Beloved Brothers and Sisters in the Lord,

This weekend we are gathered here in Anaheim, California for the 36th Annual Folk Dance and Choral Festival. Once again, I am overwhelmed with joy and thanksgiving to the Lord for the opportunity to be with you all as we celebrate our faith and culture during this weekend which will bring together over 4,000 members of our Orthodox Christian family. It is also an honor and privilege to welcome His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios of America whose presence and participation this weekend at FDF will be a blessing for everyone in attendance.

The theme for this year’s FDF is “Believe.” In this one simple, seven-letter word comes the depth and breadth of our lives as Orthodox Christians. The word “believe” is defined in the dictionary as: “to have confidence in the truth, the existence, or the reliability of something”. In the Gospel of Saint Mark we read these words spoken by the Lord: “If you can believe, all things are possible to him who believes.” Mark 9:23 This is a profound statement to think that all good things can come to us if we only believe.

As Orthodox Christians, our faith is founded on our belief in Jesus Christ, in the Trinity, in the Holy scripture and in the teachings of the Holy Fathers of our Church. This weekend is an opportunity to demonstrate our beliefs through our actions and in an environment that promotes and supports Christian fellowship. The next time a friend shares with you something new and interesting and they conclude their comments with the popular phrase: “Do you believe it?”, ask yourself this same question as it pertains to your faith. Do you believe it? Do you live it? Now is the time to take action and believe in what has been given to us in the precious gift of our Orthodox faith and in salvation through Jesus Christ.

I truly believe that this weekend will be filled with the abundant blessings of our Lord, and I believe that the bonds of friendship and Christian fellowship amongst all those gathered will be strengthened by the love of Jesus Christ. I pray that His grace, peace and mercy will be with you all this weekend, and throughout the year as you bring praise and honor to His Holy Name through your belief in Him as Our Lord and Savior!

With Love in Christ,

Metropolitan Gerasimos of San Francisco

Reverend and dear Father Gary, Board of Trustees, Distinguished Guests, Participants of the Greek Orthodox Folk Dance and Choral Festival,

I greet you in the grace and peace of the Lord and wish upon each of you His bountiful blessings as you participate in the 2012 Greek Orthodox Folk Dance and Choral Festival in Anaheim, California.

It has been said that Greek dance expresses a strong emotional validation for solidarity and provides an important means of communicating both the individual and collective spirit of personal and cultural identity. As planners and participants of the 2012 Festival you embody this truth and affirm both the vibrancy and unity of the youth of the Metropolis of San Francisco and your identification as enthusiastic bearers and promulgators of the rich spiritual and cultural wealth of our Greek Orthodox faith tradition.

The paternal love and admiration felt by my beloved brother in Christ and your beloved Hierarch, His Eminence Metropolitan Gerasimos, is a sentiment I, too, share for each of you as you engage with kefi and enthusiasm in the weekend festivities. I offer my best wishes for your spirited participation and extend my prayers that you may always derive joy in being connected through celebration and song in the shared journey of our precious faith and culture.

With paternal love in Christ,

+ DEMETRIOS
Archbishop of America

A message from Father Gary Kyriacou

Our San Francisco Metropolis’ Greek Folk Dance and Choral Festival ministry has worldwide notoriety. Almost everywhere I go, Greeks know about FDF, and if they don’t, they are amazed when they hear a description of the content, scope and history of our event. They often respond in great wonder: “Greek dance on the West Coast? California? Really!”

FDF is an event that requires year-round planning. For me it is another holiday in the long line of family gatherings that I plan for.
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SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR 2012 FDF OLI MAZI SPONSORS
Mr. Demetri Argyropoulos, Prima Worldwide
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"I BELIEVE in one God, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all ages."
"Do not be afraid; only BELIEVE." Mark 5:36

"If you can BELIEVE, all things are possible to him who BELIEVEs." Mark 9:23

"This is the work of God, that you BELIEVE in Him whom He sent." John 6:29

"Yes, Lord, I BELIEVE that You are the Christ, the Son of God, who is to come into the world." John 11:27

"Therefore I say to you, whatever things you ask when you pray, BELIEVE that you receive them, and you will have them." Mark 11:24

"Let not your heart be troubled; you BELIEVE in God, BELIEVE also in Me." John 14:1

"I am the bread of life. He who comes to Me shall never hunger, and he who BELIEVEs in Me shall never thirst." John 6:35

"I have come as a light into the world, that whoever BELIEVEs in Me should not abide in darkness." John 12:46

"I am the resurrection and the life. He who BELIEVEs in Me, though he may die, he shall live." John 11:25

For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever BELIEVEs in Him should not perish but have everlasting life." John 3:16

It is my joy to welcome you to the 36th Annual Folk Dance and Choral Festival. I know that this weekend will be filled with the true spirit of Christian love and fellowship, and your participation will make you wonderful ambassadors of our faith and culture.

We also extend a very special welcome to His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios of America whose presence is a true honor for the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of San Francisco.

With Love in Christ,
Metropolitan Gerasimos of San Francisco.
FDF Night Events Schedule

Thursday, February 16th
7:00-9:00 pm  Opening Ceremonies

Friday, February 17th
10:00-11:00 pm  Thracian
Vasilios Hioureas
Jordan Elrod

11:00 pm-12:00 am  Island and Cretan
Antonis Giarakis
Stathis Karathanasis

12:00-2:00 am  Pontian
Yianni Fotiadis
Pereklis Katsiotis
Christo Kosmidis

Saturday, February 18th
8:00-10:00 pm  Endas
(Dimitri Papdimitriou,
Dimitri Dallas,
Yianni Themelis)

10:00-11:30 pm  Cretan
Alexandros Papadakis
Andreas Vardas
Alexandros Frangoulatzis

11:30 pm-2:00 am  Endas
(Dimitri Papdimitriou,
Dimitri Dallas,
Yianni Themelis)

Sunday, February 19th
7:00-10:00 pm  Banquet and Awards
Ceremony

10:00 pm-2:00 am  Olympians

Congratulations
FDF 2012

SAVE THE DATE

St. John the Baptist in Las Vegas is proud to announce that
Horepse Workshop is BACK!
June 8-10th

Visit our website for more information:
http://horepse.vegasgreekorthodox.com
Expanded Metropolis Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministries Here to Serve You!

