

**GREEK ORTHODOX LADIES PHILOPTOCHOS SOCIETY, INC.  
METROPOLIS PRESIDENT'S REPORT  
2018-2020**



**METROPOLIS OF DETROIT PHILOPTOCHOS**

*Theone Dickos, President*

August 22, 2020

Your Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros of America, Your Grace Bishop Apostolos of Medeia, National President Maria Logos, sisters of the National Board and fellow delegates,

**“But do not forget to do good and to share, for with such sacrifices God is well pleased”**

*Hebrews 13:16*

It is my pleasure to bring you warm greetings from the Metropolis of Detroit Philoptochos. The Metropolis of Detroit covers a large geographic area from upstate New York, Michigan, parts of Ohio, Indiana and Kentucky, west to Little Rock Arkansas and south to Chattanooga and Memphis, Tennessee. With great anticipation, we had looked forward to participating in the 45<sup>th</sup> Biennial Clergy/Laity Congress in Cleveland, Ohio within the Pittsburgh Metropolis.

The Metropolis of Detroit Philoptochos thanks Metropolitan Savas and Philoptochos Convention Chair Barbara Pasalis, Co-Chairs Crystal Thomas and Georgia Vlitats for months of planning a creative and innovative program for the delegates. The ladies continue their planning to provide a meaningful, productive and creative Virtual Convention on August 21 and 22, 2020. We are grateful that we may gather in this way, and thank Barbara, Crystal and Georgia for their efforts.

The Metropolis Philoptochos Chapters continue to fulfill the mission of Philoptochos, and support all our National Commitments and Programs, as well as the Metropolis of Detroit Commitments which are as follows:

- **Emergency Fund** – assists victims of disasters
- **St. Spyridon Fund** – addresses the needs of the Metropolis Home and ministries
- **Scholarship Fund** – assists seminarians from the Detroit Metropolis
- **Summer Camp Fund** – supports the Metropolis Camps in Michigan, New York and Tennessee
- **Partners in Philanthropy Fund** – assists those in our Metropolis who need short term financial assistance

Every chapter in the Metropolis has embraced the mission of Philoptochos. The hearts of our members are big and warm. From 2018-2020, the chapters have reached out to the community in so many different ways: providing meals to the homeless in the **Feeding the Hungry Initiative**; providing school supplies, coats, toiletries to impoverished students through the **Operation Classroom Initiative**; visiting nursing homes; remembering the elderly with cards, gifts and visits; paying hospital bills, funeral costs, and stocking food pantries.

**“Philanthropy in Motion”**, the Metropolis Spring Luncheon, was held on May 4, 2019 at the Henry Ford Museum Lovett Hall in Dearborn, Michigan. The event was beautiful and successful, and with a great cause. The speaker Joanne Ewald represented “Mend on the Move” a 501c3 nonprofit that employs survivors of sexual abuse, and provides a safe haven for women as they recover. The luncheon netted over \$12,200, and the proceeds benefited the many charities supported by the Metropolis of Detroit Philoptochos.

**Metropolis of Detroit Clergy Laity and Philoptochos Conference:** The conference was held on September 26 – 28, 2019 and took place at the Somerset Inn, Troy, Michigan. The highlight of the conference was the “20<sup>th</sup> Enthronement Anniversary Banquet” celebrating His Eminence Metropolitan Nicholas of Detroit on Friday, September 27. The Philoptochos Agenda included speakers on Depression and Anxiety, Suicide and Bullying. There was a presentation on Chapter Procedures and discussion groups on the National Philoptochos, Metropolis Philoptochos and Chapter Projects including: Outreach, In Reach, Membership and Fundraising. A Philoptochos Breakfast on Friday morning featured the Chapter Awards which showcase the dedicated efforts of our Philoptochos ladies. Delegates also had the opportunity to help underserved schools by bringing items and gift cards for schools in the Detroit Metropolitan area.

**Facebook “No Show” Fundraiser:** In the Spring of 2020, the Metropolis Board was busy planning a Facebook “No Show” fundraiser to provide support to Metropolis charities including the Alzheimer’s Association, benevolence to Metropolis Members, Summer Camps, Detroit Rescue Mission and many more. Through Social Media, the Philoptochos Board sent invitations to **“Celebrate Women”** who inspired us in our mission and in life. From March 17- May 17, donations were received honoring and memorializing women who are near and dear to us. Through chapter and individual donations, the fundraiser netted \$10,000. Each honored and memorialized woman was beautifully displayed in an individual post on the Metropolis Philoptochos Face book Page and Instagram.

During the pandemic, the chapters are dedicated to the mission and are doing the following to serve others: groups call parishioners, volunteers shop, cook, run errands for those who are compromised, send thank you notes to our Clergy and first responders, fund and provide lunch to local grocery store employees and other first responders, and the list goes on and on.

**2021 Children’s Medical Fund Luncheon:** The Metropolis of Detroit is honored and excited to be selected as the next site for the Children’s Medical Fund Luncheon on November 6, 2021 in the city of Indianapolis. Many wonderful events are already being planned for this phenomenal National Philoptochos event.

Thank you to His Eminence Metropolitan Nicholas for his constant love, support and guidance of our Metropolis Philoptochos. Thank you to the Metropolis Board for their love and support, to the Chapter Presidents for their commitment and to all members throughout the Metropolis for their dedicated efforts in helping those who are less fortunate.

Theone Dickos, President  
Metropolis of Detroit Philoptochos