

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



Metropolis of Detroit Philoptochos Society

Debbie George, Metropolis President

May 2023

Your Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros of America
Your Eminence Metropolitan Nicholas
Your Grace Bishop Athenagoras of Nazianzos
National Philoptochos President, Arlene Siavelis Kehl
Members of the National Board

“And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works” ~Hebrews 10:24

Christos Anesti!

On behalf of the Metropolis of Detroit Philoptochos Board and its chapters, it is a pleasure to bring you greetings and best wishes here to our own Metropolis.

Since the 2022 National Philoptochos Biennial Convention this past July, the Metropolis of Detroit Philoptochos has been very busy continuing first and foremost the mission of Philoptochos. In addition, we always strive for opportunities to connect, to grow our membership, and to remain visible. Where we see need, we act. Where and when asked, we respond.

The Metropolis of Detroit Spring Luncheon ‘Purposeful Philanthropy’ was held on Bright Saturday, April 22, 2023, in Troy, Michigan. It was a beautiful and successful event with a moving presentation by Rev. Dr. Nicholas G. Louh from St. John the Divine Greek Orthodox Church in Jacksonville, Florida. We were honored to have Father Nicholas in our Metropolis and were grateful that he gave our Metropolis Board a private audience during our meeting the day prior to the luncheon. We are thankful for the support received for this biannual fundraiser with proceeds benefitting the many charities supported by the Metropolis of Detroit Philoptochos.

Many chapters within our Metropolis hosted events that I was fortunate enough to attend. Philoptochos sisters of St. Nicholas in Troy, Michigan, were able to raise \$20,000 via a ‘Festival of Tables’ for GiGi’s Playhouse Detroit, a Down Syndrome Achievement Center. The sisters of Annunciation in Little Rock, Arkansas, held a ‘Festival of Tables’ in late April that was festive and creative, helping their chapter to assist those in need within their community. Our sisters of Annunciation in Dayton, Ohio, held their 16th Annual Spring Charity Luncheon this past weekend. This beautiful event brought together women of all ages for fun and fellowship, enabling their chapter to help with many worthwhile causes in their community. Special milestones were celebrated by both Annunciation in Buffalo, New York, and Annunciation in Memphis, Tennessee.

Dimitrios Sitaras of Wixom, Michigan, was awarded the fourth annual Florence G. Stefanou Memorial Scholarship. This scholarship goes to a deserving young adult who is seeking higher education. Dimitrios is a member of Holy Cross Greek Orthodox Church in Farmington Hills, Michigan, and is attending the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, Michigan. We are grateful to the Stefanou family for offering this scholarship through our Metropolis. Florence was a dedicated Philoptochos member on all levels and was a past Metropolis Philoptochos Board President.

Through our Partners in Philanthropy Fund, we have been able to assist more than a few with burials, medical bills, housing, and other needs where additional funding is needed. Our Emergency Fund enables us to reach out and assist when a natural disaster affects those within our Metropolis communities, on a national level or even globally. The Scholarship Fund within the Metropolis of Detroit assists our seminarians and all students from our Metropolis at Hellenic College Holy Cross School of Theology.

Plans are underway for our upcoming 2023 Metropolis of Detroit Clergy-Laity and Philoptochos Conference in September. The conference will provide an educational and memorable program. By being together, we strive to grow and expand our mission of serving the poor and less fortunate.

There are 37 active chapters in the Detroit Metropolis with various needs and unique personalities, each striving to be active participants in their respective communities. The Metropolis of Detroit 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.

In closing, I sincerely thank our beloved spiritual leader, His Eminence Metropolitan Nicholas, for his constant love, guidance, and support of our Metropolis ministries as well as the National Philoptochos ministries.

With Love and Respect,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Debbie George". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Debbie George, President
Metropolis of Detroit Philoptochos