15/03/2020

His Eminence Metropolitan Evangelos of New Jersey issues his Encyclical about the suspension of schools & non-worship events



His Eminence Metropolitan Evangelos of New Jersey has released his Encyclical about the suspension of schools & non-worship events. Read the full text below:

To the Very Reverend and Reverend Clergy Of the Greek Orthodox

Metropolis of New Jersey My Beloved,

I pray this letter finds you well as we continue our Spiritual Journey through Great and Holy Lent.

As a result of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic, although our parishes will continue to hold all scheduled worship services, I hereby direct that the Greek afternoon Schools and Religious Education Schools of the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of New Jersey to follow the directives issued by the state or local county in regard to school closures. Therefore, if your parish is located in a state or county that has closed schools, then your parish schools are to be closed as well.

In addition, although there is great importance to the non-worship events in the life of our church, for the protection and well-being of our beloved faithful, I hereby strongly recommend that all non-worship events (including Fellowship hour, youth activities, March 25th celebrations, Lenten retreats/concerts, etc) in your parish be suspended until further notice.

Praying that our loving Lord continues to bless you and your ministry to His Church, and that He, who is the Physician of our souls and bodies protects us during these difficult times, I remain

With Paternal Love and Blessings,

† E V A N G E L O S

Metropolitan of New Jersey