



# GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF BOSTON

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## ΙΕΡΑ ΜΗΤΡΟΠΟΛΙΣ ΒΟΣΤΩΝΗΣ

December 27, 2017

**To the Parish Council and Faithful Stewards of  
St. Athanasius the Great Greek Orthodox Church  
4 Appleton Street  
Arlington, MA 02476**

**My Brothers and Sisters in the Household of the Lord,**

**In this time of celebration, our beloved Church comes together in harmony to rejoice in God and give thanks for the Incarnation of our Savior. We reflect on our relationship with Him, as well as the meaning and significance we find in life through faith in God, with humility, respect and love.**

**In the New Year before us lies more opportunity for spiritual growth and renewal. Here at St. Athanasius, let us move ahead with a reinvigorated community environment that embodies the teachings of the Gospel. In unity, I pray that each of us will carry this message forward.**

**Together we will welcome a new spiritual leader for this parish. I am presently in the final stages of appointing and installing him early next year.**

**While awaiting his arrival, a word of admiration and gratitude must be extended to Fr. Andrew Demostes for his sterling and visionary leadership. His presence during the past five months began the orderly process of restoration and healing. His patience, kindness, humility and understanding will endure as another reminder of the faith that binds us together in harmony before God.**

**As I wrote in a letter to the parish this past July, with much prayer and reflection we must continue to walk the path of restoration of the St. Athanasius parish into one of unity—one comprised of “fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God” (Eph. 2.19)**

**I ask that you embrace one another, and that you especially reach out to those brethren who have been disillusioned and spiritually wounded. Work harmoniously with them for the future of the Parish. May the Incarnate Lord reign in your hearts and bring you health, joy, peace and every heavenly gift every day of the New Year.**

**With love in the Incarnate Lord,**

**M E T H O D I O S**  
**Metropolitan of Boston**