



GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF NEW JERSEY

ΙΕΡΑ ΜΗΤΡΟΠΟΛΙΣ ΝΕΑΣ ΙΕΡΣΕΗΣ

May 19, 2020

To the Very Reverend and Reverend Clergy
And Esteemed Presidents of the Parish Councils
Of the Northern New Jersey, Delaware Valley and Maryland Regions
Of the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of New Jersey

My Beloved,

Χριστός Ανέστη!

I pray this letter finds you well as we continue to rejoice in the most glorious celebration of the Resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

It is with tremendous joy that I announce to you that in anticipation of the forthcoming decisions of the State and Local Authorities to relax the Stay-At-Home COVID-19 regulations, the time has finally arrived for our parishes to prepare to open the doors of the Church, and begin the process of receiving our beloved Parishioners. To assist in this difficult transition, I announce the development of the official Greek Orthodox Metropolis of New Jersey Three Phase Reopening Strategy, which has been created in order to assist our parishes in welcoming the faithful as safely as possible, while adhering to all Metropolis, Federal, State, Local and CDC requirements. The dates for the reopening of the parishes will be set by region and will be communicated once the Stay-at-Home orders have officially been relaxed.

Therefore, please find enclosed with this letter the following documents:

- The official Greek Orthodox Metropolis of New Jersey Three Phase Reopening Strategy Presentation which is to be posted on your parish website.
- An Encyclical in regards to the GOMNJ Three Phase Reopening that is to be forwarded to all of your Parishioners.
- A Parish Certification and Checklist Letter. This document is to be reproduced on Letterhead. The Parish Priest and Parish Council President are to complete the Checklist together, sign the document and then submit for my blessing for the Parish to enter Phase 1 and begin reopening to the faithful.

Thanking you for your assistance in this most important process of reopening our Churches and praying that our Risen Lord continues to bless you and your families with health and safekeeping during this most trying time, I remain

With Paternal Love and Blessings,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Metropolitan Evangelos". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style. The word "Metropolitan" is written in a smaller, more compact script, while "Evangelos" is written in a larger, more elaborate cursive. The signature is positioned centrally below the text "With Paternal Love and Blessings," and above the text "† EVANGELOS Metropolitan of New Jersey".

† EVANGELOS
Metropolitan of New Jersey