young people as responsible, Christ-centered stewards of the Orthodox Church.

The SLB attends two Development Days of planning and brainstorming for the OCF year, including sessions on communication skills and team building, through which the SLB can develop its roles and responsibilities for the academic year. Following the two days, OCF

provides a four-day SLI for its SLB and any college-aged young adults who register to attend. These four days contain leadership workshops led by the OCF Board members and national staff, the SLB Chairman, and high-quality, Orthodox guest speakers, breakout sessions on topics of interest, student discussions, and hands-on service projects.

These student leaders then take this training back to campus, and together with OCF's Board members, national office, and network of clergy and lay leaders, develop resources to support events across the country throughout the year, bringing thousands of Orthodox college students together. The events include recognized Orthodox speakers on contemporary issues, prayer and worship, fellowship among our young adults, and service to the local parish and community – whether they are in regular campus gatherings, district and regional events in remote corners of the country, or week-long "Real Break" mission trips across the globe. OCF has also developed and utilizes social





media, podcasts, and videos, with the rollout of a new four-part, web-based training series this past year.

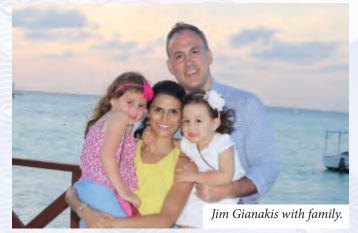
Through its partnership with and the generous support from the Greek Orthodox Ladies Philoptochos Society, OCF's next step is to truly personalize the engagement of our college students with local Orthodox parishes and communities to create a "home away from home" and deeper connection to our Orthodox faith and the Church.

The Orthodox young adults that OCF has been privileged to serve have already emerged as leaders, and promise to be the future leaders, in our Church, our communities and our families. Every year, the return on this investment in our student leaders is evident – confirmed by the initiative of these young adults, the growth in number and impact of OCF's programs, and the positive feedback that OCF has received from every hierarch, parish, university, charitable organization, and individual with whom our student leaders interact.

### James P. Gianakis Chairman, Board of Directors

Jim Gianakis was appointed to the Board of Directors of OCF in 2010 by His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios, Geron of America. He has served as OCF's Legal Counsel and for the past three years as OCF's Chairman. In that time, OCF has expanded its programs – in number and impact – stabilized, grew and diversified the sources of its finances, established an endowment, and developed a recognized and consistent brand with accountabilities and collaboration across its network of clergy and lay leadership as well as with numerous Orthodox organizations. Gianakis has also been appointed by His Eminence to serve on the Archdiocesan Council and for the past two years as the President of the Board of Trustees of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocesan Cathedral of the Holy Trinity, which he has served as a Board Member and Legal Counsel since 2011.

He has spent the past 25 years in board rooms, court rooms, and classrooms, serving the Church, community, and most particularly, our youth and young adults. Gianakis has advised several national Orthodox ministries and serves on the Board of a number of philanthropic not-for-profit organizations. He has co-developed a lecture and discussion series on leadership, ethics and contemporary moral issues, which he taught to high school seniors for 18 years, and a career mentoring program, allowing young adults to further develop an understanding of their faith and reflect on how it guides decisions they make in school, at work, in personal and professional relationships, and where they have opportunities to leave an impact.



Gianakis is an attorney who concentrates his law practice on a nationwide representation of financial services, fashion, media, new industry start-ups, and family businesses in corporate, labor and employment, regulatory and compliance, and general commercial matters. He has also served as an adjunct professor, developing curriculum on the evolving opportunities in and challenges of Social Media and the Law, and as a compliance advisor to NCAA intercollegiate athletic programs.

Gianakis lives in New York City with his wife Stefanie and two daughters, Lexi and Mia. After graduating from Swarthmore College with a double major in Political Science and Psychology and a concentration in Public Policy, he received his law degree from the Seton Hall University School of Law.

15 ELEADER

#### GRANTS AΤ WORK

### IONIAN VILLAGE LAUNCHES IV NEXT



*IV NEXT trip to Greece and Ionian Village.* 

IV Next, a ministry of the Office of Ionian Village supported by a grant from Leadership 100 was inaugurated from May 31 through June 11, 2018. Forty (40) young adults participated in a twelve-day itinerary including time at the Ionian Village campgrounds, as well as excursions to the cornerstones of the Ionian Village travel program. The emphasis of the ministry was on personal and professional development.

"Leadership 100 is pleased that IV Next, supported by our grant, was successful in orienting our Greek Orthodox young adults to integrate their faith and professional lives with the help of mentoring by our members. We fully recognize and support the importance of engaging young adults through innovative ministries" remarked Agryris Vassiliou, Leadership 100 Chairman.

Participants spent time evaluating their own vocational calling through various "Orthodox Life" sessions and devotionals with their trip leaders, Fr. Vincent and Presvytera Nadia Minucci of Saint Demetrios in Weston, Massachusetts. Both Fr. Vincent and Presvytera Nadia are experienced youth workers and guided the participants along a journey of true self-reflection and growth.

The young adults participating in IV Next were challenged not only by the new relaxing and "tech-free" environment that Ionian Village has to offer, but also by the leadership team both in

Greece and in the United States who provided them with thought provoking discussions about being an Orthodox Christian professional in a secular and anxiety-ridden world.

"The campgrounds and excursions provide the young adults with perspective as many of their professional and social viewpoints are tested and transformed in a short period of time through talks, discussions, and activities with their peers" commented Presvytera Nadia. "The young adults leave feeling refreshed and armed to take on the social, spiritual, and professional challenges that lie ahead not only with concrete resources provided at IV Next but with connections to leaders willing to help them throughout their journey."

Working together with members of Leadership 100, IV Next was also able to give participants direct access to successful members of the Greek-American community. For the developmental sessions, participants met via live video conference with Dimitra Manis and Erinn Goldenberg to discuss "First steps of starting your career"; Kathleen Chimicles and Father Jim Kordaris



IV NEXT trip to Greece and Ionian Village.

regarding "Financial planning and what Stewardship really looks like"; and Katherine Relle, Mike Manatos and Greg Papadeas to work the maze of what it really means to be "Young, professional AND Orthodox."

#### AT GRANTS WORK



IV NEXT trip to Greece and Ionian Village.

"We really wanted to focus on integration in this program. Too often, people think that being a young adult means balancing the church on one side of your life, and then your social and professional life on the other side of this scale of life" remarked Father Evagoras Constantinides, Director of Ionian Village. "To me, I think that's where a lot of our problems originate from. We talked about integration during IV Next because being a successful young adult doesn't mean balancing Christ and your life on a scale, it means finding a way to make Christ a part of your everyday life."



IV Next was fully underwritten by the grant from Leadership 100, and would not have been possible, according to Fr. Evagoras, without its response to the crisis the Orthodox Church is facing regarding young adult ministry. He expressed the hope of continuing to work with Leadership 100 to develop and provide ground-breaking ministries to engage as many young adults as possible and bring them into the fold of the Orthodox and Greek cultural community.

