



**NATIONAL FORUM
OF GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH MUSICIANS**
*The musical arm of the Archdiocese that strengthens and perpetuates
Greek Orthodox liturgical music in America*



**Position Statement Regarding
CONGREGATIONAL SINGING**

Congregational participation is inherent in the celebration of the Divine Liturgy and other worship services of the Greek Orthodox Church. The National Forum of Greek Orthodox Church Musicians supports the use of congregational singing as one of the ways to enhance congregational participation.

The National Forum recognizes that each church may implement a method of congregational singing best suited to its needs and circumstances. The presence of a choir and/or a psalti does not discount the possibility of corporate worship --- there are roles for each. The National Forum stresses the need for cooperation between clergy and choirs to avoid tensions in the implementation of congregational singing.

The National Forum strongly recommends that when singing is used to enhance congregational participation, the parish priest consult and involve the choir director for the effective implementation of such a program. Such a program must include the complementary roles of the choir, the psalti, and the people, who, in concert with their priest, will create the dialogue of worship.

Recognizing the importance of this movement towards the use of congregational singing, the National Forum has developed materials and identified resource people to assist parishes in their efforts. Further information is available by contacting the National Chairman.

(Adopted June 1985; Reviewed July 2015)