



# GREEK ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE OF AMERICA

## GREEK ORTHODOX LADIES PHILOPTOCHOS SOCIETY, Inc.

### Philoptochos Society Recognizes World Hunger Day (May 28) with *Feeding the Hungry* Initiative

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**New York, NY-** On May 27, one day prior to World Hunger Day, members of the Greek Orthodox Ladies Philoptochos Society will mark the occasion at Holy Trinity Cathedral in Manhattan, by assembling 12,000 meals in partnership with the Feeding Children Everywhere, an organization that provides materials to package individual nutritious meals. Hoping to engage families and communities in their philanthropic work, husbands, children and friends of Philoptochos members will join the women in this hands-on activity.

The event is one of many organized by the Philoptochos Society to meet the recent challenge set by National Philoptochos President, Maria Logus, to serve 250,000 meals by next summer in a new ***Feeding the Hungry*** initiative. According to President Logus, "Feeding the homeless and the hungry will not only provide nourishment to those we serve; the physical act of giving will feed our souls and our spirits as well."

The effort builds on established outreach programs already offered by Philoptochos chapters throughout the country. New and ongoing programs include serving those in need at church halls and soup kitchens, and on city streets, such as:

- One night per month, the Philoptochos chapter of Saint Sophia Greek Orthodox Cathedral in Los Angeles, CA delivers brown bag meals to about 50 youths living on the streets of Hollywood.
- In Charlotte, NC, the St. Nektarios Greek Orthodox Church Philoptochos recently met in their church to assemble hundreds of sandwiches to feed those served by a local soup kitchen.
- Philoptochos women from the Annunciation Greek Orthodox Christian Church are among those from Orthodox parishes in the Kansas City, MO area who alternate providing meals every Friday for a community meal in the inner city. Those who come to eat are served hot meals, in a restaurant-like setting.

Georgia Vlitias, head of the ***Feeding the Hungry*** initiative, said, "The challenge invigorates our mission to help those in need. Developing programs to provide a one quarter of a million meals will have a lasting impact."

Follow the progress of ***Feeding the Hungry*** on social media through **#250thousandmeals**.

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To observe or photograph the May 27 Philoptochos Society ***Feeding the Hungry*** event to mark World Hunger Day (May 28) or for more information, please contact:

*Rania Richardson*

*Communications Manager, Greek Orthodox Ladies Philoptochos Society*

Email: [r Richardson@philoptochos.org](mailto:r Richardson@philoptochos.org) Phone: (212) 977-7770 x203

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The Greek Orthodox Ladies Philoptochos Society is the philanthropic arm of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America with 26,000 members nationwide. Philoptochos responds immediately to needs and crises and its philanthropic outreach extends to each area of the country and throughout the world. In 2014, National Philoptochos distributed \$1.475 million in philanthropic aid.