



GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF SAN FRANCISCO
ΙΕΡΑ ΜΗΤΡΟΠΟΛΙΣ ΑΓΙΟΥ ΦΡΑΓΚΙΣΚΟΥ

November 4, 2013

✠ Nikandros, Bishop of Myra

Rev. Fr. Joseph Chaffee, Priest
Mr. Emmanuel Strategos, President
Esteemed Members of the Parish Council
St. George Greek Orthodox Church
401 Truxtun Avenue
Bakersfield, CA 93301-5396

Dearly Beloved in the Lord,

Greetings in the Name of our Lord!

I received your letter, dated October 8, 2013, where you are notifying me of your decision to forge ahead in developing a long over due Mission and Vision Statement for your beloved parish and its future.

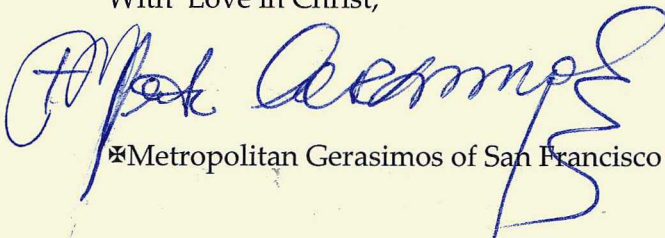
I was delighted to read both statements and see that the parish has embraced them. I believe that St. George community has the necessary ingredients to succeed in accomplishing the goal of your vision. The four "jewels" of our faith that you have decided to cultivate in your vision, Education, Outreach, Charity and Legacy, are indeed the very cornerstones of any successful attempt to bring Christ, through His Church, to all who your activities will touch.

I pray that the Lord will grant you His Wisdom and Grace as you prepare to identify the crucial details that will bring your vision to reality.

As I am praying for you and offering best wishes on a blessed festal period, I can assure you that I will do what I can to visit with you soon.

May God bless you,

With Love in Christ,



✠ Metropolitan Gerasimos of San Francisco