Nativity 2023

To the Reverend Clergy, Monastics & Deacons, Parish Council Members, Philoptochos Members & Archons, our beloved youth, and all the faithful of the Metropolis of Atlanta:

My dear Children in Christ,

Καλά Χριστούγεννα! Merry Christmas!

I greet you with joy in the name of our Lord, God, and Savior Jesus Christ! As we celebrate the great and joyous mystery of our Lord’s Incarnation, my prayer is that this holy time offers you God’s blessings of health, peace, and light.

Though our society focuses on the materialistic aspects of this season, if we look closely, we can see that the true meaning of all these symbols is love. We give one another gifts in the same humble spirit with which the Magi gave their offerings to our Lord in the manger. Even the Christmas lights which break the darkness of winter, are a reminder of the reconciliation that our fallen humanity experienced when the King of Glory chose to come into the world as a newborn child, because of His great love for His Creation.

Therefore, it is in this same spirit that I wish to let you know how proud I am to call you my family in Christ. Truly, I thank the Lord every day that he has blessed His Holy Vineyard with such faithful Orthodox Christians, who do wonderful things to help see our Church grow even more fruitful.

I love you, and I hope that this blessed season renews your bonds with your loved ones, so that we may all experience the warmth and joy that entered the little town of Bethlehem more than two thousand years ago, and still does today. I remain,

Paternally yours with love and joy in our Incarnate Lord,

+ ALEXIOS
Metropolitan of Atlanta