### FR. VINCENT AND PRESVYTERA NADIA MINUCCI, IV NEXT TRIP LEADERS



Fr. Vincent and Presvytera Nadia Minucci

Fr. Vincent and Presvytera Nadia Minucci were absolutely thrilled and honored to lead the 2018 IV Next trip. Fr. Vinnie and Pres. Nadia were married in April of 2014 and reside in Framingham, MA, a suburb of Boston. Fr. Vinnie is the Associate Priest at St. Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church in Weston, MA and Nadia is an Assistant Professor at the Connell School of Nursing at Boston College. Camp holds a very special place in the hearts of both Fr. Vinnie and Pres. Nadia. Fr. Vinnie has served on staff of many Orthodox Summer Camps around the country and Nadia has served at her local parish camp in California. Fr. Vinnie and Presvytera Nadia were so excited to be back at Ionian Village. They previously served as trip leaders for Spiritual Odyssey 2015.

Fr. Vinnie is a graduate of Hellenic College with a B.A. in Religious Studies and Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology with his Masters of Divinity. Nadia is a graduate of Harvey Mudd College with a B.S. in Mathematical Biology and the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health with a Doctor of Science (ScD) in Epidemiology.

**ELEADER** 

### IONIAN VILLAGE REVITALIZES TRAVELING RETREAT PROGRAM WITH GRANT FROM LEADERSHIP 100

IV On-the-Go, the traveling retreat program of the Office of Ionian Village will return in the Fall of 2018 after a two-year hiatus with the support of a Leadership 100 five-year grant to revitalize the program. The program, which successfully ran from 2014 to 2016, offers the parishes and young people of the Greek Orthodox



Archdiocese a taste of Ionian Village's unique and interactive approach to youth ministry.

The goal of Ionian Village is to bring the young people of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of A merica into a close

understanding and love for both the Orthodox faith and Hellenic heritage. While the Ionian Village summer camping programs aim to reach as many campers as possible each year, IV On-the-Go provides the opportunity for even more young people to interact with the Ionian Village Ministry here in America throughout the school year.

Each IV On-the-Go program is catered to the individual needs and availability of the host parish or community. IV On-the-Go can accommodate a variety of youth ministry retreat options: a oneday retreat, a lock-in, an overnight trip, or even a full weekend-long retreat. The only responsibility of the host parish is to provide a venue, food, and the participants! The IV On-the-Go Team takes care of everything from creating a schedule, writing content, procuring supplies, and even supplying experienced staff for these exciting faith-centered events.

IV On-the-Go programs include a mix of energetic, athletic, and creative activities with engaging discussions, all designed to establish a level of comfort and trust with staff members and to ultimately foster an environment of growth and reflection. Each IV On-the-Go event is supervised and led by experienced young adult members of the Ionian Village Team from all over the country.

The Leadership 100 five-year grant of \$75,000 is aimed at maximizing participation and offers an opportunity for as many parishes as possible, regardless of size or income, to participate. It will fully subsidize costs for IV On-the-Go and allow it to facilitate 10 retreats each year for a total of 50 retreats over the life of the grant.

IV On-the-Go is open to every parish and youth group across the Archdiocese. For more information about this exciting ministry and to have IV On-the-Go visit your parish, please visit www.ionianvillage.org/iv-on-the-go.

### THE DEPARTMENT OF INTER-ORTHODOX, ECUMENICAL & INTERFAITH RELATIONS

#### By Nicholas R. Anton, Interim-Director

The mission of the Department of Inter-Orthodox, Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations is to witnesses Christ's love to all people. Often misunderstood as simply the "ecumenical" department, the Department's mandate ranges from Inter-Orthodox affairs to contemporary social issues.

The Department consists of four pillars: Inter-Orthodox, Ecumenical, Interfaith, and Social Issues.

1. Inter-Orthodox: As the exarch of the Ecumenical Patriarchate, the Archbishop is the Chair of the Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops of the United States of America. As such, the Department supports the Chairmanship of the Assembly by planning the annual meeting, staffing the Orthodox-Catholic dialogues, and liaising with the secretariat and other hierarchs. Furthermore, the Department handles all Archdiocesan interactions with the other Orthodox Christian jurisdictions, in the United States of America and abroad.

**2. Ecumenical:** The Department is responsible for all the inter-Christian memberships and dialogues in the US. Portfolios include the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA, Creation Justice Ministries, Church World Service, Christian Churches Together, Christians for Middle East Peace, and many more. Beyond memberships, the Department maintains relationships with individuals and other churches including the Oriental Orthodox Churches and the Roman Catholic Church.

**3. Interfaith:** Admittedly an area in which the Department can expand its footprint, this pillar interfaces with several other religions, for example Judaism, Islam, Buddhism, Hinduism, etc. The primary platforms of engagement, aside from individual relationships, are through institutional partnerships such as Religions for Peace USA, the Appeal of Conscience Foundation, and the KAICIID Dialogue Center.

**4. Social Issues:** Whether within the realm of Inter-Orthodox, Ecumenical or Interfaith, the Department follows two basic tracks: 1) theological dialogue and 2) united action on social issues. Furthermore, Orthodox Christian implementing agencies and organizations, such as International Orthodox Christian Charities or Orthodox Christian Prison Ministry, fall under the Assembly. Because of the significant overlap, the

#### WORK GRANTS AT

Archdiocese's engagement on social issues has always been the responsibility of the Department.

Aside from action through partnerships, the primary outlet for social engagement is through the Archdiocese's accreditation and work at the United Nations. The Department considers UN Programs a pan-Orthodox ministry of the Archdiocese.

Both at the UN, but also externally, the Department works from a human rights perspective on human trafficking, water and sanitation, public health, racism, creation care (the environment), gender equality, children and youth, Middle East peace, and refugee crises.

#### Past & Present

With the generous support of Leadership 100, the Department has expanded the Archdiocese's recognition and influence outside the Orthodox Christian world and produced several resources to connect Orthodox Christian faithful to this reality.

Over the past four years, the Department has organized fifteen events at the UN, influenced international policies on sustainable development and migrants, convened a major colloquium on Orthodox Christianity & Humanitarianism, started a successful faith-based diplomacy fellowship program, educated eight interns, and supported the Holy and Great Council of the Orthodox Church.

Simultaneously, the Department has produced four volumes in the Faith Matters book series, the Faith Matters blog, three websites (one on Orthodox Christianity and the Civil Rights Movement, one on Orthodox Christianity and Humanitarianism, and one on the Department's UN Programs), a full volume in the Faith and International Affairs academic journal, a Water Justice Guide, a monthly newsletter connecting Orthodox Christianity to a different social issue (sign up at ecumenical.goarch.org), as well as other fact sheets, promotional materials, and smaller pamphlets.

While programs and publications are not achievements in themselves, a Nigerian man put it well upon first interaction. He said, "You don't know me, but I know your Department. I heard from colleagues (in international humanitarian institutions) that your Department has put the Archdiocese on the map, that it is a force to be reckoned with. And now, I know who the Orthodox are."

#### Future

While continuing the daily work and existing programs, the Department is planning a few upcoming special projects:

1. Women and the Holy and Great Council Booklet: This book is the fourth volume in the Department's existing "Faith Matters" publication series.