Paul Gikas
Ministering to our youth and young adults has never been more challenging. As we know our youth today are busy between school, sports, lessons and of course, dance practice! Our 20somethings young adults are busy trying to establish themselves, whether in college or working. And our 30somethings may be readjusting the plans they made for themselves in their 20’s because of the economic realities of the past few years. With the increased complexities of life for our youth and young adults, it has never been more important for our young people to have a rock-solid faith in our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

For this reason the Metropolis Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministries is working hard to expand its ministries, programs and resources for youth-workers and to connect our young people and youth-workers throughout our very geographically large metropolis.

As of September 2011, Paul Gikas is the new full-time Director of the Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministries for the Metropolis of San Francisco. Paul is originally from St. Spyridon Church in San Diego, CA, is a graduate of Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology and also worked at the Ecumenical Patriarchate for several years. Paul is eager to hear your ideas and feedback, so please contact him at pgikas@sanfran.goarch.org or 415-814-1186.

Look to The Internet For New Resources to Keep You Connected to The Latest Metropolis Youth and Young Adult Activities

We are all living and working in the mobile age, and the Metropolis Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministries is committed to building up its presence on the internet. Among these resources will be new Youth and Young Adult ministry websites which will aim to keep everyone informed of all Metropolis and Regional ministries, programs and upcoming events taking place throughout the year. These sites will also serve as a unified place to connect our youth, young adults, clergy, youth-workers and parents throughout our very geographically wide Metropolis and will be a place for all to share their ideas.
The Third Annual Greek Village Camp – *Elliniko Horio* – will be held June 23 – 30, 2012 at Saint Nicholas Ranch and Retreat Center in Dunlap, California. This interactive and educational program for youth ages 7 – 14 has become one of the most popular programs and you won’t want to miss it! The Greek Village Camp is a fabulous experience that gives children the unique opportunity to learn about their faith and culture in a fun-filled, creative setting.

The Greek Immersion Camp is a program where children happily immerse themselves in a fun environment that bonds them to their ancestral heritage. With the guidance of skilled instructors, children connect themselves with the Greek language, customs, traditions and faith. New friendships will be created while the children attend classes in Greek Language, Cooking, Geography, Mythology, Music, Dance and Theatre. Extracurricular activities offered in the daily schedule include: arts and crafts, swimming, canoeing, basketball and volleyball, plus evening campfires by the lake, storytelling, folk dancing and singing.

Campers attend worship services daily and also have the opportunity to observe monastic life at the Monastery of the Theotokos the Life Giving Spring which is adjacent to Saint Nicholas Ranch. The 230-acre Saint Nicholas Ranch is nestled in the foothills of the Sequoia National Park. Its hiking trails, apple orchards, historic barn and lake, provide the aura of a traditional Greek Village to further enhance a truly cultural experience. Under the guidance and direction of the Metropolis Committee on Greek Education and Culture, the Greek Village Camp – *Elliniko Horio* – will once again be led by a team of highly qualified instructors, selected from various Greek language schools in the Metropolis. Activities will be divided based on age-appropriateness to facilitate learning and enhance the educational experience. Enrollment is limited so reserve your space today – the deadline for registration is April 30, 2012! For additional information and to register online, please visit to [www.ourgreekvillage.org](http://www.ourgreekvillage.org). Enrollment from the first to the second years nearly doubled, and we anticipate another record increase in attendance so be sure to sign up early and reserve your space today! Stop by the Metropolis Booth during FDF to learn more about this program and speak with some of our committee members and instructors. Don’t delay – register today!

*His Eminence Metropolitan Gerasimos with the Greek Village campers*

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**Rolling Up Our Sleeves: Action into our Faith and Faith into Action**

As our ancestors started coming to America during the 19th century, they arrived with one piece of luggage in one hand and a dream in the other. A dream that came true with faith and hard work. Our ancestors were serious about their traditions; their faith, their culture, and their family values. They rolled up their sleeves and got to work, especially for others. They did this in the home country and they did this the country that became their new home. When we serve others, we are serving God’s people and when we are serving God’s people, we serve the Lord Himself.

Our Faith and our works are inseparable just as love is inseparable from action.

We roll up our sleeves to pray hard, we roll up our sleeves to work hard, we roll up our sleeves to cook well, and we roll up our sleeves to dance well. Our ancestors passed on to us that good and honest work is most fulfilling when its goal is to provide for the well being of others. As we come together to honor the rich cultural traditions of our ancestors, we must also roll up our sleeves by putting action into our faith and more faith into our actions by helping those in need. *
Greek Dance Venues In Los Angeles

By Members of Kypseli and Café Asteria

Folk dancing became immensely popular both among Greeks and non-Greeks during the 1960's and 1970's. Many of us started dancing at the folk dance coffee houses that sprung up all over the United States. The most famous of those in Los Angeles was The Intersection, owned by Athan Karras and Rudy Dannes, which opened in 1964 and closed in 1984. After The Intersection closed in 1985, some community members started Kypseli, a Greek dance night in Pasadena. Kypseli Greek Dance Center, now located in Sherman Oaks, remains vibrant to this day, due to the efforts of many volunteers who love the Greek culture and dance. In 2004, other dancers started another Greek dance night in West Los Angeles at Café Danasa, the only remaining folk dance coffee house. The Café Danasa Greek night morphed into Café Asteria in 2007.

Kypseli and Café Asteria have hosted a number of Greek dance teachers including Joe Graziosi, Mary Coros, Dennis Boxell, Yvonne Hunt and other FDF judges, as well as FDF directors Tony Petroulas, Thanassi Lantzourakis, Nikos Savvidis, Aris Yortzidis, Stelios and Stacie Zounberakis, Dennis Sourvaros, Paula Darlas, Vasilis and Aristi Contos; and from Greece, Yannis Konstantinou, Anna Mavrou, Kaliope Mavrou, and Yannis Dimas. Musicians who have performed include Ino Kourounis, Anoush, Soudeniotes, the Olympians, Makedonikos Iehos from Florina, Greece, Leonidas and Stelios Lainakis and Marios Tavelidou from Xania, Crete and more.

