

SUMMER 2019

PHILOPTOCHOS PERSPECTIVE

Philanthropy • Fellowship • Faith in Action

Table of Contents

Clergy-Laity 3-4
Metropolitan Nathanael Name Day 5
Iowa Meeting 6-7
St. Haralambos 8-10
President's Meeting 11-17
St. Mary's – Minneapolis 18
Children's Medical Fund Luncheon 19-20
Assumption – Town & Country 21
St. Nicholas – St. Louis 22, 33-34
Annunciation – Milwaukee 23
Assumption – Chicago 24
All Saints – Joliet – 25
Sts. Constantine & Helen 26, 29, 49-51
St. Demetrios – Elmhurst 27,35
St. Sophia – Elgin 28, 35, 46
Holy Cross – Justice 30
St. Demetrios – Chicago 31-33
Holy Trinity – Sioux City 35
Ascension of Our Lord – Lincolnshire 36-39
St. Andrew's – Chicago 40
SS Peter & Paul Glenview – Glenview 41-43
Assumption – Homer Glen 44
St. John the Baptist – Des Plaines 45
Enthronement of New Archbishop 47
Annunciation Cathedral – Chicago 48

President's Corner

Dear Philoptochos Sisters and Friends,

Happy Summer! I hope you are enjoying the summer and have found some time to relax during the summer respite from most Philoptochos activities.

Thank you to the St. Nectarios Philoptochos president, Kiki Korkofigas, her chapter members and the entire community of St. Nectarios, Palatine, Illinois for hosting the Name Day Celebration for Metropolitan Nathanael on June 10th. The setting was beautiful, the food plentiful and the many guests enjoyed the evening. We appreciate their gracious hospitality and would also like to thank our own Name Day Celebration chairs, Patricia Gerbanas, Christina Hiotis and Joanne Stavrakas.

Looking ahead to the fall we have two important events that are in the final planning stages. First, the Metropolis Clergy/Laity & Philoptochos Assembly will be held September 25-29 in Minneapolis. The Metropolis Philoptochos Board is planning an informative and enlightening program that you won't want to miss. In addition, Metropolitan Nathanael and the Metropolis C/L Committee will be unveiling plans for the future of our Metropolis. Haven't registered yet? Registration forms were sent to all Philoptochos chapter presidents in June. You can also register online at www.chicago.goarch.org/clergy-laity-2019. See you in Minneapolis!

Of course, we cannot forget our MAJOR event, the National Philoptochos Children's Medical Fund Luncheon on November 16th being held at the Marriott Magnificent Mile Hotel in downtown Chicago. The Metropolis of Chicago Philoptochos is honored to host this event, which we haven't hosted since 2001. The chairs, Irene Arsoniadis, Georgia Sarlas, Marilyn Tzakis & I, along with our committees, have planned a beautiful afternoon filled with delicious food, great grand drawing prizes & wonderful entertainment. In addition, there will be a special presentation of grants to several worthy children's medical programs & a video of our special "Kids Helping Kids" project. You won't want to miss this marvelous luncheon, so don't wait. Please send in your reservations today. Bring your Philoptochos sisters, relatives & friends to enjoy an afternoon downtown! Why not plan on spending the weekend to enjoy all that Chicago has to offer?

Finally, the Metropolis of Chicago Philoptochos Board and I wish you & your families a blessed remainder of the summer. See you in September!

With love in Christ, Pam

Pam Argyris, Metropolis of Chicago Philoptochos President



METROPOLIS OF CHICAGO - 2019 Events You Won't Want to Miss!

August

OPERATION CLASSROOM - What can your Philoptochos chapter do to help students or teachers? Recently the St. Sophia Philoptochos in Elgin, Illinois loaded up a car trunk full of food. This food went to a neighboring school that supplies food to homeless children for the weekend. This outreach supports the new National Philoptochos initiative: OPERATON CLASSROOM. The goal for Operation Classroom is for each Philoptochos chapter across the nation to assist teachers, schools or students. Members should reach out to members of their own community to learn how they can offer their assistance so all children can have a great school year.

08/21 CMF Luncheon Committee Meeting; site TBD

September

09/07 CMF Luncheon Committee Meeting; Chicago Marriott

09/25-29 Clergy/Laity/Philoptochos Conference, Minneapolis, MN

October

10/05 & 06 SS. Constantine & Helen; Palos Hills, IL; Annual Bazaar

10/11 St. Nectarios Annual Fashion Show

10/17 CMF Luncheon Committee Meeting; site TBD

November

11/02 Metropolis Wide Dress A Girl Sew-a-thon @ St. Basil, Chicago

11/02 St. Nicholas, St. Louis, MO; Grecian Kitchen Holiday Open House

11/16 Children's Medical Fund Luncheon @ Chicago Marriott

Please Note: Every Chapter hosts Christmas & Easter Bake Sales, Palm Sunday Luncheons, Membership Drives and other usual internal events. Due to limitation of space, this calendar is designed as a tool to notify chapters about citywide events, to encourage participation from our chapters' members, and as a vehicle for planning chapter events to assist in eliminating schedule conflicts whenever possible.