2. Ecumenical Guidebook for Clergy: In early 2017, the Department hosted a webinar with clergy from across the United States. The foremost request was for a guidebook for

United Nations meeting.

ecumenical relations. This publication will provide clergy with information about baptism and marriage, dialogue and services, and other essential information about engaging with other churches.

3. Orthodoxy & Public Health Book Series & Summit: This project will convene a series of high-level round table discussions on Orthodox Christianity & Public Health. The Department will subsequently publish the resulting papers. The whole process will culminate in a summit to launch the final publication(s).

4. Racism Narrative: As part of the NCC's ACT to End Racism campaign - launched this past Holy Tuesday at St. Sophia's Cathedral in Washington, DC - the member churches of the NCC committed to writing narratives of their church's involvement in the Civil rights movement.

5. "Blue" the Archdiocese: The Blue Planet Project of the Council of Canadians runs a Blue Communities Project. The Archdiocese already meets 2/3 of the requirements to be a Blue Community for 1) environmental sustainability and 2) a more economical option than bottled water coolers.



Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops

The Department's work - past, present, and future - would not be possible without the support of Leadership 100. Thank you! For more information visit ecumenical.goarch.org or email ecumenical@goarch.org.

**TOTAL LEADERSHIP 100** *GRANTS* = \$1,785,000

#### Nicholas R. Anton



Nicholas R. Anton

A Chicago native, Nicholas R. Anton matriculated from Assumption Greek Orthodox Church in Homer Glenn, Illinois (formerly Olympia Fields). Among other hobbies, he enjoys carpentry, cooking, puzzles, traveling the world, watching television, and rock climbing. He currently has three siblings, three nieces, four godchildren, and an extensive, tight-knit group of aunts, uncles,

and cousins. His parents and grandparents want it to be known that they are proud of him!

Anton earned a Bachelor of Arts in Religious Studies from Hellenic College, a Master of Divinity from Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology, and a Master of Arts in Pastoral Ministry (Faith-based Diplomacy) from Boston College School of Theology and Ministry. His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios appointed Nicholas the interim-director of the Department of Inter-Orthodox, Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America in April 2018.

Anton represents the Archdiocese on the board of Creation Justice Ministries, the Secretariat of the Assembly of Bishops USA, and as a delegate to the National Council of Churches and Church World Service. As Coordinator of United Nations Programs for the Archdiocese from 2014 – 2018, he served as an elected member on the Steering Committee of the NGO Committee to Stop Trafficking in Persons at the UN and chaired the sub-committee on the Human Right to Water and Sanitation for the NGO Mining Working Group at the UN. While remaining committed to the Department's involvement in the work of these important committees, he did not seek re-election during the June 2018 cycle.

Anton helped organize the first Halki Summit in Turkey, was a member of the press team of the Ecumenical Patriarchate at the Holy and Great Council of the Orthodox Church and is currently the Secretary of Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew's upcoming symposium entitled "Toward a Green Attica: Preserving the Planet and Protecting its People." While serving the Ecumenical Patriarchate from 2011-2012, Anton realized the need for crosssector collaboration towards achieving a peaceful and sustainable world. Inspired by Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew's ability to bridge these demographics, he has dedicated his life to faith-based diplomacy and advocacy.

### ORTHODOX SOFTWARE INITIATIVE

#### By Effie Marie Smith, Senior Manager

The Orthodox Software Initiative is a ministry that implements, with training, data software systems that unify standardized reporting at Parish, Metropolis and Archdiocese levels to enhance all aspects of Church life. It enables communication, ministry, ministering, parishioner interaction, sacramental, parish and ministry management, financial management and tracking, and more consistent and accurate reporting.

The Initiative began with an initial team of clergy and laity, volunteers from across the country with expertise in project management, communications, systems analysis, technology, and finance. Repeated throughout the country, it became immediately apparent to the team how great the need was for a unified, consistent approach. We established a set of criteria that would form the basis of the three-tier system. The first, parish based, is intended to offer a unified, cohesive approach to parish management. It encompasses all aspects of parish life, including among other items, financial accounting, recording and reporting, stewardship of time, talent, and treasure, managing parish data, ministries, directories, and standardizing reporting at Parish, Metropolis and Archdiocese levels. It also includes the development and implementation of the standardized National Chart of Accounts and is intended additionally to ensure consolidated data common across all Parishes. This has many tangible benefits including ease of use, cross training, support, reporting, and more, and eases Metropolis and Archdiocese reporting.

The system is technically termed "push delivered data", not accessible through "an attempted pull". This is in direct response to requirements of parishes regarding security and privacy of the data. The second tier, the Metropolis level, is for managing a Metropolis, gathering information, including but not limited to clergy, organizations, registry, sacrament, Archon, and financial data, and the support and management of many other aspects of a Metropolis. Clergy data, including tenure and benefits, are specific to this level.

Thirdly, the Archdiocesan level will cohesively join the components of our Metropolises, Parishes, and our ministries, enabling three-way communication and information flow. Each level will also support and enhance consistent financial reporting. We have released the first version of the Metropolis level software suite.

We are grateful to state that we continue to develop each level, and plan to release the next enhanced versions of Church Office and Ledger late in the third quarter. These enhancements include key components to aid each parish in ministering to her people, outreach, and communication. We have also enabled access to a Facilities Scheduler, for mid to large size parishes.

Feedback has been overwhelmingly positive. Just two examples follow. Saint Mark Church in Boca Raton, Florida was able to transfer parish data software to Church Office (Parish Data System). After short training, office administrators and clergy gained a better understanding of the software. They were enabled to effectively track their steward donor list and can print detailed reports at a moment's notice, saving thousands of dollars a year communicating via email through PDS, to easily and rapidly customize reports for tracking ministries, fundraisers, parishioner information (i.e. memorials, historical records, sacraments), to simplify the process for bulk mailing, as well as mail merges with labels, and to upload the Church directory to keep better track of the faithful, as well as utilize the texting component for various ministries and educational programs.

SS Constantine and Helen Church in Cardiff-By-The-Sea, California has been using Parish Data Systems (PDS) for 15 months and continues to find new features that are immensely helpful to their parish. Now with PDS all their important information is one place. They report that they can easily find addresses and phone numbers, track birth dates, ministry interests, baptisms, weddings, and youth program information. Installing PDS and converting the existing data was very straightforward. And the church secretary finds the PDS interface very intuitive.

Leadership 100's support of this Initiative enables many who would otherwise be unable to participate to be a welcome part of this Ministry. It enables parish development and growth, creates greater efficiency at the Metropolis level and will help unify reporting up to and including the Archdiocesan level.

#### TOTAL LEADERSHIP 100 GRANTS = \$421,800



Effie Marie Smith directs the Orthodox Software Initiative as its Senior Manager. First as a volunteer, and then joining the Initiative fulltime, she has been a key member since its founding. She joined the Archdiocese in the summer of 2013. She leads the Ministry and is responsible for all facets of its development and its offerings to the Archdiocese.

