

GREEK ORTHODOX LADIES PHILOPTOCHOS SOCIETY, INC.
METROPOLIS PRESIDENT'S REPORT
2022-2024



Archdiocesan District

Jennifer Constantin

May 2023

Feed the Hungry We kicked off our District feed the hungry program on the last Tuesday of every month last fall with extraordinary success. We distribute food, clothing, toiletries, hand knitted hats and sweaters, sleeping bags and new underwear and socks to the underserved and homeless of New York City. The number of chapters participating continues to grow. Those served are extremely grateful for everything we provide, love, prayers, and sustenance.



Social Services Last fall chapters collected new and used children's books for donation to local classrooms in need, and we collected 14,065 books! This spring chapters collected 9,210 items for the kids' weekend backpack programs who participate in their schools' free breakfast and lunch programs but don't have food on the weekend. These drives bring the faithful together with a common goal of doing good work and helping those in need. Assisting those in need is the heart of Philoptochos, we continue to assist with local services, a loving hand and financial assistance at a difficult time.

St. Michael's Home As St. Michael's builds its new state of the art continuum of care facility in Uniondale, Long Island it meets the ever-increasing needs of our elderly. The Archdiocesan District Philoptochos chapters support this ministry of the Archdiocese wholeheartedly. On Thursday May 4th and Saturday May 6th we had hard hat tours for Philoptochos members at the new facility.

Beacons of Hope Seminarian Scholarship Fund We are thrilled to continue to support our seminarians in their journey to the priesthood. We make contributions to their education and living expenses. Many individuals and several chapters have donated and held fundraisers and embraced our New Beacons of Hope Scholarship fund.

Biennial Conference May 20th is our **Biennial Conference** where we will be reporting on the last two years of activity, elections for the District Board and training sessions/workshops on our

new Domestic Violence initiative and chapter board transitions in addition to our favorite topic-membership!



Sisterhood of the Traveling Philoptochos We have hosted 10 “Sisterhood of the Traveling Philoptochos” gatherings around the District. These events are purely social and bring together members from small geographic areas for fellowship and camaraderie. We enjoyed the company of over 500 Philoptochos sisters at these events.



Lenten Retreat 2023 Over 100 women got together at the Archdiocesan Cathedral of the Holy Trinity on Saturday March 11th. Our Retreat leader His Grace Bishop Athenagoras of Nanzianos spoke to us on the role of women in our church, it was very enlightening.





Agape Luncheon Our Agape Luncheon took place on Saturday April 29th at The Surf Club on the Sound in New Rochelle, New York. His Grace Bishop Andonios of Phasiane spoke eloquently about the new St. Michael's Home in Uniondale, New York, and the need for everyone in the country to embrace the home. Demetra Soterakis gave a heartwarming keynote address on The Power of a Mothers Love, and there wasn't a dry eye in the house!

In His Service,

Jennifer M. Constantin
Jennifer Constantin, President
Direct Archdiocesan District Philoptochos