To place your Chapter's events on the Calendar, please call or email:

kathywalstrom@gmail.com 847-606-9889

METROPOLIS OF CHICAGO
CLERGY
LAITY
MERCY
SEPT 25-29
2019
TWIN CITIES

METROPOLIS OF CHICAGO CLERGY – LAITY ASSEMBLY TWIN CITIES

*“Go and learn what this means, ‘I desire mercy and not sacrifice.’
For I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance” (Matthew 9:13)*

**We look forward to seeing you all on September 25-29, 2019
in the Twin Cities of Minneapolis – St. Paul!**

If you haven’t registered for the event, please do so now.

Learn more by visiting the webpage: [Clergy-Laity Assembly 2019](#)



*"The glory of friendship is not the outstretched hand, nor the kindly smile, nor the joy of companionship; it is the spiritual inspiration that comes to one when you discover that someone else believes in you and is willing to trust you with a friendship."
Ralph Waldo Emerson*

Breakfast Club for Clergy-Laity Planning

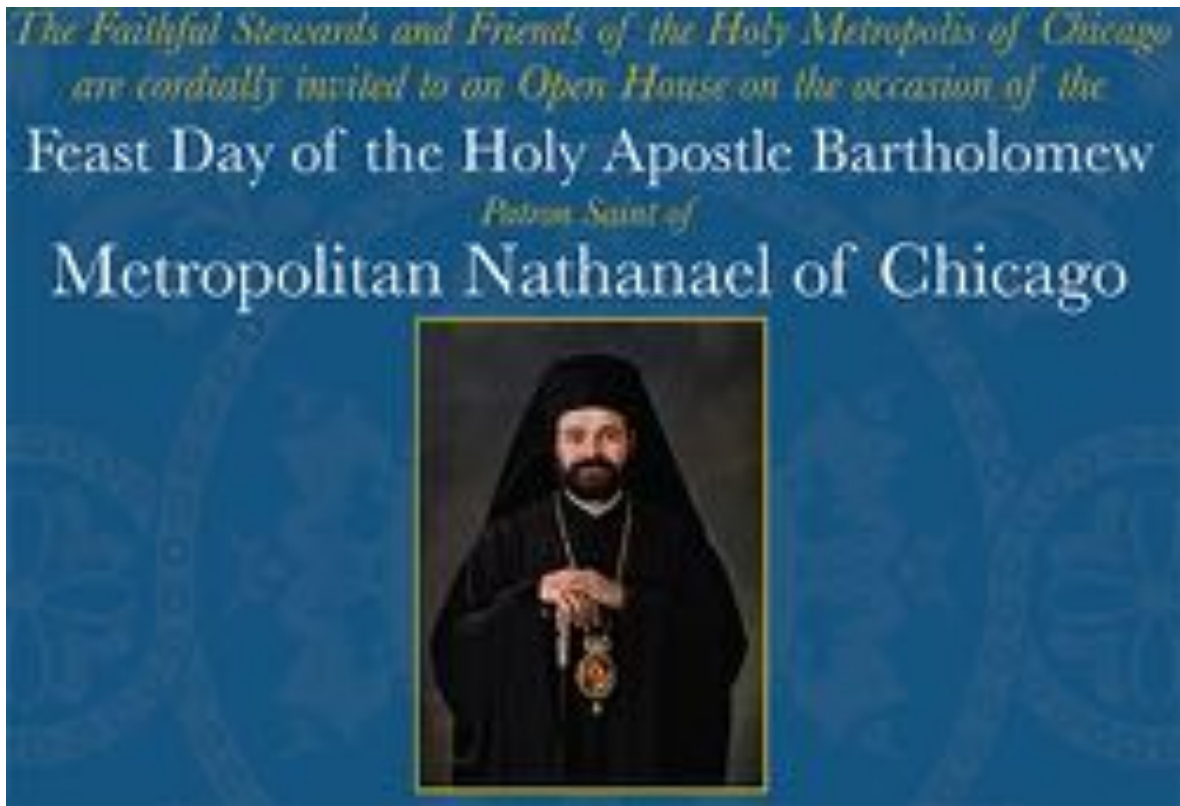


Philoptochos encourages everyone to be great. Everyone can help serve with a heart of grace and love.

Some are called to do great things, but many of us in Philoptochos can do small things together in a great way.



