



# the plan Strategic

## Release Announcement

Effective June 30, 2015

### Finance Task Force

**Strategic Area:** Finances



**Goal:** Provide a framework to assist parishes with problem-solving and strategizing regarding financial issues related to parish ministries.

**Coordinator:** George Demos, Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Long Beach, CA

**Captain:** Geoff Gowan, Cathedral of the Ascension, Oakland, CA  
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#### Program Description:

"Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you."

Matthew 28:19-20

The Great Commission is the instruction by our resurrected Lord, Jesus Christ, to His disciples that they spread His teachings to all the nations of the world. The fulfillment of this command, can be seen in parishes through works of ministry, evangelism and baptism. Through its history, a parish can expand or contract ministries, or, as a community, grow or shrink, based upon a multitude of factors. During these times of trial or opportunity, a parish may be challenged to develop a plan, or address a situation, it has never previously encountered. When faced with such a situation, a parish may benefit greatly by receiving support or consultation from someone who has previously "walked the same path" and is willing and capable of sharing experiences and offering guidance. Through the Metropolis Strategic Plan, the Finance Task Force has been established to provide support to parishes to problem solve and strategize financial issues related to parish ministries. The Task Force has identified individuals throughout the Metropolis with backgrounds in banking, real estate, finance, legal and accounting who can engage and support a parish, upon request. This group has already supported several projects within the Metropolis. Whether a parish is addressing an urgent financial problem, looking at finance options to address long-term capital or operating cost needs or is seeking ways to improve internal financial controls or reporting procedures, this multi-disciplinary team is available to assist.

**Current Status:** The Finance Task Force is headed by George Demos and Geoff Gowan and is currently in the process of expanding the capabilities of the Task Force by adding talented individuals who may be willing to join and support the requests of parishes.

**Recommended Parish Action:** Please contact Geoff Gowan with any questions you may have, request additional information or to offer names of individuals from your Parish who may be interested and capable to lend their expertise to the Task Force and support other parishes in need.

**Anticipated Parish Impact:** This release is for information only. However, should a parish be in need of support, this program carries the potential to provide a very large, significant impact to the parish.