

# A SIMPLIFIED OVERVIEW ON HOW YOUR PARISH NATIONAL MINISTRIES OBLIGATION IS ALLOCATED

It should be noted that the present Parish Allocation Method for funding the Archdiocese National Ministries was adopted by our Clergy-Laity Congress beginning with calendar year 2007.

Simply put, it is based on a parish's overall expenses ---after certain deductions (like previous Archdiocese Payments, Mortgage Payments, etc) are removed. A form is mailed to each parish annually for completion and outlining approved expense deductions.

Yearly, each parish's audited expenses are received and reviewed by our Metropolis. These expenses are then added together to develop a gross number for the entire Metropolis. Then, each individual parish is assigned a percentage of their expense against this gross number (the Total Metropolis Expense).

The Metropolis of Boston and the other Metropolises submit their Total Metropolis Expense to the Archdiocese. Each Metropolis receives its allocation based on its percentage of expenses as compared to the other Metropolises. This percentage is applied against the Archdiocese Budget as approved by the Clergy-Laity Congress.

Each parish is then assigned as its allocation their percentage of the Metropolis of Boston Allocation.

Simply put this is how the system works.

The 2010 Allocations will be based upon the audited 2008 Parish Financials. This approach allows each parish adequate time to develop their budgets for the 2010 year. If we waited for the 2009 audited financials, we would be well into the new year (2010).

**THE FOLLOWING IS PURELY A HYPOTHETICAL EXAMPLE TO ILLUSTRATE THIS PROCESS.**



# A HYPOTHETICAL CASE STUDY FOR METROPOLIS EXAMPLE

## PARISH APPROVED EXPENSES (WITHIN METROPOLIS EXAMPLE)

|                                  |                    |               |
|----------------------------------|--------------------|---------------|
| <b>PARISH A</b>                  | <b>\$400,000</b>   | <b>31.25%</b> |
| <b>PARISH B</b>                  | <b>\$225,000</b>   | <b>17.58%</b> |
| <b>PARISH C</b>                  | <b>\$80,000</b>    | <b>6.25%</b>  |
| <b>PARISH D</b>                  | <b>\$575,000</b>   | <b>44.92%</b> |
| <b>TOTAL METROPOLIS EXPENSES</b> | <b>\$1,280,000</b> | <b>100%</b>   |

**NEXT**, each Metropolis sends their Total Metropolis Expenses to the Archdiocese. The Archdiocese adds all the different Metropolis Expenses together and determines a percentage obligation for each Metropolis.

## METROPOLIS TOTAL EXPENSES (WITHIN THE ARCHDIOCESE)

|                                   |                    |               |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------|---------------|
| <b>METROPOLIS A</b>               | <b>\$2,700,000</b> | <b>37.5%</b>  |
| <b>METROPOLIS B</b>               | <b>\$820,000</b>   | <b>11.39%</b> |
| <b>METROPOLIS C</b>               | <b>\$2,400,000</b> | <b>33.33%</b> |
| <b>METROPOLIS EXAMPLE</b>         | <b>\$1,280,000</b> | <b>17.78%</b> |
| <b>TOTAL ARCHDIOCESE EXPENSES</b> | <b>7,200,000</b>   | <b>100%</b>   |

**NOW**, let us say that the **Total Obligation to the Archdiocese is \$1,000,000**. This amount is allocated to each Metropolis according to their percentage.