In addition, for many years, FDF dance groups performed at Kypseli, sometimes with live music. On March 16, Kypseli will celebrate its 27th anniversary with Soudeniotes, a local band that includes Nick and Cassie Nickols, Matt Tavelidou and Alekos Sioris. Nick and Cassie are the son and daughter of long time judge and FDF Board member George Nickols. Both Nick and Cassie have been dancers and musicians for FDF dance groups. Nick is a medical resident at UCLA, playing klarino in his spare time. Cassie is a professional musician with a PhD in music from USC, playing keyboards, piano, accordion as well as singing. She also directs two FDF dance groups from St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church in Northridge. Alekos Sioris is a long time bouzouki player who has played at various Greek restaurants and dance events, and now owns Marina Music, an instrument store that sells international instruments, including bouzoukia, baklavames, lyres and more. Matt Tavelidou is a professional drummer. The band takes their name from the band members' ancestral village of Soudena, near Kalivrita in the Peloponnese.

We invite you to join us for this special event and other nights of Greek dancing.

Kypseli Greek Dance Center: Fridays from 8:30 pm to 11:30 pm, at 4346 Woodman Avenue in Sherman Oaks, CA, 91324. For more information visit www.kypseli.org or call 818-990-5542 or email xorepse@gmail.com.

Café Asteria: Third Saturday of the month, starting April 21, from 7:30 to 11:30 pm, at Pacific Art Center, 900 S. Santa Monica Boulevard, in West Los Angeles, 90067. For information call 310-508-9676 or email xorepse@gmail.com.
Dance Judges!

Renee Cleary has taught Greek Dance at Fullerton College and was a member of a performing Greek Dance Group for thirteen years, seven as the director. She has traveled widely through Greece, collecting and researching both costumes and dance, and observed both professional and amateur dance groups and village festivals. Renee has been involved continuously for 35 years with Greek dance workshops, festivals, conferences, and as a teacher of Greek dancing. She first participated in FDF in 1981 and has been a costume or dance judge every year since 1985.

Sofia Efstratiou Nicolau has been dancing from childhood and has directed several dance troupes in her 25-year career. She has been attending FDF since 1988 and started her own dance company and as a director calling at the St. Nicholas parish in San Jose, California. Sofia spent 5 years in Greece where she was a dance member of the Lyngistes Dance Troupe led by Yiannis and Ira Konstantinou. During her years abroad, she attended several dance seminars and numerous cultural gatherings and events. Through this dance journey, she developed a deep understanding, true inspiration, and passion for the Greek heritage through dance. This experience gave her the opportunity to obtain extensive knowledge in many dance regions of Greece. Sofia has studied in great detail the dance, music, customs, traditions and dress of Western Macedonian giving her a strong emphasis on the region of Florina. Her article, “A Journey Through the Agias 'Eteroklitas’” which tells the story of her journey through the Florina highlands, was published in the Oli Mazi newspaper. Other regions of research, interest and study include Epirus, Eastern Macedonia and Vlach dances, traditions and culture. Her devotion and love for Greek dance continues to guide her study today.

Larry Halfhill has 20 years of FDF experience as a dancer, director and choreographer. He became a competition dance judge in 2000 as a way to contribute back to a vital youth program and bring a different perspective to the judging process. Larry’s Greek roots derive on his mother’s side from Arcadia. His broad-based dance experience over a period of 30 years spans regions and borders, and he considers all Greek dances to be of special interest and worthy of discovery, research and preservation. Current areas of special interest include Crete, Anatoliki Romilia, Macedonia (Aridea, Roumloki), the Peloponnesian and Megara. Larry lives in Seal Beach, California with wife Bessie Nicolau Halfhill, a former FDF dancer and director, and children Thanasi, Maria and Leonidas. He is an active member of St. John the Baptist Greek Orthodox Church in Anaheim. Larry attended the University of Southern California, where he earned BS and MS degrees in aerospace engineering and an MBA in finance and marketing.

Irene (Eirini) Loutzaki is an anthropologist and dance movement specialist, Dr. Loutzaki is Assistant Professor, Faculty of Music Studies, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens. She was for many years a collaborator on dance research with the Peloponnesian Folklore Foundation (Nafplion, Greece). From 1995-2005, she participated in the Research Programme Thrace - Eastern Macedonia, sponsored by the Friend of Music Society, the aim of which is to create a database for cultural data. For many years she conducted fieldwork in Thrace, Crete, and other parts of Greece. Her research interests focuses on politics, gender and class relations, cultural practices, and the moving body. She has published widely in both Greek and English and she edited the bilingual volume ‘Dance in Greece’ of the journal Ethnographika, 8 (1992) and in collaboration with Avidakis E and Chr. Papakostas, the book Horeftika Eteroklita, Athens, Lyceum of Greek Women, 2004. She recently completed work on the documentary film My Piko in the Dance (2006). She is a member of the International Council of Museums (ICOM) and the International Council for Traditional Music (ICTM). Since 2003 she has been nominated as ICM Liaison Officer for Greece.

Dance Experience: She was a member of the cultural association “Lyceum Club of Greek Women” (Athens), where she taught dance courses at the Lyceum club and the Peloponnesian Folklore Foundation. She has also taught in her own areas of expertise has given workshops in many countries. She participated as dance judge consultant at FDF in 1996.

George Nickols is a native Los Angelino, he holds a BA in Mathematics and is currently retired after a long career in data networking and telco communications corporations. His devotion to his Greek heritage in both dance and theatre has brought him immense joy and pleasure. George has been involved in Greek dance since 1960 and has participated in many Greek cultural events, productions, international festivals, TV and films. George has been a member of the FDF Board of Trustees since 1990 and has been a judge since 1986.

Christos Papakostas is a scholar, master dance teacher and percussionist. He was born in Larisa(Thessaly). For the past 20 years, he has served as a folklorist, choreographer, dance instructor, and percussion instructor for multiple performing groups. He has undergraduate degrees in physical education and sport science with specialty in Greek traditional dance; his dissertation focused on dances of the Roma (gypsy) community of northern Greece. He has published and presented numerous studies on Greek dance, music, and folklore; has taught at multiple universities in Epirus, Thessaly and Crete; and was the author and editing supervisor for the chapter on “Traditional Greek Dance” in the PE textbook published by the Ministry of Education for use in Greek high schools. He served as artistic director of Lykion Ellinidon Dramas (Macedonia) and in several folk dance groups in Karditsa(Thessaly), Larisa (Thessaly); and Komotini (Thrace). At present, he lives in Ioannina and is temporary lecturer in the Department of Music of Epirus Tech -nological Institute. He also is executive director for the Cultural Association of Perama (Epirus).