Metropolitan Nathanael Name Day - St. Nectarios



Thank you to our chairs, Pat Gerbanas, Christina Hiotis & Joanne Stavrakas, to Kiki Korkofigas (Chapter President) & her wonderful ladies of St. Nectarios Philoptochos and to our Metropolis Board members for a beautiful reception following Vespers for His Eminence, Metropolitan Nathanael's name day.



Iowa Meeting - St. George - Des Moines

Thank you to all the ladies from Chicagoland that made the trip to Des Moines! Thank you to all who were able to attend. It was a very worthwhile and pleasurable day.



Share Your Chapter's Generous Deeds!





MISSION STATEMENT

THE MISSION OF THE GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE IS TO GROW IN UNION WITH GOD AS A FAMILY ON THE PATH OF SALVATION, EMBRACING AND SHARING OUR ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN FAITH.



St. Haralambos – Niles

Spring Bake Sale to Benefit The Children's Medical Fund Luncheon





She opens her hands to the poor and reaches out with her fruit to the needy.

Proverbs 31:20





Residents from The Greek American Rehabilitation & Care Centre visited the Bake Sale

Our Chapter would like to thank Georgia Litsogiannis, our out going president and all on her board for doing such a wonderful job leading our chapter.

May God shine His blessings upon the new board. May God bless all of the ladies of the St. Haralambos Philoptochos.



Presidents' Meeting – Iakovos Retreat Center - Wisconsin



Both Hope and Philoptochos are Powerful.







Small successes build big achievements.





**Philotochos Chapters
keep the unity of spirit.**





Philoptochos members surround themselves with those that lift them higher.





**In Philoptochos,
no one is an
island by herself.
Everyone is a
piece of
something
important.**



SHARE THE PERSPECTIVE!



**Philoptochos members
put others first.
And play a special part
By Giving and
By Living
With a kind and
caring heart.**

**Philoptochos Meetings
Are Filled
With Surprises
And Laughter,
Many Challenges
And Adventures.**



**Give of Yourself.
That is the
true meaning
of Giving.**

St. Mary's - Minneapolis

Spring Finale



Be Open to Every Opportunity



The Minneapolis Philoptochos Spring Finale drew over 70 women for dinner, elections, fellowship & fun. Attendees participated in an interactive map, "St. Mary's Philoptochos: Our Actions Impact the World," on which a label for each organization we support was placed. With more than 60 charities throughout the world, the map illustrated how each dollar raised and each action taken by each member makes a difference. We truly value every member at whatever level of participation, from leaders to volunteers to financial supporters.

Children's Medical Fund Luncheon

Children's Medical Fund Luncheon encourages all Metropolis members and chapters to help CMF be a huge success! Our dedication to a successful CMF will allow us to help many children with their medical needs.

*The Metropolis of Chicago Philoptochos is honored and proud to host the 17th Children's **Medical Luncheon on Saturday, November 16th** at the Chicago Marriott Magnificent Mile Hotel. The Children's Medical Fund has sought to provide medical assistance to critically ill children whose families are unable to afford appropriate and necessary medical treatment. This Fund also provides grants for innovative research programs to pediatric hospitals and organizations throughout the Metropolis of Chicago with special programs that care for children with critical and life threatening illnesses. We have planned an extraordinary event and look forward to seeing you there. **Pam Argyris***

*The Children's Medical Fund Committee encourages all members to support the **CMF Grand Drawing** for two reasons. One is the ability to help in this very rewarding Children's Medical Fund project. Second is the opportunity to possibly win one of twenty-six fabulous prizes. Good Luck! **Georgia Sarlas***

Sponsorship: 100% of monies collected at The Children's Medical Fund Luncheon go towards distribution of Grants. The Grants are awarded to Children's Hospitals, Care facilities and other programs. By donating to the National Philoptochos Children's Medical Fund you can definitely help save a child's life! **Marilyn Tzakis**

Kids Helping Kids - What could be better than kids helping other kids? Metropolis of Chicago Children are partnering with Philoptochos by raising funds for the Children's Medical Fund. Philoptochos chapters have been getting their youth involved in Kids helping Kids. Youth from many parishes creatively created **Lemonade Stands** in support of the upcoming National Philoptochos Children's Medical Fund Luncheon. Children have through October to raise funds. **Irene Arsoniadis**



Children's Medical Fund Luncheon

The CMF Planning Committee is Moving Forward



Only 3 Months To Go!

**Plan On
Attending
Ask Your
Friends To
Attend**



**Reserve
Your Table**



Purchase & Sell Tickets to The Grand Drawing!

Assumption – Town & Country

Children's Medical Fund Jewelry Sale

RoseMarie Harpole shared this story of peoples' generosity!