Smith earned a Master of Management Engineering from Long Island University (C.W. Post campus), and led international teams in infrastructure, engineering, and operations at major corporations. She is a global infrastructure and operations leader, who proved to increase operational uptime, steer industry change, drive quality improvements, reduce costs, build teams, and support emerging technologies within secure environments. She has worked in Fortune 250 and Fortune 500 companies, overseeing service delivery, managing global teams and projects, data center migrations, server management oversight, network planning, disaster recovery planning and testing, and software rollouts. A few of her accomplishments include industry wide reform in delivery of related market data feeds concurrent with consolidation. Effie Marie was the first female Engineering Manager for the Canon Americas Systems Support Division. She has repeatedly applied her efforts in improving service delivery while reducing costs, resulting in significant cost savings, and improvement of hardware, data, and service integrity and reliability. She has also directed operational support teams providing 24 x 365 development, production, and application support for all IT experimental and production systems.

As she continues to do for the Ministry, Smith works with a broad range of leaders within and external to the enterprise to develop technical architectures that meet key business initiatives and ensure system and business process integrity.

# Jeadership 100

#### LEADERSHIP 100 ENDOWMENT FUND 1989 - 2018 GRANTS

Hellenic College / Holy Cross School of Theology	\$ 23,448,817
Hellenic College / Holy Cross Scholarship Program *	20,403,617
Archbishop Iakovos Library Fund	1,000,000
Hellenic College / Holy Cross Technology Infrastructure	1,000,000
Hellenic College / Holy Cross (various grants)	733,600
Hellenic College - Office of Vocation and Ministry	311,600
Greek Orthodox Archdiocese	\$ 15,132,187
Archdiocese Administration, Management, and Leadership Training	1,888,386
Marriage and Family	1,795,490
Inter-Orthodox, Ecumenical & Interfaith Relations	1,785,000
Internet Ministry and Technology Infrastructure	1,561,700
Outreach & Evangelism / Home Missions	1,428,530
Youth, Young Adult, and Camping Ministries	1,361,993
Greek Orthodox Telecommunications	970,190
Communications and Radio Ministry	723,659
Parish Development and Stewardship	658,241
Religious Education	647,998
Digital Typikon Liturgical and Library Project	600,000
Department of Registry	575,000
Greek Education	416,700
Archives	400,000
St. Basil Academy (Archpastorate of Archbishop Michael)	69,300
Special Gift for the Restoration of Ionian Village	250,000
Humanitarian Assistance and Other Grants	\$ 3,469,137
The Ecumenical Patriarchate (Various Grants)	765,000
Orthodox Christian Network	450,000
September 11 Relief Fund	400,000
Various Ministries	263,335
Institute on Religion and World Affairs of Boston University - Orthodox Christianity in American Public Life	260,040
Video Documentaries	219,680
National Forum of Greek Orthodox Church Musicians	208,000
Fordham University - Orthodox Christian Studies Center	183,000
Orthodox Christian Prison Ministry	162,882
Patriarch Athenagoras Orthodox Institute	157,200
Greek Earthquake Relief Fund	100,000
Greek Fire Relief Fund	100,000

Primary Health Care in Southern Albania

Hurricane Sandy Relief Fund

22

\* As of January 2018, 201 recipients of Leadership 100 scholarships are graduates that have been ordained, 56 seminarians are still in School and 73 recipients are working for the Church in some capacity.

100,000

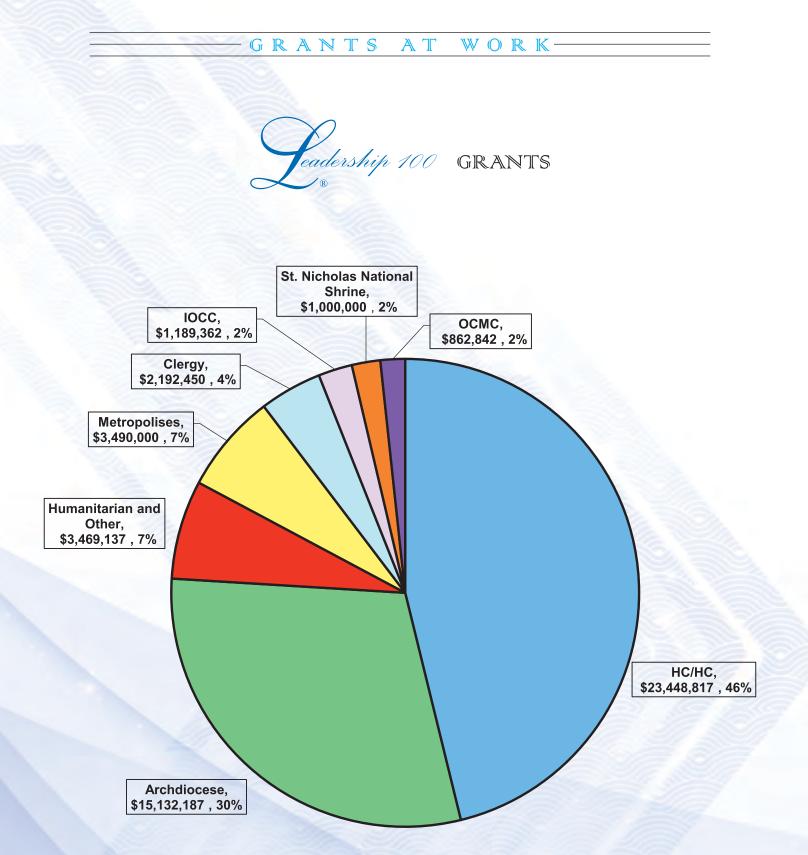
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2,250,000 540,000
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\$ 1,189,362
989,362
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\$ 862,842
\$

Total

\$ 50,784,795

Additional Gifts from Leadership 100 Members	\$ 3,246,742
(individual donations from Leadership 100 members not included above)	
St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church and National Shrine at the World Trade Center	2,703,213
Greek Fire Relief Fund	200,029
September 11 Relief Fund	187,550
Leadership 100 Fitness Center at Hellenic College / Holy Cross	135,000
Hurricane Katrina Relief Fund	20,950