Christos is well known in Hellenic circles in Europe and Canada and has taught at dance seminars in Belgium, France, and the U.K. He served as instructor at Kliromonia Hellenic Folklore in Canada (2004) and is returning to Kliromonia in May 2012. During the same period, he will have his first teaching tour in U.S. This is his first participation as judge in FDF.

George Papangellin began dancing in 1974 with the Ionian Dancers, at St. Nicholas parish in San Jose. He helped start the Parnassos Dancers for Holy Cross parish, Belmont in 1981. In 1983, he directed the Epirus Dancers at St. Nicholas in San Jose. After moving to Fresno, he joined and directed the Kef Dancers, for St. George. During his time in both Fresno and San Jose, he stage directed various Greek variety (music, dance, skit) performances in San Jose, San Francisco, Phoenix, Fresno and Seattle. In Fresno, he choreographed “Zorba, the musical” for The Good Company Players. He continues to either direct or work with various dance groups in Fresno’s St. George Greek Community, and teach Greek folk dance, traditions and costumes to Elder Hostel classes at St. Nicholas Ranch, in Dunlap. George has held several positions within the governing and operational bodies of the Folk Dance and Choral Festival (FDF) of the Metropolis of San Francisco. During the past 13 years, he served as Dance Judge Coordinator, and most recently as a dance judge. He has also been a dance judge at the HDF in Georgia, North Carolina, and most recently at the inaugural AGDC (American Greek Dance Competition) in Chicago. He has traveled throughout Greece and, together with Dr. Mary Coros, prepared the Encyclopedia of Traditional Music of Epirus Tech -nological Institute. He also served as artistic director of St. Katherine's in St. George, Fresno, to perform at various venues in Crete in the summer of 1999.

Robbi Shulman has been involved in the world of Greek dance for over 35 years. She was introduced to and fell in love with the heart and soul and parea of Greek dance and music at the intersection, the folk dance café opened by Athan Karras in the 1960s. She performed with the Intesection Greek Dancers and was an original member of the Panegiri Dancers, directed by Nikos Varvitsiotis and co-directed by George Nicholas, performing at festivals in Pasadena and Redondo Beach long before those communities were sending dance groups to FDF. Robbi directed dance groups at St. Katherine’s in Redondo Beach for eight years and has judged the competition at FDF on and off since 1998. She has travelled to Greece and has participated in workshops with a special interest in the region of Epirus, Eastern Macedonia and, along with Kalymnos, to Louise Bilman. Robbi has continued to teach Greek dance at Kypseli Dance Center and at Cafe Asteria Greek Cultural Center in West Los Angeles where, along with Anne Sirota, she is actively involved in...
including the intersection as well as a member of directed by Charlie Kyriacou for four years, as well as a member of several other Los Angeles performing companies including the Intersection Greek Dancers, Panegiri, directed by Nikos Varvitsiotis, and O Pontos, directed by Nick Savvidis. Anne travels to Greece to study folklore and has concentrated her studies of Greek dance on Pontian and Macedonian villages in Northern Greece, attending festivals, weddings, seminars, classes and performances in Greece and the United States. She presented a paper on “A Wedding in Florina” at the International Organization of Folk Arts (IOFA) in 2000 and has written several articles for Oli Mazi. She consults frequently with dance groups and has taught Greek dancing classes at Kypseli Greek Dance Center in Pasadena as well as Pierce and Santa Monica Community Colleges. Anne is one of the founders and leaders of the Northern California Greek Dance Club in Los Angeles, where we teach, dance and disseminate traditional Greek dance. Anne has been an FDF judge continuously since 1981 and an FDF judge for several years. Anne is currently a member of the FDF Board of Trustees as a judge consultant.

Bessie Stavropoulos has been involved in FDF for over 20 years either as a dancer, director or both. Born and raised in Las Vegas, Nevada, she first attended FDF in 1987 as a dancer from St. John the Baptist. In 1993, she began directing at the age of 15 and one year later, her group was the first primary group to ever win sweepstakes in FDF history. She continued dancing and directing well into her college years but stepped away for a short period to complete her degree. Upon returning to the dance scene, she received the SVS Division I Director’s Award in 2003. She became the head director of her community and was directing as many as four groups at a time. Bessie has attended many seminars throughout the United States, Canada and Greece. For four consecutive summers from 2007-2010, she studied dance in Greece which included attending seminars taught by some of Greece’s finest instructors touring Thrace and Macedonia and learning the many traditions and dances of her father’s region of Preveza, Ipiros. With the help and support of the St. John’s Dance Ministry, Bessie also organized the Horepse Dance Seminar in Las Vegas in 2007, 2008 and 2009 where they featured top instructors and musicians from all over Greece and the United States. She directed the Las Vegas groups through 2010. This will be her second year judging at fdf.

Nikolaos Stefanidis was born in Chios, Greece and though he did not dance that much as a youngster, he did pay undivided attention to the dances performed by elders in his native island of Chios. His love of dancing was not put into action until he saw a performance by the Terpsichoreans in Philadelphia in 1976 celebrating the country’s bicentennial. He remained an active dancer until August of 1983 when he left the east coast to pursue graduate studies in Los Angeles. He stumbled upon the Panthyri dance group while they were performing at the Greek festival in Arcadia that very summer, and attended practices as time allowed. His first involvement with FDF was when he was invited to dance Chios dances for a memorial to Manoli Abazis in San Francisco. Nikos is a psychologist in Los Angeles, working with homeless and troubled teens. He was the recipient of the 2008 Humanitarian Award. Nikos has taught dances from Chios at Kypseli, and consults with various groups in the Los Angeles area. Nikos has been an FDF judge since 2006.

Stelios Zourberakis has been participating in FDF for over 25 years through dancing, directing and organizing. He began his dancing career at St. George Parish in Downey, California and later at Assumption in Long Beach, California. He started directing 15 years ago at various churches in the southland including St. Sophia, St. George, and Assumption, and has gained a vast amount of experience with many regions throughout Greece. He has extensively studied the dances and traditions of Rethimno, Crete, which is where his family originates, and has a broad knowledge of dances and traditions from the Cyclades, Dodecanesia, Eptanisa, Macedonia, Thrace and Crete. He has also provided consultation with various dance directors throughout the southland.

