MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT
Our forty day journey and Holy Week are now passed. I pray that it was spiritually and musically fulfilling for you. It is the most trying time of the year for church musicians, but also the most glorious. With its ancient services, repentances, additional prayer and fasting, we have been preparing ourselves to experience and glorify His Third Day Resurrection. Thank you to all MEFGOX musicians who contributed to enhance our beautiful services.

Irene Georgantas

MEFGOX WELCOMES METROPOLITAN SAVAS!

His Eminence, Metropolitan Savas was enthroned as Metropolitan of Pittsburgh on December 8th at St. Nicholas Cathedral in Pittsburgh by Archbishop Demetrios. Metropolitan Maximos and Metropolitan Nicholas also participated.

A choir representing 11 parishes sang part of the service. Pana Mastros from Steubenville served as director and Christopher Macrogou of Holy Cross/Pittsburgh accompanied. The singers were from Akron, Aliquippa, Columbus, East Pittsburgh, Cleveland/Ss. Constantine & Helen, Warren, Monessen, Steubenville, and the Pittsburgh parishes of Holy Cross, Holy Trinity, and St. Nicholas.

There were also two chant groups, one led by Dr. Nicholas Giannoukakis and the other by Peter Papadakos. Other chanters who participated were Dr. Nick Loutsion and the seminarians of the Metropolis.

For more information and pictures, see: http://pittsburgh/Met_Savas_Enthroned and http://enthronement-of-Metropolitan-Savas

MEFGOX WISHES MANY YEARS TO METROPOLITAN MAXIMOS

On November 5th, church musicians of MEFGOX attended the Retirement Reception held for Metropolitan Maximos of Pittsburgh at St. Nicholas Cathedral. Archbishop Demetrios and Metropolitan Nicholas also came to honor His Eminence. Led by Mike Orfanopoulos of Ypapanti in East Pittsburgh, 25 singers sang To Ekklesaki for His Eminence, one of his favorite folk songs, at a moving afternoon tribute. Singers came from thirteen parishes: Aliquippa, East Pittsburgh, Holy Spirit/Rochester, NY, Monessen, Columbus, New Kensington, Warren, Carmel, IN, McKeesport, Steubenville, and the parishes of St. Nicholas, Holy Cross, and Holy Trinity in Pittsburgh.

See also: http://testimonial-reception-for-Met-Maximos

THIS YEAR’S CONVENTION
Saint Demetrios of Rocky River, Ohio, invites you to the 65th Annual Convention to be held July 26th -29th – one week later than usual this year! The Saint Demetrios Committee has been working hard to put together a special convention to honor their sister Cleveland parish of the Annunciation on the occasion of its 100th year. Some of the highlights include a “Welcome Picnic” on Thursday, a Doxology service sung by the young people attending the Convention, another Church Music Institute, a Talent Show, a trip to the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame, a Grand Banquet and Dance, and the Divine Liturgy for which we will sing the music by Frank Desby, who grew up in the Annunciation Parish. Watch for coming details in the next Byzantine Echo and on the MEFGOX website!

http://mideastern.churchmusic.goarch.org

CONVENTION MUSIC
The Convention Choir will be singing The Divine Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom by Dr. Frank Desby, including a separate version of his Cherubic Hymn. To order, contact: The Greek Sacred & Secular Music Society, PO Box 1779, Woodbridge, CA 95258. Phone (310) 713-1117, Fax: (800) 388-9300. Ask for #1001 - The Divine Liturgy by Desby @ $15.00 and #3009 – The Cherubic Hymn by Desby @ $3.40 plus shipping.
2011-12 STEWARDSHIP IS DUE
At the start of the ecclesiastical year, each parish in the Metropolises of Detroit and Pittsburgh is asked to become a steward of the Federation. This stewardship entitles ALL the church musicians of the parish to Federation services, materials, scholarships, and election as officers. If your parish has not yet sent in a stewardship contribution, please mail in the form on page 3 to Peter Vatsures, Treasurer at 68 West Cooke Road, Columbus, OH 43214. Only one form and check per parish, please!

