

Metropolis of Atlanta Religious Education Committee
Progress Report July 10, 2021

1. **12 Days of Christmas**: A weekly program covering the different themes of the 12 days of Christmas. Prepared by a different presenter/priest for each week and organized by Monica Gjerde. Total attendance 800 views on the Metropolis website.
2. **Journey to Pascha**: A weekly program covering different topics of the Lent/Pascha period similar to the 12 days of Christmas. Both of the presentations offered interactive programs as well as education. Again, the results were excellent with **an average of 100 participants weekly**.
3. **Lent, Lunch & Learn**: A program established by St. Nektarios featuring different speakers each Thursday during Lent focusing on the personal journey through the period of Lent. Guest speakers Fr. Akrotirianakis, Fr. Stelyios Muksuirs, Fr. Andreas Houpos, Fr. Nektarios Karatonis and Fr. Steve Dalber. The results were very good and ranged from **24 to 130 participating in total with an average of 45 people participating each week**.
4. Our current new program is a **Topical Study on the Gospel of John** headed by Fr. Steve Dalber. This was meant to be a summer reading session and so **far after the first two weeks, we are averaging 42 people for each session**. We have even drawn in people from outside of our Metropolis. We still have three more sessions to go with this program which is on **Zoom every Thursday evening from 7 to 8:00 pm**.
5. We are currently working on our **Festival of Faith weekend for February 25-27 to be held at our Diakonia Retreat Center**. More to follow on this event.
6. We have put together a program to interact and open up communication lines with the educational leaders for all of our parishes. Mrs. Correna Panagiotou has put together an outstanding survey on catechism in our parishes that we are going to use as a basis to start our communication program.
7. We will also be working on a program for our Sunday Catechism teachers to help them start their year off. We are looking to get this started around mid to end of August.
8. The committee is also working on a teacher's certification program for our catechists and future catechists.