



GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF DENVER

September 24, 2008

Protocol 08-21

The Pious Pastors, and
The Esteemed Parish Councils of
The Holy Metropolis of Denver

Beloved in the Lord,

As I informed you in my Protocol 08-16, dated July 23, 2008, our Archdiocese has heard your inputs over the past few years, and at the recent Clergy-Laity Congresses established an equitable paradigm for determining Metropolis and parish support of the National Ministries budget — which includes your Metropolis office.

Based on the 2005 and 2006 parish expenses data you provided in response to my Protocol 08-12, dated April 15, 2008 — along with similar information from all the parishes in the United States — the following apportionment of the 2009 \$17,872,027 national budget was determined:

<i>Metropolis/District</i>	<i>2009 Allocation</i>	<i>Change from 2008</i>
New York	\$2,638,716.....	7.8%
New Jersey	\$2,461,254.....	14.6%
Chicago	\$2,418,375.....	-9.2%
San Francisco	\$2,245,789.....	31.9%
Atlanta.....	\$2,336,716.....	4.4%
Boston	\$1,666,108.....	-3.5%
Pittsburgh	\$1,525,582.....	8.3%
Detroit	\$1,356,207.....	-6.1%
Denver.....	\$1,043,280.....	-15.0%
<i>Total</i>	<i>\$17,872,027</i>	<i>4.3%</i>

These were surprising figures since the Chicago Metropolis had historically been the largest Total Commitment contributor to the Archdiocese. Also, both the Chicago and Denver Metropolises have historically had approximately the same per capita contributions, which were about 33% above that of the next highest Metropolis. In general this can be attributed to the excellent reporting and recording practices that have been followed by the parishes in these two Metropolises for over a decade. It seems that the Archdiocese as a whole has risen to our established standard of transparency and integrity.

Among the standard practices that are to be followed by each metropolis is the establishment of a "cushion" above the allocated amounts. At the recent September 6,

2008 Metropolis Council meeting held here in Denver, the members voted to assign a 10% cushion (the amount recommended by the Archdiocese). The purpose of this cushion is twofold. First, it ensures that a metropolis can meet its assigned allocation. Second, 75% of any amount remitted above the allocated metropolis amount will be returned to that metropolis. Thus, should our Metropolis of Denver parishes fulfill their 2009 assessments, 75% of \$104,328, or \$78,246 will be given to the Metropolis to further fund its operating expenses.

In regard to your parish 2009 Total Commitment assessment, I thank you for responding to my Protocol 08-16 dated July 23, 2008 requesting your 2006 and 2007 parish expense information. After consolidating that data, and apportioning it among the financially active and viable parishes of the Metropolis, I have made the allocation determinations listed on the enclosed schedule.

For the majority of the parishes these figures represent either a reduction or an increase of about \$100 per month (\$1,200 per year) from their 2008 Total Commitment assessments. In cases where a larger change occurred, it reflects a change in the relative status of the parish among the other parishes of this Metropolis. By keeping the 2009 amounts as close to those for 2008 as possible I am now in a position to help the smaller, struggling parishes become healthier.

Please include the designated amount in your 2009 budgets which you are preparing at this time for presentation to the Autumn Parish General Assembly.

I ask that you promptly remit the monthly portion of your Commitment to the Archdiocese so that the functions and operations of our National Ministries — which includes your Metropolis staff and the office — can continue uninterrupted.

I am very grateful to all of you who struggled faithfully to convince the Archdiocese that a new and fair method of determining our Total Commitment allocations was necessary.

With Paternal Blessings,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Metropolitan Isaiah of Denver". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

✠ Metropolitan Isaiah of Denver

Enclosure

**THIS PROTOCOL IS TO BE PRINTED
IN ALL PARISH BULLETINS AND NEWS LETTERS
AND DISSEMINATED TO ALL THE FAITHFUL STEWARDS OF THE METROPOLIS**