



# GREEK ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE OF AMERICA

## GREEK ORTHODOX LADIES PHILOPTOCHOS SOCIETY, Inc.

### Archbishop Demetrios Reappoints Maria Logus National Philoptochos President

**For immediate release:** October 18, 2016

**New York, NY** - His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios, Primate of the Greek Orthodox Church in America, and Chairman of the Greek Orthodox Ladies Philoptochos Society announced the reappointment of Maria Logus of New York to a second term as National Philoptochos President at the inaugural meeting of the 2016-2018 National Philoptochos Board held on October 14 at the Marriott Marquis in New York. Archbishop Demetrios praised Miss Logus for her deep commitment to Philoptochos and the Church and commended her first term as President.

National President Maria Logus is a lifelong resident of the New York City borough of Brooklyn and parishioner at Kimisis Tis Theotokou Church. She is currently a lawyer for the New York State Unified Court System. She joined Philoptochos at age 18, following in the footsteps of her grandmother, and her mother, and held multiple leadership roles in the organization before being appointed National Philoptochos President for the 2014-2016 term.

At the outset of her first term President Logus announced that Philoptochos would return to basics and “do more doing,” with new and ongoing hands-on initiatives. She challenged chapters across the country to offer 250,000 meals to the hungry and homeless and at the end of the term reported a final count of 750,000 meals, triple the original amount. She launched a Philoptochos project in tandem with the nationwide day of volunteering, “Make a Difference Day,” that would include children and families in acts of kindness to instill in our youth the spirit of making a difference in the world.

Under her leadership, digital communications were expanded to include educational and promotional videos, webinars, podcasts and electronic publications. She presided at the Children’s Medical Fund Luncheon, the principal National Philoptochos fundraising event, in October 2015 in Boston, where grants were disbursed to hospitals and organizations throughout the Metropolis of Boston. Her term culminated in a successful National Biennial Philoptochos Convention in July in Nashville, where hundreds of delegates celebrated the 85th anniversary of the organization.

On accepting the appointment and the charge of Archbishop Demetrios, President Logus states, “With our vital and dedicated National Board, I look forward to doing even more philanthropic work, with a continued emphasis on hands-on philanthropy and intergenerational inclusiveness.”

His Eminence gave the oath of office to the new National Board for the term 2016-2018.

The members of the new Executive Board are: Jeannie Ranglas, First Vice President; Evangeline Mekras Scurtis, Second Vice President; Joanne Stavrakas, Third Vice President; Barbara Pasalis, Secretary; Martha Stefanidakis, Treasurer; and Georgia Vlitas, Assistant Treasurer. In advisory positions are Deana Balahtsis, Legal Advisor; Maria Stavropoulos, Protocol Officer; and Irene Steffas, Parliamentarian.

Continuing in their role on the Executive Board are Jennifer Constantin, Direct Archdiocesan District President; Pam Argyris, Metropolis of Chicago President; Frances Levas, Metropolis of Boston President; Barbara Vittas, Metropolis of Denver President; Dee Nicolaou, Metropolis of Atlanta President; Margaret Yates, Metropolis of Detroit President; Crystal Thomas, Metropolis of Pittsburgh President; Jeannie Ranglas, Metropolis of San Francisco President and Anastasia Michals, Metropolis of New Jersey President.