



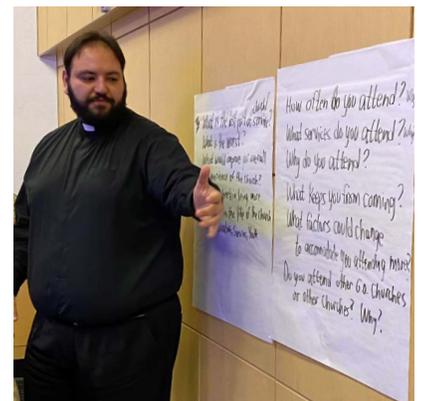
The Metropolis Participates in the FAITH Endowment's Strategic Leadership and Transformative Action Program

FR. DUSTIN M. LYON, Proistamenos, St. George Greek Orthodox Church, DeKalb, Illinois

In January 2020, the FAITH Endowment afforded the Metropolis of Chicago an extraordinary opportunity. A total of twenty lay and clergy leaders were selected to participate in a pilot program for Strategic Leadership and Transformative Action (SLTA), which was presented by the faculty of the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University. The pilot program was designed specifically to benefit

the Greek Orthodox community in the United States. Working together, our clergy and lay leaders explored the potential within our six-state region to invite, educate, and engage both the faithful and seekers to live more fully in the Orthodox faith. The resulting programs that have emerged—including Project HOPE, Strengthen Stewardship NOW and The Myrrhbearing Women—have contributed to a changing ethos in the Metropolis, setting

the stage for ongoing transformation. In 2021, the Metropolis is preparing to launch strategic initiatives for clergy and lay leadership development, enhanced religious literacy, and building sustained and enduring support for the Metropolis and its parishes. We are grateful to the FAITH Endowment for inspiring this innovation, collaboration, and advancement within our Metropolis.





“The sessions were led by expert faculty who were not only researchers but also practitioners. Their ability to speak from experience really helped bring these concepts to life. I walked away from each of the sessions with practical tools that were directly related and could be integrated into the process of designing the women’s leadership project.”

Mary Scott
St. Andrew Greek Orthodox Church,
South Bend, Indiana

“Each applicant in the SLTA program was asked to propose an Impact Project that could help transform the Metropolis. As critical tools and skills were gained by participants during the week-long program, these Impact Projects quickly developed into robust, more comprehensive plans.”

Fr. Rick Andrews
Proistamenos, Saints Peter and Paul Greek Orthodox Church,
Glenview, Illinois



Photo credit: Tufts