**TOTAL GRANTS DISTRIBUTED SINCE INCEPTION: \$50,784,795.** 



# Leadership 100 Members

Follow up list from Spring 2018 Issue

hars	Metropolis	City, State	Sponsor(s)
New Members	<b>Direct Archdiocesan District</b> Michael and Demetra Psyllos	Manhasset, NY	Michael N. Bapis, Michael N. Kavourias and Demetrios Ziozis
	Metropolis of Atlanta Michael and Maria Kastrenakes Fotios J. and Joyce Frangakis Timothy and Marybeth Sotos	Clearwater, FL Naples, FL Palm Beach, FL	Joseph Kokolakis and Markos Lagos Dr. John Eliopoulos Tarsi Georgas
	<b>Metropolis of Detroit</b> Dr. Gregory E. Zotos	Livonia, MI	Paulette Poulos
	<b>Metropolis of San Francisco</b> Chris and Vicki Pallis		Dr. Gregory G. and Stellee Papadeas
	<b>Metropolis of New Jersey</b> Nick and Panagiota Anagnostopoulos	Alpine, NJ	Steve Tenedios
	<b>Metropolis of Chicago</b> Dr. Hercules and Vanna Logothetis	Riverwoods, IL	Demetrios J. Logothetis
Fulfilled Members	<ul> <li>Direct Archdiocesan District Anonymous Nicolas K. and Regina Vouyiouklis Eleftherios and Eirini Vouyiouklis Gunnar and Diane Wilmot</li> <li>Metropolis of Boston Anatolia College A. Cushing and Sandra Titcomb</li> </ul>	New York, New York, New York, Bronxville, Boston, MA Ipswich, M	NY NY NY
	Metropolis of Denver Drs. Leon and Jean Greos William N. and Elyce Mouskondis		Village, CO
	<b>Metropolis of Atlanta</b> James and Helen Ballerano Robert and Georgia Buchanan	Boca Raton Jackson, MS	
	<b>Metropolis of Detroit</b> Harry and Cathe Skefos	Memphis, T	'N
	<b>Metropolis of Pittsburgh</b> Christine Janas George and Mary Ann Psaros	Bay Village Weirton, W	
	<b>Metropolis of San Francisco</b> Byron Georgiou and Dr. Therese Co	ollins Las Vegas,	NV
	<b>Metropolis of New Jersey</b> Thrasyvoulos and Maria Stefanis M Jeffrey and Anastasia Michals	laroulis Norfolk, VA Wall Towns	

### Leadership 100 Members



Louise G. Athens – 6/30/2018 Chicago, IL

Gust Kraras – 5/5/2018 Reading, PA

Zoe Pilafas – 6/21/2016 Sierra Madre, CA

Demetra Safiol – 3/10/2018 Weston, MA Christine K. Yiannias – 6/5/2017 Dubuque, IA

Nickas J. Yiannias – 5/11/2018 Dubuque, IA

Theodoros Vassilakis – 5/17/2018 Athens, Greece

Xenophon Zapis – 6/11/2018 Westlake, OH

### Louise G. Athens



Louise G. Athens, a member of Leadership 100 and beloved wife of Andrew A. Athens of Blessed Memory, a Founder and long-time first Co-Chairman of Leadership 100, passed away on June 30, 2018 at age 94. Louise was known and loved by generations of members of Leadership 100 by her grace and wisdom. In announcing her passing, son Paul Athens said on social media: "Louise Athens, our wonderful mother and yiayia, passed away yesterday June 30th. She lived a wonderful life. She has joined the love of her life, Andrew Athens, and together they will continue to provide love and inspiration to all those they have touched in their storied lives. May her memory be eternal." She was born Louise Decoster, daughter of Joseph and Marie Decoster in Belgium where she met and married Andrew during World War II. The couple made Andrew's native Chicago their home and had two children, four grandchildren and two great grandchildren. She is survived by a son, Paul (Kellee) Athens, a daughter, Jacqueline (Alex) Athens James, grandchildren Andrew (Lanci), Alexa, JP and Matthew, and great grandchildren Seamus and Paul. She was the sister of the late Henri (Jeanne) Decoster and aunt to many nieces and nephews and their families. She was also a member of Hellenicare, an organization to aid ethnic Greeks in the former Soviet Union, which was founded by Andrew Athens.

# **NEWS***MEMBERS*

# JOHN CALAMOS ADDRESSES 76TH HELLENIC COLLEGE-HOLY CROSS COMMENCEMENT, RECEIVES HONORARY DOCTOR OF HUMANITIES DEGREE

By Revekka Papadopoulou



John Calamos receives Honorary Doctor of Humanities degree from His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios and Hellenic College/Holy Cross President Fr. Christopher Metropulos.

ohn P. Calamos Sr, Founder, Chairman and CIO of Calamos Investments and a long-time member of Leadership 100, addressed the 76th Commencement of Hellenic College / Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology (HCHC) in Brookline, Massachusetts on Saturday, May 19, 2018. He was presented with an honorary Doctor of Humanities (D Hum) degree by Hellenic College. Calamos is a benefactor to the Faith Endowment, the National Hellenic Museum and many other charitable causes.

The same degree was awarded to Efstathios (Steve) G. Valiotis, Founder and CEO of Alma Realty, Founder of Alma Bank and a benefactor of his parish of Holy Cross in Whitestone, NY, St. Michael's Home in New York, and many other worthy causes in the United States and his native Greece. Rev. Fr. Anthony Coniaris received the honorary Doctor of Divinity (D Div) degree from Holy Cross, his alma mater, for more than sixty years of devoted service to the Church. as a priest, homilist, author, and publisher.

His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios, Geron of America, offered the invocation and Fr. Christopher Metropulos, HCHC President, welcomed some 600 people that filled HCHC's Pappas Gymnasium. Also in attendance were Metropolitan Methodios of Boston, Metropolitan Gerasimos of San Francisco, Metropolitan Savas of Pittsburgh, Bishop Andonios of Phasiane, all alumni of Holy Cross, Paulette Poulos, Leadership 100 Executive Director, and members of the two institutions' Boards of Trustees.

Greetings and congratulations were offered by Stratos Efthymiou, Consul General of Greece in Boston, and Jeannie Ranglas, First Vice President of the National Greek Orthodox Ladies Philoptochos Society.

Twenty-four students graduated from Hellenic College with a Bachelor of Arts degree and thirty-five from Holy Cross, nineteen of whom with a Master of Divinity degree, nine with a Master of Theological Studies and seven with a Master of Theology. Also, seven students received a certificate in Byzantine music.

In his address, Calamos congratulated all the graduates and noted that his education and his faith were critical to his success over the years.

"Graduating college for many is taken for granted. But not for me. I'm from a Greek immigrant family that came to the United

# NEWSmembers

States and struggled through the years. Our family values and strong work ethic were very valuable to me. We had a grocery store in Chicago where I grew up. Growing up we went to church and Sunday school. I was the first of any of my family and relatives to go to college. I lived the American Dream. Looking back, that college experience changed my life, and along with my family values, it gave me the foundation for any success I achieved", he said.



Hellenic Colle/Holy Cross Commencement Procession.

He also noted that "learning philosophy today is extremely important" and asked the graduates to remember our heritage and create values for the younger generations but not to forget that they are here not to teach them what to think but how to think.

Offering the benediction, Archbishop Demetrios congratulated the new graduates and conveyed to them the blessing and love of His All Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew.

## THREE MEMBERS OF LEADERSHIP 100 COMPLETE BOSTON MARATHON IN EXTREME WEATHER

hree members of Leadership 100, Jim Pantelidis, a member of the Board of Trustees, Mike Manatos, a member of the Executive Committee and George Sakellaris, a long-time member, completed the Boston Marathon on April 16, 2018 in what many called the worst weather in the 122-year history of the race - wind chill of 26 degrees, hard rain the entire race and headwinds gusting to 35 miles per hour. More than 30,000 amateur and professional runners from all over the world compete in the Boston Marathon each year, braving the hilly Massachusetts terrain and



Jim Pantelidis, right, and Mike Manatos, left, crossing the Boston Marathon finish line in the same jersey worn by 1946 Boston Marathon champion Stylianos Kyriakides.

known as the "marathon man."

varying weather, and the event attracts over 500,000 spectators, making it New England's most widely viewed sporting event.