Aris Yortzidis has been involved with FDF for 24 years as a dancer, director, and member of the FDF Board of Trustees. He began dancing in his home parish of Saints in Downey, CA in 1982 and also performed with groups from the St. Anthony parish in Pasadena, CA and the Assumption parish in Long Beach, CA. In 1995 and until his departure from Southern California in 2000, Aris directed groups at St. George, Downey, CA; Sts. Constantine and Helen, Cardiff-by-the-Sea, CA; and St. Katherine, Redondo Beach, CA. In 1995, Aris received an FDF Scholarship that provided him the opportunity to research the dances of Serres; the dances and traditions of his father’s village of Chrysochora (Gagauzika), Serres; the dances of the Vlachs of Serres; and the dances of Pontos in Serres, Katerini (where his mother is from), and Thessaloniki.

Aris has continued his research and has obtained broad knowledge of the dances of Thrace, Macedonia, the islands (Kykладes, Dodekanisia, Eptanisa), and other regions of Greece. He continues to present at seminars and serve as a consultant to groups across the United States and Canada. He has also served as a judge at several Greek folk dance events and competitions in the United States (Hellenic Dance Festival, Metropolis of Atlanta; Americas Greek Dance Competition, Chicago, IL) and in South America (Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of Buenos Aires and South America).

Costume Judges

Bertha Angels: My name is Bertha Angels and I am excited to be rejoining the cast of judges participating in this years’ FDF. I first got involved in FDF in 1983 as an observer and my involvement progressed over the years as my children approached Greek Folk dancing. Through this involvement I developed a passion for costumes that has led to years of continued research and learning. As a result of my efforts, I have previously served as a costume judge at FDF. I’ve been fortunate to be part of several Communities in the Los Angeles area. Currently, I’m an active member of Saint Sophia Cathedral. Over the years I’ve done extensive research and made costumes from every region of Greece in support of multiple communities. In the course of researching costumes, I have gained extensive exposure in materials, pattern making, embroidery, crocheting trim and detailed sewing in an effort to preserve the rich authentic Greek traditions of costume making. I hope to translate my experience in critical support of the tremendous efforts shared by all at FDF this year.

Julie Mamalis had an almost 40-year career as a legislative assistant for several Assemblymembers and a State Senator. She has devoted many years in various capacities with the Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church in Sacramento, including serving as a member of the parish council and as organist and member of the church choir. Julie has been involved in FDF since 1981, when she became the costume coordinator for the Annunciation Greek Folk dance group. Over the years, the Sacramento dance groups numbered over 100 dancers of various ages who annually participated in FDF. She took great pride and joy in observing her own children and grandchildren who danced in FDF throughout those years. In keeping with her passion and love for Greece, she has created a museum-like cultural exhibit (Hellenica) for her church’s annual Greek Festival. The exhibit features a vast collection of Greek artifacts, historical displays, costumes and a multitude of photographs. After many years of study, research and her involvement in creation of Greek dress and props for performance suites, Julie was asked to be an FDF costume judge. She was ably trained in Greek costuming by Anna Efstathiou, Vilma Machette and Dena Stanos.

Irene Peros is a native of Modesto, California. She has been dancing since a very young age. Her pride and love for her Greek heritage have encouraged her to study Greek dance, costumes, and to help teach and share her knowledge and experience with people of diverse backgrounds. Her formal involvement in Greek folk dance began in 1984 when she was instrumental in forming, dancing and directing the Patriots of Modesto. From 1984 to 1999, she directed, assisted or danced in 10 different dance groups in Modesto. She was also involved with the coordination, research and production of 11 award-winning costumes. Irene also chaired 3 very successful FDF Symposia held in Modesto. Irene has served on the FDF Board of Trustees in several positions and has been involved with various aspects of FDF Irene has been a costume judge at FDF since 2001.

Dena Stamou has been involved in Greek dance since her childhood in Chicago. She first performed at age seven. She became involved in FDF eighteen years ago as Executive Director of the Modesto dance groups. During this time the Modesto representation grew from two groups to two groups to three groups to four groups and then seven. Dena is respected and admired for the accomplishments of the
REMEMBERING
Mary Vouras
1926 - 2011

She saw the world through her own rose-colored glasses: Her was an outlook full of hope and opportunity, never despair and failure. And she spread that immense optimism and joy to everyone...

It is with a sense of irreplaceable loss and immense sorrow that I remember and honor Mary Vouras, noted ethnologist, folklorist, former FDF judge, a dear colleague and close friend of mine.

She was one of two children born to Greek immigrants—her mother from Andros and father from Asia Minor. Mary spent her childhood in the America and received a degree in chemistry before her intense love of Greek culture lured her back to her beloved Greece in 1959. She lived in Greece for the better portion of twenty-three years and embarked on the seminal portion of her life’s work there. Mary worked for several years in Athens for the world-renowned city planner, Constantine Doxiadis. While living in this vibrant city, speaking Greek, dancing and singing at every opportunity, she soon found her life’s focus. She collaborated with Simon Karas, an eminent authority on Greek folk and Byzantine music and who founded The Society for the Dissemination of National Music, headquartered in Lofos Strei. During the Junta regime in Greece, Mary was instrumental in securing a Ford Foundation grant to document, photograph and record folk dances and songs from nearly every region of Greece. Both Mary and Simon made numerous, and oftentimes treacherous, excursions to remote villages throughout Greece to befriend musicians, dancers and villagers in order to record their music and dances. Were it not for Mary’s commitment to such an ethnographic project, many of the nation’s cherished songs and dances would surely have been lost during this time of rapid urbanization in Greece. Her project culminated in a 25-LP series of their field recordings, complete with extensive notations and lyrics released by SDSM in 1972. These LP’s revolutionized recording in Greece, creating a commercial archive for the preservation and documentation of Greek music. Her works were later converted to CDs for more recent generations to enjoy as well. Mary’s superb photographs are featured on the covers of many of the recordings. Decades later, the photographs were bequeathed to the archives of the Benaki Museum.

