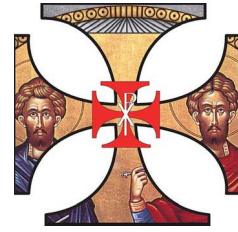


National Philoptochos Society November 15th, 2019 Committee Report



AID TO GREECE & CYPRUS

Chair: Joanne Stavrakas

*Members: Elaine Cladis, Vickie Demos, Christina Hiotis, Frances Levas,
Thea Martin, Aspasia Melis, Helen Psaras, Vickie Scaljon,
Eleni Stamboulidis, Kalli Tsitsipas*

Aid to Greece & Cyprus Committee (AGCC) was established by the National Philoptochos Society in response to the dire economic conditions, and consequent human suffering, in Greece.

Since the crisis began in Greece and Cyprus, the Philoptochos Chapters, through the National Philoptochos, have shown their love and concern for our brothers and sisters in Christ on multiple occasions.

The National Philoptochos disbursed \$60,000 in 2018 to various entities throughout Greece and Cyprus for humanitarian assistance:

\$20,000 to the Apostoli Demetreion Center, Moschato, Athens for the care of underprivileged children,
\$20,000 to Apostoli of the Holy Archdiocese of Athens humanitarian relief for the wildfires in the Attica region

\$5,000 to the Holy Metropolis of Limasol

\$15,000 to Therapeftiko Kentro Paidion, Kypriakou, Erithrou Stavrou, Stella Souliotis, Limasol

Apostoli also provides relief efforts with soup kitchens, prepares and delivers food to shut-ins, provides shelter and clothing to the needy. The National Philoptochos Society's AGCC campaign helps to raise funds in support of these efforts by Apostoli and enables them to prepare packages with enough food to feed a family for a week.

Among other measures, the National Philoptochos Aid to Greece & Cyprus Committee recommends one way to help is by holding **Heart-to-Heart** Kaffe-Popups. The purpose of these Kaffe Popups is to build a grass roots campaign to mobilize the community on an almost no cost basis to raise funds and provide aid to help the people in Greece & Cyprus. You can host a Kaffe Popup at your homes, at church or an establishment of choice.

The **Heart to Heart** Campaign revolves around two significant dates in Greek history: Greek Independence Day, March 25th and OXI Day, October 28th. These two noteworthy dates are examples of the Greek and Cypriot ethos and character, striving for freedom and liberty when facing extreme adversity. They proclaimed NO to foreign rule and domination 79 years ago, and today we say NO to a different form of oppression: NO to poverty, NO to sickness, NO to hunger, and NO to homelessness.

OXI Day this year will be observed on Sunday, October 27, 2019 and the National Committee has suggested hosting a loukoumades and coffee fellowship following Liturgy.

The Greek Orthodox Ladies Philoptochos Society is dedicated to make a difference in the world, for serving the sick, the hungry, the weary and the disenfranchised. We can take pride knowing that we have made significant progress in helping our brothers and sisters in Greece & Cyprus in their hour of need. This is possible because of the Philoptochos Chapters across our Archdiocese, along with their communities, without whose support, the work of the National Philoptochos would not be possible. Working together, with the love and blessings of our Lord, we will continue our work to lessen the pain, loss, and suffering of the most fragile in our society.