

10/09/2020

Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Atlanta cancels Winter Youth Rally and Hellenic Dance Festival



His Eminence Metropolitan Alexios of Atlanta has issued the following message regarding this year's Winter Youth Rally and Hellenic Dance Festival.

The message reads:

To the Clergy of the Metropolis of Atlanta:

My Brothers in the Lord,

I greet you with love and joy in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ! I pray that we all experienced a blessed and joyous feast of the Nativity of the Theotokos.

As we enter this period of the new Ecclesiastical Year, the Metropolis turns its attention to those beautiful events: the Winter Youth Rally & Hellenic Dance Festival. Both WYR and HDF remain committed to safe environments for our Metropolis faithful to come together in fellowship, worship, and dance. Indeed, the Metropolis continues to closely monitor the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, in accordance with CDC, State and Federal Guidelines.

Therefore it is with a heavy but clear heart that I write to inform you, based on the recommendation from both the WYR Committee & the HDF Executive Committee (in consultation with our Metropolis Administration, and the Clergy Syndesmos) we feel the safest and most prudent decision is to cancel this year's Winter Youth Rally, and the Hellenic Dance Festival for 2021.

While this news must surely come as a disappointment, please know that your WYR and HDF teams are working diligently, in coordination with the Metropolis Youth Office, to prepare a few educational events, webinars and opportunities, which will allow us to celebrate our Hellenic Culture and Faith, while observing proper safety measures.

Thanking all the Metropolis faithful—grandparents, parents, and children—for their continued patience, and encouraging our continued prayerful intercessions to our Most-Holy Mother, I remain,

Paternally yours with love and blessings in the Lord,

+ A L E X I O S

Metropolitan of Atlanta