During her time in Greece, Mary surrounded herself with prominent dancers, including Dora Stratos, musicians and ethnographers, such as Sam Chianis and Ted Petrides (later to become an FDF judge) who were all conducting research in Greece. She also co-authored a book, Greek Folk Dances, with Ricky Holden in 1976. It was in Greece that she first met William Doebel, a distinguished Harvard University professor of city SEE MARY ON PAGE 19

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SEE MARY ON PAGE 19

2004 His Eminence Metropolitan Anthony San Francisco, CA; Metropolitan & Spiritual Father of FDF For 25 Years

2004 Anthony Forakis, Modesto, CA Dancer
2002 John PapadopoulosAtlanta , GA Dancer, formerly with Dora Stratou Theatre
2001 Kathy Trapp Castro Valley, CA Choir Director
2000 Anna EftathiotiOakland , CA Dancer, Director, Researcher
2000 VimaMATCHETTELynwood , WA Dancer, Director, Researcher, Costume Judge, Author
2000 Jim Papangelin San Jose , CA Dancer, Director
1999 Elizabeth Angelis Harper Seattle, WA Dancer, Mother of three
1999 Fisher Theodore Harper Seattle , WA Son of Elizabeth Harper
1999 Ian Joseph Harper Seattle , WA Son of Elizabeth Harper
1999 Katherine VeltkampModesto , CA Dancer & Director
1998 John P. Angel Seattle, WA Dancer
1997 Kim Eftathious Castro Valley , CA Dancer, Director, FDF Officer
1997 Paul Grinis Founder and Director of the Greek American Folklore Society, Choreographer
1994 Nick VarvitsiotisPasadena , CA Dancer, Director, Choreographer
1994 SoulaKunelis Granada Hills, CA Mother of three
1993 Jim Markus Sacramento, CA Dance enthusiast and supporter, Researcher, Director
1992 Spiro Pathos Pasadena , CA Dancer
1992 Karenna PerivoltiSan Jose , CA Dancer
1991 Chris TsantilasSeattle , WA Dancer
1990 Bill Angeles Modesto, CA Dancer
1990 Anthony Moschonas, Tucson, AZ Priest
1989 Chris TsantilasSeattle , WA Dancer
1988 Ted PetridesAthens , Greece Judge, Dancer, Musician, Professor
1986 Dora StratouAthens , Greece Dancer, Choreographer, Researcher
1985 Bebelevko Musician
1984 Metropolitan & Spiritual Father

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1985 Bebelevko Musician
Christopher Yokas

Christopher Yokas has been the organist at Saint Sophia Greek Orthodox Cathedral for the past 33 years. He succeeded the late Xenia Anton Desby, who gave him considerable encouragement and advice on his craft. From 1978 through 1992, Chris worked very closely with the late Frank Desby, D.M.A., whose steadfast teaching and guidance were both inspiring and invaluable.

Aside from his many music activities and responsibilities at Saint Sophia including assistant director of music, Chris was the organist for the 1986 Clergy-Laity Congress in Dallas, Texas, the 1991 National GOYA Conference in Los Angeles, the 1995 Mid-Eastern Choir Federation Conference in Ambridge, Pennsylvania, the 1997 Patriarchal Divine Liturgy in Los Angeles, and several San Francisco Metropolitan Church Musician Conferences from 1983 to present. He was the principal organist for the three major services of the 2002 Clergy-Laity Congress held in Los Angeles, California. He has worked with many nationally known Greek Orthodox composers and choral directors. In February 2009 and 2011, he served as a choral judge at the 2009 and 2011 Metropolises of San Francisco Folk Dance and Choral Festival.

Chris has written “Toward Achieving an Orthodox Sound: A Practical Guide to the Use of the Organ in the Greek Orthodox Church.” He has also lectured at several workshops and conferences and served as an organ and choir consultant for many Greek Orthodox Churches.

In February 1997, Chris received the national Forum Patriarch Athenagoras I Award for Distinguished Service to the Metropolis of San Francisco. Chris resides in Burbank, California with his wife, Elena who directs the Saint Sophia Sunday School, and children Frank Christopher age 13 and Penelope Marigo age 10.

To read more, please visit the official website of Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School.
Metropolis Philoptochos Excels In Their Ministry To Serve Others

The dynamic membership of over 4,000 women at the Metropolis of San Francisco Philoptochos is leading the way in their exemplary works to spread the love of Jesus Christ through outreach programs and ministries that positively impact thousands of lives each year.

During the summer of 2011, the Metropolis Philoptochos continued its award-winning Kids 'n' Cancer Camp Agape ministry by offering five camps throughout the Metropolis for children with cancer and their families. Last summer, over 200 families participated in this life-changing program which offered a glimmer of hope, a loving embrace, and the opportunity to spend precious time together as a family in a supportive and caring environment. In addition to these camps, the Metropolis Philoptochos also sponsors two oncology transport programs that assist families in transporting their children to hospitals for ongoing cancer treatments.

As a youth, Steve was very active in the Hellenic Community. He was head altar boy at the Ascension Cathedral in Oakland for many years. He also was President of GOYA, District Governor of the Sons of Pericles and was a participant in the first Oakland Greek Dance Troup. Steve recalls virtually every night of the week participating with his fellow Hellenes playing church basketball, Sons of Pericles, GOYA meetings, altar boy meetings, and of course, dance practice!

Steve Padis was born in Oakland, California and is married to his wife Judy and is the father of four children. He and his family currently live in Northern California. Steve graduated from The University of California Berkeley with a Bachelor of Science degree and a Bachelor of Arts degree.

STEVE PADIS:
ELIOS AWARD 2012

In 1975 Steve followed his passion and started his jewelry career on the streets of Telegraph Avenue in Berkeley. His first actual store was in an alley that backed up to People’s Park. He supplied jewelry and jewelry components to fellow street artists.

In 1977 Steve moved his business to San Francisco and, at the age of 25, developed a vacant warehouse into The San Francisco Jewelry Center where Steve has his main wholesale jewelry showroom along with 70 other jewelry tenants.

Following his other passion – wine – Steve and his wife purchased a home in Napa Valley and planted vineyards. Today this property has 15 acres of Cabernet vineyards, a wine cave and is producing award winning World Class wines.