Pantelidis, who was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer in February of last year, not only vowed to beat cancer, but he vowed to run the following year the world's oldest and bestknown marathon - the Boston Marathon. He did just that, only 4 months after his last chemo treatment and a cancer-free diagnosis, and several months shy of his 65th birthday. It was the 15th marathon for the man affectionately



Mike Manatos and Jim Pantelidis with the grandchildren of Stylianos Kyriakides, Maria and George Contos, and the golden wreaths flown in from Greece to crown the winners of the Boston Marathon.

Pantelidis and Manatos, his running mate, drew inspiration from several historic, heroic Greek marathoners: the first marathoner, Pheidippides (in 490 BC); the first Olympic marathon champion, Spyridon Louis (in 1896) - the Boston Marathon was inspired by this first marathon and began the year after (in 1897) - and most directly by the winner of the 1946 Boston Marathon, Stylianos Kyriakides.

Just days before the race, the pair met in Boston the grandchildren of Kyriakides - Maria Contos and George Contos. Together they watched the presentation of the golden olive wreaths, flown in from Marathon, Greece, to the head of the Boston Marathon in the Massachusetts State Hall at an event hosted by the Alpha Omega organization in Boston. Each year since 1984, these wreaths crown the male and female winners of the Boston Marathon. They also met at this event Nick Tsiotis, the author *"Running with Pheidippides: Stylianos Kyriakides, the* 

# **NEWS***MEMBERS*



Jim Pantelidis and Mike Manatos running with Pantelidis' daughter Marianna who ran the last 7 miles of the Boston Marathon with them.

*Miracle Marathoner.*" They were also presented with a replica of the exact jersey Kyriakies wore when he won the 1946 Boston Marathon and wore this jersey as they ran Boston.

In November of last year, Pantelidis' daughter Marianna ran the New York City Marathon to honor her father and to raise funds for Project Purple, which works to find a cure for Pancreatic Cancer and improve the lives of patients through support, hope



*George Sakellaris running the Boston Marathon.* 

and compassion. She raised over \$22,000. For the Boston Marathon Pantelidis ran and raised funds for both Project Purple and Cops for Kids with Cancer.

George Sakellaris ran the 26.2 miles of the Boston Marathon for the seventh time as a member of the Dana-Farber Marathon Challenge (DFMC) team, raising more than \$100,000 from friends and family. Last year, he raised over

\$85,000 to help fund critical cancer research at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. DFMC uses 100 percent of the funds it raises to support the Claudia Adams Barr Program in Innovative Basic Cancer Research at Dana-Farber. The Barr Program helps advance the work of gifted researchers in their mission to transform cancer treatment. Thanks to the Barr Program, scientists at the leading edge of discovery have made numerous breakthroughs that have increased survival rates and improved the quality of life for thousands of patients. In a commencement speech at the Northeastern University College of Engineering Commencement, his alma mater, on May 2, Sakellaris spoke of his experience at the Boston Marathon as one of the great challenges of his life. He told the graduating class that he decided to run the marathon when he turned 70 the year before and trained vigorously for months up to a few days before the race when



George Sakellaris giving commencement speech at Northeastern University College of Engineering, where he spoke of the challenge in running the Boston Marathon.

the weather turned bad. Hundreds of runners withdrew, but despite pleas from his family, he decided to go ahead with the run. During the run, he experienced severe leg cramps and pain and sheer exhaustion but was determined to reach his goal of completing the race in five hours. Soaked to the bone, he ran against headwinds and through puddles and completed the race in four hours and 59 minutes, just one minute short of his goal. At that point in his narration, Sakellaris received applause, but he went on to the moral of the story, telling the new graduates:

" I put one foot in front of the other and kept going. No matter what it is, you can do it if you stick with it. You make the decision of whether you can do it or not. Whether it is running the marathon, starting a business or fixing a problem, you must persevere. Perseverance is not a mystical thing, nor does it depend on your being a special person. It is a test of strength and will power. It is the decision you make."



George and Cathy Sakellaris at the Northeastern University College of Engineering Commencement.

Pantelidis is Co-Founder, along with his brothers George and Peter, of Pan-Brothers Associates, Inc. in New York, which offers full real estate development, management and brokerage services. Manatos is Vice President of Manatos & Manatos, a public affairs/public policy firm in Washington, D.C. Sakellaris is the President and Chief Executive Officer, as well as the Chairman of the Board of Directors of Ameresco, Inc. (NYSE:AMRC), a leading energy efficiency and renewable energy company headquartered in Framingham, MA.

# NEWSmembers

# COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY NAMES MEDICAL SCHOOL FOR DR. AND MRS. P. ROY VAGELOS



Dr. P. Roy Vagelos and his wife, Diana. (Photo by Costas Bej)

olumbia University President Lee C. Bollinger announced that the College of Physicians and Surgeons would be officially known as the Columbia University Roy and Diana Vagelos College of Physicians and Surgeons – VP&S for short. "there are no more fitting names to have affiliated with our medical school than those of Roy and Dina Vagelos, who have made such tremendous contributions to medicine, education and science," said President Bollinger.

Vagelos, 88, the former chairman of Merck & Co., and his wife, Diana, donated \$250 million to the College of Physicians and The Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons is one of the top medical schools in the country, and among the most expensive. Tuition for one year is \$59,364. Add in fees and living expenses, and the total is about \$90,000 per year for four years, according to the New York Times.

In an interview, Dr. Vagelos said that he hopes the gift will free Columbia's medical students to pursue careers in family medicine, pediatrics, research and other fields that are less lucrative than the toppaying specialties. Dr. Vagelos was himself a scholarship student at the school in the 1950s.

Previously the couple gave \$53 million to support the design and construction of a state-of-the-art

medical and graduate education center that also bears their name, The Roy and Diana Vagelos Education Center. Diana Vagelos currently serves as Vice Chair of the Board of Columbia University's Barnard College, her alma mater, where the school's multi-use Diana center building is named in her honor. The couple also recently gave Barnard a gift to support the creation of a teaching and learning center, which will fund the computational science center, an endowed director position and an endowed chair in chemistry. They also committed a matching gift of \$10 million for scholarships.

### COLUMBIA

#### VAGELOS COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS

Dr. Vagelos served as chief executive officer of Merck & Co. Inc. for nine years, from 1985 to 1994. After leaving the global health care company, Dr. Vagelos became chairman of the board of

Surgeons at the end of 2017 to underwrite financial aid, bringing their total giving to medicine at Columbia to \$310 million. They are both members of Leadership 100.

Of the total amount of the recent gift, \$150 million will fund an endowment that the school projects will ultimately enable it to underwrite its student financial aid. Those students with the greatest financial need would receive full-tuition scholarships, while others would get only grants, not loans, to make up their need, the school said. The remainder of the \$250 million gift will fund medical programs, scientific research and a new professorship. Regeneron Pharmaceuticals, a successful biotechnology company. He grew up in Westfield, New Jersey. Mrs. Vagelos grew up in Washington Heights in New York City.

