



GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS ^{OF} ATLANTA

ΙΕΡΑ ΜΗΤΡΟΠΟΛΙΣ ΑΤΛΑΝΤΑΣ

October 23, 2025

To the Reverend Clergy, Parish Council Presidents, Archons of the Ecumenical Patriarchate, Philoptochos Sisters, Members of the Metropolis Council, the Board of the Diakonia Retreat Center, and all the Faithful of the Metropolis of Atlanta:

My dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

We are just a little more than two weeks away from that **special evening to honor the work of our first Metropolitan, His Eminence Alexios, on Friday November 7th at 6:00 PM (in the Kartos Ballroom of Atlanta's Annunciation Cathedral)**. I am addressing this message to all of you: our Archons, Sisters of Philoptochos, Members of our Diakonia Retreat Center Board & the Metropolis Councils. I am addressing all these important ministries and organizations of our church, because each of them has been impacted by the legacy of Metropolitan Alexios:

- Many of our Clergy were ordained to the Holy Priesthood by His Eminence, and most received their assignments from him. By virtue of this special relationship, we know the love our clergy feel for their Shepherd, and the same love he has for his spiritual sons.
- Our Sisters of Philoptochos remember how His Eminence Alexios stressed that *"The Church is the future of our children"*, supporting Philoptochos's charitable efforts—particularly for families and young people; just as the ladies of Philoptochos recall his joy at hosting you at the Diakonia Retreat Center.
- Our Brother Archons know the heart His Eminence has for the work of this organization, which works to defend the rights of our Mother Church, the Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople.
- And of course, past and future members of the Metropolis Council & the DRC Executive Board recall what it means to work together with His Eminence Alexios, as they labored to strengthen the ministries and parishes of the Metropolis of Atlanta—especially the Diakonia Retreat Center.

There is no one in our Metropolis—Clergy or Laity, young or old—whose life has not been touched in some way by His Eminence Alexios's twenty-five years of service to this Vineyard of the Lord in the Southeastern United States. However, this is not just a place where the former Metropolitan labored—it was his home for nearly thirty years, and he knows us as his family. Therefore, I urge you to please visit www.atlmetropolisevents.org, and purchase your ticket. Whether you can attend or not, please also consider making an offering as any gift will go a long way to not only completing the Panagia Chapel but uplifting His Eminence's life's work.

Therefore, I hope that we will all strive to be together, to share in the loving warmth of our presence as one Metropolis of Atlanta family, I remain,

In the love and service of the Lord,

+Metropolitan Sevastianos

+SEVASTIANOS
Metropolitan of Atlanta