

STS. CONSTANTINE AND HELEN GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL

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November 16, 2017

His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America 8 East 79th Street New York, NY 10075

Your Eminence:

Sts. Constantine and Helen Cathedral of Cleveland Heights, Ohio, a Church in good standing with the Greek Orthodox Church of America, held our General Assembly meeting on November 12th, 2017. As we went through the regular order of business, we discussed the immense Time, Talent and Treasures of personal Stewardship and sacrifice our parishioners put forth in 2017 to keep our Parish focused on our mission--"To lead people to God through Orthodox Christianity and to provide ways for them to live and share in God's love."

Under the heading of "New Business," there was a spirited discussion which far surpassed the time devoted to the regular order of business. This dwelt upon the sad state of the Archdiocese finances and how, under your direct leadership, all aspects of the Stewardships of Time, Talent and Treasures, of not only our parish but of every parish in your flock, have been violated. In addition to uncontrolled and wasteful spending at the Archdiocese, the unauthorized use of funds from dedicated and sacrosanct financial accounts to fund the Archdiocesan operating account is a violation of our trust and your fiduciary duties as our Archbishop.

There was much heated discussion, in which motions were made and finally tabled until the May, 2018 General Assembly, with respect to escrowing all monies due the Archdiocese. During the investigatory phase of the process outlined by Michael Psaros in his October 20 Statement, Sts. Constantine and Helen will continue to make its payments to the Archdiocese, under the current formula set forth by the Archdiocese, through April, 2018, so as not to impede the actual good works going on. We will monitor and review the progress made by the Archdiocese with respect to promised audits, transparency and accountability at our May 2018 General Assembly and take appropriate action at that time. We expect full disclosure of the content of all reports by outside parties and anticipate that will occur no later than April 30, 2018. We, as a General Assembly and Parish Council, have voted not to honor any changes in the current parish Archdiocese payment formula, including any special assessments designed to "bail out" the Archdiocese from this catastrophe.

We call for a forensic accounting and full reporting of the Archdiocese finances, to the extent not already underway, with special focus on the deficits in restricted funds and where those funds went, including the St. Nicholas Orthodox Church and Shrine funds. In addition, we call

for a full accounting and reporting of the shortages in the budgeted amounts owed to all Archdiocesan Ministries, including Hellenic College Holy Cross and the pension fund for the Priests of the Archdiocese. Finally, to quell the rumors that are circulating, you should immediately fully disclose the circumstances surrounding the sale of the residence of Archbishop lakovos and the use of those proceeds.

In closing let me say that we cannot support a leadership that fails to carefully use the contributions of the Faithful. There is a need and duty to finally empower the Archdiocesan Council to oversee the finances of the Greek Orthodox Church of America.

Sincerely,

Your Servant in Christ

Richard Warren

Parish Council President

Sts. Constantine and Helen Cathedral

Cleveland Heights, Ohio

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cc: His Eminence Metropolitan Savas
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