In 2010, Dr. Vagelos and his wife, Diana, a Barnard graduate, donated \$53 million to the medical school to help fund the construction of a new building, the Roy and Diana Vagelos Education Center, which opened in 2016.

# AMERICAN HELLENIC INSTITUTE PRESENTS HONORS AT 14TH ANNUAL HELLENIC HERITAGE PUBLIC SERVICE AWARDS DINNER IN ATHENS



Honorees Admiral Evangelos Apostolakis and Dr. Panagiotis Behrakis, third and fourth from right, with their awards, with U.S. Ambassador Geoffrey Pyatt and AHI President Nick Larigakis, second and first from right. Other officers of AHI look on.

he Hellenic Heritage Public Service Award was presented to two honorees at the 14th Annual AHI-Athens Hellenic Heritage Achievement and Public Service Awards Dinner held at The Grande Bretagne hotel in Athens on May 18, 2018.

Dr. Panagiotis Behrakis was recognized for his tireless efforts to combat tobacco usage in the youth of Greece. The Hellenic Armed Forces was honored for its illustrious achievements throughout history in the defense of Greece's sovereignty, their defense and promotion of peace and stability in the Eastern Mediterranean, and their commitment to defense cooperation with the United States and NATO. They were represented by Chief of the Hellenic National Defense General Staff Admiral Evangelos Apostolakis.

In his acceptance remarks, Dr. Behrakis stated, "It is a great honor to receive the AHI Award of 2018." He also provided an overview of the work that he and his team created in their efforts to prevent the consumption of tobacco in Greece's youth over the past decade.

"Smoking prevalence in Greece has declined and it is now very close to the European average," he said. "Consumption of tobacco has also decreased by 50 percent in the past decade and most importantly the Greek public has changed it attitude towards smoking."

Dr. Behrakis has created a scientific based practice of

approaching youth and tobacco prevention without using negative imagery or fear tactics.

**NEWSMEMBERS** 

"The award of today is dedicated to George Behrakis, the philanthropist from Boston," he stated in his closing remarks, "a man who has been generously funding our work for the last ten years. Without him nothing would have happened." George Behrakis is a Chairman Emeritus of leadership 100.

Admiral Apostolakis acknowledged the overall contribution and cooperation of AHI toward the promotion of relations between the United States and Greece. Furthermore, he commented the award does not reflect personally on him, but on all the personnel of the Hellenic Armed Forces—active and retired. He pinpointed the men and women of the Hellenic Armed Forces as the key force multiplier, underlining the excellent level of training and professionalism as well as their high morale.

Regarding the role of the Hellenic Armed Forces in the wider area of the Eastern Mediterranean, he emphasized its significant impact in providing stability which is achieved mainly through the formation of bilateral and multilateral schemes of military cooperation. Furthermore, he highlighted the multilayered support the Hellenic Armed Forces provides in areas of disaster response and relief, firefighting, medevac and others.

Ilias Malevitis, President, AHI-Greece, welcomed the audience. George C. Economou, President, AHI-Athens Chapter, provided greetings and U.S. Ambassador to Greece Geoffrey Pyatt, in opening remarks, thanked AHI "for its long history of advocating for Greece and Greek Americans," which he said, "strengthens the U.S. government and the profound partnership and friendship between our two countries."

AHI President Nick Larigakis, in addressing the audience, highlighted the objectives of AHI's annual trip to Greece and Cyprus and updated the audience on AHI programs that keep the Greek American community's policy issues at the forefront of policymakers in Washington. He also commended the evening's honorees. He said Dr. Behrakis has performed remarkable work to improve the public health of Greece's youth population through public awareness and advocacy campaigns to combat tobacco use. He lauded the Hellenic Armed Forces

# NEWSmembers

for its storied history, dating back to antiquity with historychanging battles at Thermopylae and Salamis, to the struggle for Independence, to World War II and Korea, to present-day efforts to provide security and counterterrorism as a dependable NATO member.

Caption: Honorees Admiral Evangelos Apostolakis and Dr. Panagiotis Behrakis, third and fourth from right, with their awards, with U.S. Ambassador Geoffrey Pyatt and AHI President Nick Larigakis, second and first from right. Other officers of AHI look on.

# HELLENIC CANCER SOCIETY Honors George D. Behrakis

eorge D. Behrakis, Chairman Emeritus of Leadership 100 and pioneering leader of the pharmaceutical industry and major philanthropist, was honored for his seminal role in the campaign to reduce smoking in Greece in the fight against cancer, on June 11, 2018 in Athens.

The Society, which marked its 60th anniversary, noted Behrakis' contribution to the creation of the Laboratory for Lung Function Testing, which focuses on respiratory mechanics and the respiratory effects of active and passive smoking.

Dr. Panagiotis K. Behrakis, a leading professor of pulmonology, accepted the award on behalf of the George Behrakis Foundation in Boston, conveyed the appreciation of George Behrakis for the work of the Society and his commitment to continue to support the fight to reduce smoking.

# LEADERSHIP 100 MEMBERS SUPPORT MAJOR RENOVATION OF RYE, NEW YORK CHURCH

By Revekka Papadopoulos

eadership 100 members, Michael G. Psaros, co-Founder and co-Managing Partner of KPS, and Theodore Mathas, Chairman of the Board and CEO of New York Life Insurance Company, along with John Lykouretzos,



(L to R) Theodore Mathas, John Lykouretzos, Fr. Elias Villis, Archbishop Demetrios, Michael Psaros and Nick Balidis cut ribbon at renovation of building at Church of Our Saviour, Rye, New York.

Founder and CIO of Hoplite Capital Management, were recognized for their generous support of a major renovation project of Church of Our Saviour in Rye, New York at a ribbon cutting ceremony on Sunday, May 6, 2018.

His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios officiated at the Divine Liturgy and the Agiasmos service (Blessing of the Waters) for the newly and fully renovated buildings of the Community Center prior to the ceremony. His Eminence was assisted by the Presiding Priest, Protopresbyter Fr. Elias Villis, Archdeacon Panteleimon Papadopoulos and Deacon Evlogios Champas of the Patriarchate of Jerusalem.

"This is a great achievement of this community and you deserve the warmest congratulations and blessings" said Archbishop Demetrios adding that "as I was coming here in the morning I thought how many times Archbishop Iakovos of Blessed Memory took this route from Manhattan to Rye and back and how much Rye was influential in the life and activities of Archbishop Iakovos."

"I can't believe this day has finally come", said Michael Psaros. "We embarked about five years ago on our iconography project that created a diamond, a "byzantine jewel" in the Church itself. As soon as we completed our project, the rest of the 44,000 sq ft complex, which is quite large, really looked 60 years old and we knew we had to do something about that and as of today, we have a Church that is set in all respects for the next 50 years from every perspective and it is the blessing of blessings," he noted.

"It's been a collective act of prayer for our community and I am so proud of our parish, so proud of Fr. Elias, and I am humbled by our donors," said the Parish Council President Nick Balidis.

