

Archbishop Elpidophoros Re-Appoints National Chairperson of St. John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival



His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros of America welcomed Katherine Orfanakos Demacopoulos to the Archdiocese of America on October 5, 2023, to re-appoint her as National Chairperson of the St. John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival. This ecclesiastical year marks the 40th anniversary of this beautiful ministry of our Church, which was created by Ernest Villis, then director of the Department of Religious Education, and Minerva Stergianopoulos. Katherine's parents, Fr. John and Presvytera Margaret Orfanakos served as National Chairpersons of the Oratorical Festival from 1986 through 2018. Also in the meeting was His Grace Bishop Athenagoras, Director of Religious Education for the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America.

The St. John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival is a nationwide Department of Religious Education (DRE) ministry that centers around faith, education, and fellowship. Greek Orthodox youth participants present speeches discussing the faith and the Church through exploring and deepening their faith while honing their speech writing and public speaking skills. National finalists earn sizeable monetary awards, and finalists at all four levels earn scholarships. For more information visit

www.goarch.org/-/st-john-chrysostom-oratorical-festival

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