



the plan Strategic

Release Announcement

Update: January 6, 2016

Clergy Continuing Education



Strategic Area: Education

Goals: Implement a Clergy Development / Continuing Education Program in which all Clergy will receive relevant and inspirational in-service training programs, offered on a quarterly basis, that will enhance clergy effectiveness and professional development.

Coordinator: Dr. Eve Tibbs, Christian Education Chair, Greek Orthodox Metropolis of San Francisco; St. Paul's, Irvine, CA

Captain: Fr. Dino Pappademos, St. Katherine, Elk Grove, CA

Program Description: On April 28, 2015 the Clergy of the Metropolis of San Francisco gathered for their annual retreat held at St. Nicholas Ranch and Retreat Center. During the retreat, Fr. Anthony Savas, with the blessing of His Eminence, Metropolitan Gerasimos, delivered the first "live" Release Announcement of our Strategic Plan as he unveiled the vision and direction of an on-going Clergy Continuing Education (CCE) Program designed to develop the knowledge, skills and effectiveness of Metropolis Clergy. To help establish the direction of the program, prior to the retreat, Clergy completed a comprehensive survey designed to identify their leading areas of interest and need. Based upon feedback and discussion, the key components of the CCE are:

1. **Clergy Portal.** To be placed on the Metropolis of San Francisco's website, this portal will enable our Clergy to have an internet "home" allowing for the exchange of ideas, materials and development information.
2. **Webinars.** On-line, small group programs will be offered to Clergy on a regular basis.
3. **Seminars.** Face-to-face local and regional programs will be provided to supplement the annual Clergy Retreat.
4. **Audio Library.** Samples of liturgical music, special hymns and chanting will be made available on-line in to assist Clergy in the development of skills and knowledge in these areas.
5. **Course Catalog.** A semi-annual listing of courses will be provided which will enable Clergy to select programs most meaningful to them.

Current Status: Following the initial meeting, Fr. Savas transferred to a parish outside of our Metropolis and has been succeeded by Fr. Dino Pappademos as the lead for this Ministry. Under Fr. Dino's coordination, plans are currently underway for Clergy seminars to be held in 2016 within five regions: Northwest, Bay Area, Central Valley, Los Angeles and Arizona. The initial seminar will focus on liturgical skills and hierarchical rubrics. Final schedules will be shared at the next Clergy Retreat which is scheduled for March 1, 2016.

Recommended Parish Action: No action required at this time. Parishes should consider providing support for Clergy seminar travel and expenses.

Anticipated Parish Impact: No significant implementation support required as a part of this program. Metropolis Advocates should share this program with their respective parish on an information-only basis.