# NEW Smembers

"We are blessed today to have the Agiasmos for the recent renovation of our church facility. The Marros Hall, our classrooms, our offices, the kitchen and every bit of space was completely renovated and refurbished", said Fr. Elias Villis thanking the Archbishop for being with the community, the benefactors and all the donors "who made that dream possible".

John Anastasiou, an architect at Lothrop Associates LLP and a parishioner of Our Saviour, who supervised the \$6.5 million renovation project which took five years to complete, said, "It's been a tremendous journey from the beginning, from the planning stages, working with this community, they are a wonderful community."

# CHRYSANTHY TSAKOPOULOS DEMOS NAMED PRESIDENT & CEO OF AKT INVESTMENTS INC.



Chrysanthy "Chrysa" Tsakopoulos Demos

**KT** Investments Inc. ("AKT") today announced that it has promoted Chrysanthy "Chrysa" Tsakopoulos Demos to serve as the new President & CEO of AKT Investments, the managing entity of Northern California's largest land development company effective June 1, 2018. Demos will guide operations and strategic direction for the family

owned group of businesses that includes substantial land development, commercial property, farming, and ranching operations. She previously served as Vice President of AKT for over ten years where she gained extensive experience in real estate management. She has overseen financial analysis for major investment projects, worked to acquire requisite permits and entitlements, managed contracts, and guided the company's strategic planning process. "Chrysa has a proven track record of extraordinary success in our company and we are fortunate that she will lead our family group of companies into the next generation," said Angelo K. Tsakopoulos, the Founder and Chairman of AKT. "She has the vision, tenacity, integrity, and intellect to lead AKT, not only for the benefit of the family and its partners, but also for the benefit of our community and our state." Both father and daughter are members of Leadership 100.

Demos said, "I am honored to lead AKT and I will always strive to uphold the very high standards of integrity that our founder, my father, Angelo K. Tsakopoulos, has instilled. We will continue to create projects that serve the needs of our neighbors, and partner with the public and private sectors so that our region continues to be a vibrant and dynamic community for all."

AKT was founded by Angelo K. Tsakopoulos who completed his first subdivision in 1964 and has since become a civic fixture in Sacramento and national leader in real estate. AKT has developed over 60,000 homes and 30 million square feet of office space in Northern and Central California. AKT maintains a large commercial building portfolio and manages approximately 20,000 acres of farmland.

Demos is a graduate of the Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania, where she earned a Master of Business Administration in Finance and Management. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Foreign Service from Georgetown University. She is active in numerous charitable endeavors, including the creation of the Pabna Association for General Education that created, built, and funded a primary school in a rural village in Bangladesh on the condition that girls be afforded equal enrollment opportunities. She is also active in the UC Davis MIND Institute that studies autism and in the International Orthodox Christian Charities. She speaks Greek, Italian, Spanish, and Bengali and resides in Sacramento, California with her husband, George Demos, also a member of Leadership 100, and two young boys.

33 ILEADER

# NEWSmembers

# **GEORGE SAKELLARIS A WINNER** IN LES VOILES DE SAINT BARTH **RICHARD MILLE YACHT RACE**



George Sakellaris with crew and prize at Les Voiles de Saint Barth Richard Mille.

he 9th edition of Les Voiles de Saint Barth ended on Saturday the 14th of April after a fierce confrontation between the 53 crews competing in 7 classes, and this despite a rather singular context, seven months after the devastating passage of Hurricane Irma.

The Maxi and Multihull classes raced 28 miles, while CSA 1 and 2 covered 22 miles, and CSA 3 fought it out over a course of 18 miles. These robust conditions were helpful to some and complicated life for others, resulting in some major changes in the standings. Yet at the end, there were seven great winners that sailed to glory.

The most incredible duel of the week erupted between George Sakellaris' Proteus and Sorcha, belonging to Peter Harrison, CEO of Richard Mille Europe Africa Middle East, among the Maxi 1 contenders. The two 72-footers were neck and neck from start to finish completing the race less than a minute apart on the finish line. However, a slight edge favored George Sakellaris' men, who took home the Richard Mille Maxi Cup for the 3rd time in a row. The crew received the RM 60-01 Flyback Regatta Chronograph.

Saturday's incredible conditions put the perfect finishing touch on an incredible week of competitive racing, leaving the sailors smiling and with plenty to talk about as they enjoyed the awards ceremony and fireworks display before adventuring off for the evening's entertainment.



George Sakellaris' Proteus

All the crews present this year are already talking about returning for the 10th edition of Les Voiles de Saint Barth Richard Mille. The organizers announced they moved the regatta one week later, April 14 – 20 so it takes place during the Caribbean low season. This decision will help sailors in two ways: more availability to housing and in the marina, and most important, this means low-season rates, which reduce by 30 percent or more.

# **GREEK COMMUNITY CELEBRATES** HARRY AGGANIS AND GREEK HERITAGE NIGHT AT FENWAY PARK



Honorees on field at Fenway Park, left to right, Leadership 100 members, George D. Behrakis, Chairman Emeritus, and Cathy Sakellaris, Board of Trustees, with Maria Stephanos, Dr. George Theodore and (Ret.) Major Peter Vergados.

n Wednesday, June 27th, 2018 the Greek Community along with the Boston Red Sox celebrated Greek Heritage Night at Fenway Park. The celebration took place before the home game against the Los Angeles Angels and was sponsored by the Alpha Omega Council.

# NEW Smembers



George D. Behrakis and Cathy Sakellaris.

June 27th, 2018 marked the 63rd Anniversary that the great Harry Agganis tragically passed away. Charlie Baker, Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts had proclaimed Wednesday, June 27th as "Harry Agganis Day" in Massachusetts. Other "On Field" Dignitaries included Metropolitan Methodios of Boston and Consult General of Greece in Boston, Stratos Efthymiou.

The grandnephew of the late Harry Agganis, Mr. Greg Agganis, was presented with a plaque that will be permanently displayed at Fenway Park and was followed by a video tribute to the baseball and football star. The Honorable Haris Lalacos, Ambassador of Greece to the United States along with Greg Agganis each threw out a ceremonial first pitch.

The Boston Red Sox then honored individuals who have made

significant contributions to the Greek American Community of New England. The honorees included: George Behrakis, philanthropist, who is a Chairman Emeritus of Leadership 100; Cathy Sakellaris, community leader, a longtime member of Leadership 100; Maria Stephanos, WCVB Channel 5 Co-Anchor and Dr. George Theodore, Orthopedic Surgeon at Massachusetts General Hospital and Boston Red Sox Staff Physician.

Soloist, Aggeliki Psonis and the Youth Choir under the direction of Nektaria Sofou-Boustris of Saint Catherine's Greek Orthodox Church of Braintree, Massachusetts performed the American National Anthem.



Greek Dance performances by the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Boston Dance Group, Pan-Cretan Association of America and the Dancing Zorbas took place on Jersey Street and at the VIP reception.

Jim Demopoulos of Arlington, MA an avid Red Sox Fan was recognized as the "Season Ticket Holder of the Game". Demopoulos is a proud season ticket holder for the past 50 years.

Members of the Lynn ROTC along with the Boston Evzones acted as the Honor Guard during the ceremony.



Jeadership 100

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