His Greek heritage and community is still very important to Steve. He is a member of The National Hellenic Society, Leadership 100 and is a founding member of the Elios Society.

"The Elios Society salutes Steve Padis as he is most fittingly honored during this year’s FDF. Steve embodies a commitment to both our Orthodox faith and Hellenism, and his lifelong service to promote both of these important areas is worthy to be emulated," stated Anthony Saris, President of the Elios Society.
FDF Scholarship Opportunities

FDF is dedicated to helping our young dancers further their education in the Orthodox faith and Greek dance culture. Below is a list of scholarship opportunities offered every year to FDF participants. If you would like to be considered for one of these scholarships, notify your parish priest (or dance program advisor) and ask them to submit your name to Vickie Demos, Scholarships Director at FDFScholarships@gmail.com on or before the deadline (now accepting applications for FDF Scholarships for 2013!).

**DEADLINE FOR SCHOLARSHIPS IS ALWAYS JANUARY 15 PRIOR TO FDF WEEKEND!**

**MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

Six FDF Memorial Scholarships will be awarded to outstanding FDF participants recommended by their parish priest. Each individual will be awarded a US Savings Bonds in the amount of $1000.

- The Chris Papadimitrakis Scholarship (sponsored by the FDF)
- The Cynthia Anderson Scholarship (sponsored by the FDF)
- The Father Homer Demopoulos Scholarship (sponsored by the FDF)
- The Katherine Velthoen Scholarship (sponsored by the Modesto community)
- The Jim Papangellin Scholarship (sponsored by the George Papangellin family)
- The Dean Philips Scholarship (sponsored by Vickie and George Demos)

**Eligibility**

1. High School Senior to College Junior
2. Must be current FDF participant

**MUSICAL APPRENTICESHIP SCHOLARSHIP**

Two scholarships will be awarded talented musicians among the FDF community for the purposes of continuing to preserve Greek culture through Greek folk music. Winners will enjoy a yearlong opportunity to learn a traditional Greek folk instrument from qualified musical instructors that the Scholarship Committee will identify.

**Eligibility and Requirements:**

- Must own instrument of interest
- Prior knowledge of instrumental music i.e. schooling, private lessons, ability to read music, etc.
- Funds cover travel expenses and/or teaching fees only
- Recipients will perform at both FDF-sponsored and non-sponsored events where instructor’s band plays during the period of the scholarship
- A cassette tape or DVD containing the music learned and played by the recipient is required upon completion of the scholarship term (compensation for additional costs for submission will be provided following submission)

**Contact Vickie Demos for additional terms**

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**FDF Memorial Scholarships 2011**

- **The Chris Pappadimitrakis Memorial Scholarship:** Peter Dimitrion
  Sts. Constantine & Helen    Honolulu, Hawaii
- **The Cynthia Anderson Memorial Scholarship:** George Andrews
  Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary    Long Beach, California
- **The Father A. Homer Demopolis Memorial Scholarship:** Jimmie Stavrakaras
  Annunciation Cathedral    San Francisco, California
- **The Catherine Velthoen Memorial Scholarship:** Andoni Kocolas
  Annunciation    Modesto, California
- **The Jim Papangelin Memorial Scholarship:** Katherine Perakis
  Annunciation    Sacramento, California
- **The Dean S. Phillips Memorial Scholarship:** Eleftheri Christodulelis
  St. Anthony    Pasadena, California
Endasi

Endasi is a Greek music ensemble, comprised of Dimitri Papadimitriou (Atlanta), Yiannis Themelis (New York) and Dimitrios Dallas (Chicago).

Hailing from folk dance backgrounds, Endasi developed a deep love for the Greek music tradition. With years of musical experience, Endasi has performed all over the U.S. and has appeared several times at FDF playing for groups of all ages. Contact them today for your next baptism, wedding, Greek night, dance performance, private party or just to have a great time. From traditional music to more modern Greek stylings, Endasi has the right mix of music to make your event a memorable one. For more information, visit Endasi at www.endasi.com or email: info@endasi.com.

Olympians

When one hears the soulful sound of the bouzoukia, the beat of the drums, the strum of the klarino, you know you are listening to the Olympians Band. This is a signal to dancers that the celebration has started and it is time to dance the night away to the band’s vast repertoire of music people love so much.

The Olympians first connection to FDF was in 1978 as musicians when they provided entertainment for the Evening of Mediterranean Magic, a theatrical show where all dancers performed. The Olympians Band helped develop and expand the integration of live music with Greek folk dance performances. Groups were no longer constrained by cassette recordings; the Olympians were able to take performances to a higher level, as the musicians became an integral part of the dances.

Tragedy struck the band in 1986 when guitarist Steve Kidd was fatally injured in an automobile accident. The band went without a guitarist for a couple of years, but saw the talent and energy of the group’s present, Jerry Thermos, George, Jim, Peter, Jerry and Steve make up the present members of the band. They have been truly blessed as the band members have played for their own weddings and their children’s baptisms.

Alexandros Papadakis

We are proud to announce a special guest appearance by Alexandros Papadakis and his ensemble. Alexandros is an accomplished musician from the island of Crete. In his earliest years, Alexandros was moved by the traditional music of his native village, Ardauctos, which is located in the Lampi municipality of Rethymno, Crete. He began his musical journey at the age of nine. His uncle was the first to put a lyre in his hand. He credits his learning to several teachers, most notably Petros Karbadakis and Manolis Margaritis. While honing his craft, he surrounded himself with local musicians, absorbed their magnificent stories and techniques, and dedicated his life to continuing age-old musical traditions. After years of dedication and continual discovery, Alexandros is a master of the melodic lyre and he plays with undeniable spirit and love.

Through his passionate voice, commanding ask omantoura (Cretan bag pipe), and delicate playing of the habioli (flute) he captivates his listeners. Alexandros performs throughout Greece. His superior talent has taken him around the world as well as well with performances in China, Vietnam, Germany, Australia, and throughout the United States. Again and again audiences are moved to dance, sing, and enjoy the pleasures of life while engaging in a truly unique musical experience. His first album, My Song Bird, was released in 2007 and received accolades for its innovation and artistry.

