January 23, 2020

Your Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros of America,
Your Grace Bishop Apostolos, National President Maria Logos and sisters of the National Executive Board greetings from the Metropolis of Pittsburgh.

Happy New year to all our beloved members of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America. As 2019 ended our Metropolis of Pittsburgh Philoptochos celebrated the six seminarians from the Metropolis of Pittsburgh at Holy Cross School of Theology by granting them honorariums. Our Philoptochos sisters are planning an inaugural fundraising event to benefit our seminarians in September of 2020. We believe that it is our responsibly to help our students with the cost of their education.

We have also reinvigorated our efforts to ask our chapters to commit to finalizing their donations to St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church and National Shrine. We are happy to report that three chapters have completed their obligation to the project this month and many others are working towards that goal.

Our Metropolis sisters eagerly await our membership from across the nation to the 2020 National Philoptochos Biennial Convention. Barbara Pasalis and I look forward to you joining us in our hometown. Our Hospitality Committee led by our National Board members Eleni Gugliotta and Kathy Lekas are ready to welcome all our guest to the city of Cleveland. Come enjoy our Midwest Philotimo!

In closing, I would like to thank His Eminence Metropolitan Savas for his unwavering support of the Philoptochos and my fellow Philoptochos sisters who work each day for the betterment of others and a world filled with Christ’s love.

Respectfully submitted,

Crystal G. Thomas
Metropolis of Pittsburgh Philoptochos President