**ARCHDIOCESE TOTAL OBLIGATION BY METROPOLIS**

|                                   |                    |               |                    |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------|---------------|--------------------|
| <b>METROPOLIS A</b>               | <b>\$2,700,000</b> | <b>37.5%</b>  | <b>= \$375,000</b> |
| <b>METROPOLIS B</b>               | <b>\$820,000</b>   | <b>11.39%</b> | <b>= \$113,900</b> |
| <b>METROPOLIS C</b>               | <b>\$2,400,000</b> | <b>33.33%</b> | <b>= \$333,300</b> |
| <b>METROPOLIS EXAMPLE</b>         | <b>\$1,280,000</b> | <b>17.78%</b> | <b>= \$177,800</b> |
| <b>TOTAL ARCHDIOCESE EXPENSES</b> | <b>7,200,000</b>   | <b>100%</b>   | <b>\$1,000,000</b> |

**THEN**, we take the Metropolis Obligation and add 10% before distributing each parish their fair share of the National Ministries Allocation. The 10% is added to help those parishes that get into unforeseen financial difficulties; like the recent floods in Atlanta or New Orleans.

[In our example, take \$177,800 and add 10% to it, making it \$ 195,580. ]

**PARISH NATIONAL MINISTRIES ALLOCATION**

(WITHIN METROPOLIS EXAMPLE)

|                                    |               |                    |
|------------------------------------|---------------|--------------------|
| <b>PARISH A</b>                    | <b>31.25%</b> | <b>\$61,118.75</b> |
| <b>PARISH B</b>                    | <b>17.58%</b> | <b>\$34,382.96</b> |
| <b>PARISH C</b>                    | <b>6.25%</b>  | <b>\$12,223.75</b> |
| <b>PARISH D</b>                    | <b>44.92%</b> | <b>\$87,854.54</b> |
| <b>TOTAL METROPOLIS OBLIGATION</b> | <b>100%</b>   | <b>\$195,580</b>   |

*We are followers of our Lord Christ Jesus. We are expected to put Him and His Church first (Honor your Lord God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your being). This means we must all must make a major effort to support our National Church ---as well as our Metropolis and individual Parish. Should a parish get into an unforeseen financial trouble, that parish can make an appeal to our Metropolis Chancellor and the Metropolis Finance Committee for relief. Just as St. Paul urged the early church to help one another, so must we.*

## **WHY SHOULD WE SUPPORT THE ARCHDIOCESE?**

For more than 2,000 years we have had a continuous link to the one God, the one Church, the one Faith -- through our Ecumenical Patriarchate in Constantinople.

The Greek Orthodox Church in America is our direct link to Christ Jesus and His Church.

## **WHAT HAS, AND DOES THE ARCHDIOCESE DO FOR US?**

Besides providing this direct connection to the Mother Church (established by the Apostle Andrew, the first called), the Archdiocese maintains a comprehensive organization of Departments, Metropolises and Parishes so that Orthodoxy is available to all who seek salvation.

The Archdiocese fosters a national presence for our Faith in the United States and beyond.

The Archdiocese develops programs in liturgical and religious education, outreach, youth and Internet ministries ---all vital for our personal growth.

Some of the important organizations that were developed and are nurtured through the leadership of the Archdiocese are:

**Hellenic College and Holy Cross School of Theology** —where clergy and laity are educated to provide us with Christ-centered individuals who understand the American ethos.

**St Basil's Academy**— Helping abandoned children.

**The Philoptochos** — Christian philanthropy in action.

**Missionary Parishes** — Evangelism in the USA.

## **WHAT DOES THE ARCHDIOCESE DO FOR US LOCALLY?**

It blesses us with a Metropolis and a caring spiritual father, the Metropolitan — as well as our parish priests.

The Metropolis in turn provides us with local programs for the continuing education of our clergy, youth, marriage enrichment, college campus outreach; and not the least, the Philoxenia House, and the Faith and Heritage Center.

## **WHY WE NEED TO SUPPORT THE ARCHDIOCESE.**

The Archdiocese provides our connection to Christ's Church.

The Archdiocese makes it possible for us to have the parish priest we are so blessed with.

Our parish exists because of the Archdiocese.

Without the Archdiocese, there is No Apostolic Church ...No Metropolis...No Camp...No Priests... No Parishes.

To be a Greek Orthodox Christian requires we support our Parish, our Metropolis, and our Archdiocese.

This is why we are called to support the Archdiocese.