His follow up album, At the Bow of the Boat, released in 2010, paid melodic homage to his beloved home and enthralled his growing international fan base. Vasilios's first encounter with Greek traditional music was in joining his church dance group at eight years old. While in the dance group, he learned thrakiotika, and later learned to play gaida. These instrumental sounds were the initial inspiration for his love of Greek folk music. Since his first attempt at playing gaida in 2004, he has traveled throughout all of Thrace and lived among the villagers, picking up different musical stylings from each gaidadiz. Vasilios had the honor of staying in Asvestades, Thrace and learned his primary style from Yiannis Pehlivianis (a local gaidadiz from the village). Vasilios enjoys music from all regions of Greece and lightly plays a number of wind instruments from various regions. His most recent interest is the Tulum, a bagpipe from Pontos. When he is not playing Gaida, Billy works as a software/audio engineer in Los Angeles.
planning that later became her devoted and adoring husband.

Newly married, Mary returned to the U.S. to join her husband in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Stimulated by the academically charged environment, Mary began to teach dance and folklore in the Modern Greek Studies programs at both Boston University and Harvard. She also collaborated with Alexandra Anthony in the production of numerous films including Greek Celebrations, a 1985 film that portrayed Greek village panegyria in Olymbos, Karpathos, the Agrapha and Crete. Mary also joined forces with dear friend and noted photographer, Constantine Manos, to produce a piece entitled Greek Villages, featuring her music and his exquisite photographs.

Mary serves as an enthusiastic judge at FDF from 1988 to 2005. Competing groups of all age categories and parishes sought her expert council. Her years of field research in Greece were influential in eliciting greater styling authenticity among the competition. Parents, dancers, directors, and fellow judges—especially by His Eminence Anthony of Blessed Memory—loved Mary, and was thus inducted into the FDF Hall of Fame in 2002.

Mary was a generous, thoughtful and loyal friend. I have many fond memories of adventures in Greece with Bill and Mary: remote villages in Arcadia and her charming Sifnos island home once owned by Greece’s great chef Tselementes; a renovated tower hotel in the wilds of Mani, under the shade of giant sycamores on mountaneous Samothrace; inside Souli’s heralded silk museum, over platters of horta and grilled fish on the waterfront in Nauplion; a tiny taverna in Amorgos with local musicians who threw a party just for her; on the roof over her apartment on Fyrrihou Street in Plaka, basking in the glow of the sun setting over the Acropolis.

Mary was in her element everywhere. Mary’s signature voice exclaiming, “Ach, it oraia!” shall forever resonate in my heart just as clear as the joyous times spending afternoons in our favorite ramshackle cafénion on a seedy Athens side street.

Mary, we all loved you and you so enriched our lives. May your memory live forever and ever.
**WORKSHOPS**

**ELEMENTARY**
- **FR. JIM PAPPAS**—Fun and Games Too!
  Join us for fun-filled activities with a Christ-centered theme. Bring your friends for games and fellowship!

**JUNIOR HIGH**
- **FR. ANTHONY SAVAS**—“There’s an App for That! Life Applications from Scripture and the Church”
  From connecting with friends to navigating cities or online shopping, it seems there’s always an app for that! We’ll consider some of the most popular apps today and what they can teach us about our spiritual life!

**HIGH SCHOOL**
- **FR. ARIS METRAKOS**—“iBelieve iThink”
  Everyone questions their faith from time to time, but what do you do when someone else questions your faith? Come prepared to role play and argue for your faith. Even better, you might get picked to challenge a priest!

**YOUNG ADULTS**
- **FR. JOHN HONDROS**—“The REAL Social Network”
  Jesus saw Zaccheous up in a sycamore tree and said to him, “I must stay at your house today… or settle for Skype?” Would we invite Him into our real home… or settle for Skype?

**PARENTS**
- **FR. EARL CANTOS**— "Believe in the Crazy that Saves us from Madness!"
  With all the extracurricular activities our kids are doing, our careers, the groceries, and a slew of other demands of our lives. At times it feels like we’re just chasing one thing after another into a kind of exhausting madness. Well, there’s an awesome cure… and it’s CRAZY!

**PARENTS**
- **FR. ALLAN BOYD**—“Believe in the Crazy that Saves us from Madness!”
  With all the extracurricular activities our kids are doing, our careers, the groceries, and a slew of other demands of our lives. At times it feels like we’re just chasing one thing after another into a kind of exhausting madness. Well, there’s an awesome cure… and it’s CRAZY!

## 2012 FDF Workshop Schedule

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>FRIDAY</th>
<th>SATURDAY</th>
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<tr>
<td>10:30-11:30 am</td>
<td>Fr. Jim Pappas (Capistrano A)</td>
<td>2:30-3:30 pm (Capistrano A)</td>
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<td>11:00-12:00 noon</td>
<td>Paul Gikas (Capistrano B)</td>
<td>12:30-1:30 (Capistrano A)</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:00-2:00 pm</td>
<td>Fr. Anthony Savas (El Capitan A)</td>
<td>1:00-2:00 pm (Laguna B)</td>
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<td>2:00-3:00 pm</td>
<td>Fr. Luke Palumbis (El Capitan B)</td>
<td>4:00-5:00 pm (El Capitan B)</td>
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<tr>
<td>3:00-4:00 pm</td>
<td>Fr. Nebojsa Pantic (El Capitan B)</td>
<td>5:00-6:00 pm (Laguna B)</td>
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<td>4:00-5:00 pm</td>
<td>Fr. John Hondros (El Capitan A)</td>
<td>5:00-6:00 pm (El Capitan B)</td>
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<td>5:00-6:00 pm</td>
<td>Fr. Aris Metrakos (El Capitan B)</td>
<td>6:00-7:00 pm (Laguna B)</td>
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<td>6:00-7:00 pm</td>
<td>Father Niko Bekris (Laguna B)</td>
<td>7:00-8:00 pm (El Capitan B)</td>
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<td>7:00-8:00 pm</td>
<td>Jacob Saylor (Laguna B)</td>
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<td>9:00-10:00 pm</td>
<td>Fr. Allan Boyd (Laguna B)</td>
<td>10:00-11:00 pm (El Capitan A)</td>
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**JACOB SAYLOR**—“The Mourning After”
This workshop will be discussing what our dynamic and more relevant than ever Orthodox Faith has to say about the modern world’s obsession with money, sex, power, and self.