

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



Metropolis of New Jersey Philoptochos  
Eleni Constantinides, President

Your Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros of America,  
Esteemed National Philoptochos President, Mrs. Arlene Siavelis Kehl,

On behalf of all the Philoptochos chapters in the Holy Metropolis of New Jersey, I greet you with love in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

A lot has happened in our Holy Metropolis since our last National Philoptochos Board Meeting in May 2023.

On Monday, July 24, 2023, His Grace Bishop Apostolos of Medeia, upon the recommendation of His All-Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew, was unanimously elected by the Holy and Sacred Synod as the new Metropolitan of the sacred Metropolis of New Jersey. The Enthronement Service of His Eminence Metropolitan Apostolos took place on Saturday, September 16, 2023, at the Saint John the Theologian Greek Orthodox Cathedral in Tenafly, New Jersey. His Eminence's family, several hierarchs, many from his native island of Rhodes, dignitaries, and hundreds of faithful attended this historic event. A magnificent luncheon followed the Enthronement Service. At the same Cathedral, on Sunday, September 17, 2023, Metropolitan Apostolos performed his first Hierarchical liturgy.

On October 15, 2023, His Eminence administered the Oath of Office to the newly elected Metropolis of New Jersey Philoptochos Board. Following the Oath of Office, the Board met and elected its Officers. I will serve the Metropolis of New Jersey Philoptochos for another term as the President. His Eminence Metropolitan Apostolos is a firm believer that Philoptochos is a very significant and necessary Ministry in our Holy Church. One of the first things he did was to ensure that each parish had a viable and successful Philoptochos Chapter.

All our chapters continue to honor our Mission and respond generously to all requests for assistance, whether from our parishes and communities, our Holy Archdiocese, or our National Philoptochos.

- ✓ We continued to collect funds to assist further the Ukrainian Relief Fund and Turkey and Syria Earthquake Fund.
- ✓ We are continuing our campaign to collect funds for the floods and fires in Greece.
- ✓ Our beloved Saint Basil's Academy and Saint Michael's Home, where our elderly are well cared for, are still two priorities.
- ✓ Our seminarians at Hellenic College Holy Cross have received generous grants for the Fall semester.
- ✓ High School seniors applied for and received scholarships from our newly established Anastasia K. Michals Scholarship Fund.
- ✓

His Eminence is an avid supporter of our youth and their education. He asked that we add to our annual events a Luncheon to benefit our Metropolis students at Hellenic College/Holy Cross and those pursuing their studies at a college or Trade School. His Eminence named it "Walking with Christ."

- ✓ We know the importance of assisting His All-Holiness Patriarch Bartholomew and our beloved Patriarchate with the many challenges our Holy Church faces in Turkey. We recently donated \$10,000.00 to the operation and maintenance of the schools of the Patriarchate.

All this was made possible with the help of our chapters, who met all their National and Metropolis commitments.

This does not include the money, services, goods, love, and compassion our chapters constantly give to individuals and organizations in their own communities to feed the hungry, offer shelter to the homeless, and protect children and women from abuse and exploitation.

We are excited and ready to continue to work hard to honor the Philoptochos Mission, which is nothing but to help those who need our help.

Our Metropolitan Apostolos is always by our side, offering his blessings, support, advice, and prayers. We owe His Eminence a great deal and pray that God will give him strength and wisdom as he continues to do His work on earth.

Philoptochos women are faithful, decisive, empowered, creative, resourceful, and tireless. I feel blessed and honored to be part of this group of amazing women.

In His Service,



Eleni Constantinides

President

Metropolis of New Jersey Philoptochos