THANK YOU!
We appreciate the contributions of those parishes that have already sent their Stewardship contributions for 2011-2012 (as of March 19th). Parishes in good standing include:
Aliquippa, PA, Koimisis
Bloomfield Hills, MI, St. George
Camp Hill, PA, Holy Trinity Cathedral
Canonsburg, PA, All Saints
Canton, OH, Holy Trinity
Carmel, IN, Holy Trinity
Chattanooga, TN, Annunciation
Cleveland, OH, Ss. Constantine & Helen Cathedral
Dayton, OH, Annunciation
Erie, PA, Assumption
Farmington Hills, MI, Holy Cross
Grand Rapids, MI, Holy Trinity
Huntington, WV, St. George
Ithaca, NY, St. Catherine
Jamestown, NY, St. Nicholas
Lexington, KY, Panagia Pantovasilissa
Little Rock, AR, Annunciation
Lorain, OH, St. Nicholas
Martins Ferry, OH, Zoodochos Peghe
McKeesport, PA, Annunciation
Monessen, PA, St. Spyridon
Morgantown, WV, Assumption
New Kensington, PA, Annunciation
North Royalton, OH, St. Paul
Pittsburgh, PA, Holy Cross
Pittsburgh, PA, Holy Trinity
Pittsburgh, PA, St. Nicholas Cathedral
Reading, PA, Ss. Constantine & Helen
Rochester, NY, Annunciation
Rochester, NY, Holy Spirit
Saginaw, MI, St. Demetrios
Southgate, MI, St. George
Sterling Heights, MI, St. John
Syracuse, NY, St. Sophia
Traverse City, MI, Archangel Gabriel
Troy, MI, St. Nicholas
Warren, OH, St. Demetrios
Wheeling, WV, St. John
Westland, MI, Ss. Constantine & Helen
Youngstown, OH, St. John

A NEW ARCHON!
Last October, Archbishop Demetrios installed Peter N. Vatsures of the Annunciation Cathedral in Columbus, Ohio, as an Archon of the Order of St. Andrew at the Holy Trinity Cathedral in New York City. He earned this award because of his long term involvement in local parish activities, his Metropolis service especially through MEGFOX, and his Archdiocesan service through the National Forum and the Liturgical Guidebook. He was given the Offikon (Title) of Kastrininos (Patriarchal Chaplain). AXIOS, Peter!

Other MEGFOX church musicians who are Archons include †Dr. Christos Demakes, George Loustion, Dr. Nicholas Loustion, Peter Papadakos, George Raptis, and John Tangelos.

For more information, see: www.archons.org/archons.

USEFUL WEBSITE LINKS!
There are lots of ways to keep in touch with MEGFOX, our Metropolises, and our national church ministry, the National Forum of Greek Orthodox Church Musicians:
- MEGFOX website: www.mefgox.org
- National Forum website: www.churchmusic.goarch.org
- MEGFOX and CHURCH MUSIC email lists – just send your name and church to pappas@indiana.edu to be added.
- Facebook Pages:
  - MEGFOX: www.facebook.com/MEFGOX
  - Convention: www.facebook.com/groups/26001266068325
  - Youth: www.facebook.com/ChurchMusicGreekOrthodoxYouth
- Detroit Metropolis Website: www.detroit.goarch.org
- Pittsburgh Metropolis Website: http://pittsburgh.goarch.org
- Archdiocese Website: www.goarch.org

UPCOMING DATES TO NOTE
April 28th Area Convention Rehearsal at Holy Trinity/Steubenville
May 5th Federation Council Meeting – Rocky River/St. Demetrios
May 15th Area Convention Rehearsal at St. Demetrios/Rocky River
May 24th Ascension Day
June 3rd Feast of Pentecost
June 10th All Saints Day
June 13th Area Convention Rehearsal at Annunciation/Akron
July 1st-5th National Forum Annual Meeting, in conjunction with the 2012 Clergy-Laity Congress in Phoenix, AZ
July 26th-29th MEGFOX Convention - Rocky River
The Mid-Eastern Federation (MEFGOX) supports its church music ministry through the Stewardship of its parish church musicians. Your parish stewardship is essential to that support. No minimum or maximum amounts are required. Your annual contribution makes all the church musicians in your parish eligible to be in good standing with the Federation.

Please complete the requested information below for our records. Include this completed form with your 2011 - 2012 stewardship donation check made payable to MEFGOX. Also send a roster of all your parish musicians – Priest, choir members and chanter with home addresses and emails. Send everything directly to:

Peter N. Vatsures, Federation Treasurer. 68 W. Cooke Rd. Columbus, OH 43214

#1 Parish Name
Parish Address
Parish City, State, Zip
Parish Phone Number

#2 Choir Director’s Name
Address
City, State, Zip
Phone No. E-mail Address

#3 Church Music Representative/Contact
Address
City, State Zip
Phone No. E-mail Address

#4 Chanter’s Name
Address
City, State, Zip
Phone No. E-mail Address

#5 Youth Music Director’s Name
Address
City, State, Zip
Phone No. E-mail Address

Thank you for your continuing support of your Metropolis’s music ministry