"I was selling jewelry donated from ladies of our parish. I greeted two ladies that were admiring and inquiring about the jewelry items. I spoke about Philoptochos the Children Medical Fund. Both were impressed with the Philoptochos endeavors. One lady bought 2 items I told her that would be \$20 and she gave me \$30.00 and said keep the change. I thanked her greatly. She said the money is going to a great cause. I waited on the next lady and she purchased a pin, I told her that would be \$2, she handed me the \$100 bill folded, and said, "I don't want any change." I replied are you sure? She said yes, with a smile. I was in awe and so proud to be part of such wonderful organization as Philoptochos! I couldn't help but brag about it to my fellow Philoptochos sisters!"



***Success Comes in Cans.
Failure Comes in Can'ts.***

Thank you to our wonderful Philoptochos members who worked so well together to make our Palm Sunday Luncheon a success. και του χρονου!



St. Nicholas – St. Louis



You have two hands.

*One to help
yourself.*

*The second to
help others.*



**If you change the way
you look at things,
many times the things
you look at, change.**



Annunciation - Milwaukee



The Philoptochos of Annunciation - Milwaukee presented a check to Fr. Leo Gavrilos of St. Spyridon - Sheboygan WI for iconography of St. Constantine in memory of Connie Harris, a longtime board member & tireless worker of Annunciation Philoptochos. This gift was made possible by the generous memorial donations made in memory of Connie.



Annunciation Milwaukee Philoptochos presented a check for \$25,000 to Kathy's House, a home away from home, for people receiving medical care in Milwaukee. This donation was made in memory of Lesa and Chris Potos, two of our most loyal supporters. This donation was made possible through a gift to our Philoptochos chapter from the estate of Chris Potos. A guest lounge and garden area will be named in their honor.

Assumption - Chicago

Our chapter celebrated our amazing past President, Mrs. Valerie Green! Thank you so much for everything you have done for our Philoptochos Chapter & the Assumption community. The chapter has been blessed with her leadership!



St. Demetrios held a Kids Helping Kids Lemonade Stand Fundraiser with all proceeds going to support the Children's Medical Fund Luncheon. A short video of the event can be seen at this link:

<https://www.facebook.com/assumptionchiphiloptochos/videos/810902629277441/>



Strong Women

May We

Know Them,

Raise Them,

Be Them.



All Saints – Joliet - Kids Helping Kids

The Parish Youth of All Saints helped support the National Philoptochos Children's Medical Fund Luncheon by having an old fashioned Sundae Bar and Root Beer floats! Perfect example of teaching them young to help others!



Sts. Constantine & Helen - Palos Hills

LEMON-AID TREE CARING OUTREACH PROJECT

Sunday School Children happily volunteered to help with the Children's Medical Fund event! The children are raising money to assist children with medical needs.

They have created a Lemon-Aid Tree of Caring Outreach program.

The children fill up their plastic "lemons" with change, bring it back to Sunday School and they get to add a lemon to our Lemon Tree Bulletin Board.

The children have been excited to help out and are having fun with the project knowing that they are helping other children.



"I am only one, but still I am one. I cannot do everything, but I still can do something: and because I cannot do everything, I will not refuse to do something I can do."

*Edward Everett Hale
Author, Clergyman*

Sunday Church School presents
Lemon-Aid Fundraiser
To benefit the National Philanthropic Society
CHILDREN'S MEDICAL FUND

Why:
During the month of April we will conduct a monetary drive to help provide care for sick children.

How:
Fill up your plastic "lemons" with spare change and bring them back to Sunday School.

IT'S THAT
EASY PEASY
LEMON SQUEEZY!!!!

St. Demetrios - Elmhurst

The Greek Orthodox Church of St. Demetrios 'Kids Helping Kids' Religious Ed Popcorn Fundraiser *benefiting The Children's Medical Fund*

Please 'pop in' during coffee hour to donate to a very important cause – **'Kids Helping Kids' for The Children's Medical Fund**, while enjoying delicious popcorn!

The youth of St. Demetrios Religious Education will be selling individual bags of Popcorn Factory's delicious Confusion popcorn ('Chicago mix'):

Delicious Popcorn Factory Confusion Popcorn



Just \$1 for a single-serve bag!

Thank you!



The greatest thing in the world is not so much where we are, but what direction we are moving.

St. Sophia – Elgin - Kids Helping Kids

Kids Helping Kids

What could be better than kids helping other kids? Children throughout the Metropolis of Chicago are doing just that. Children are partnering with Philoptochos by raising funds for the Children's Medical Fund. Each Philoptochos has been charged to get their youth involved in helping kids. What better way to raise awareness and funds: a Lemonade Stand. Recently youth from various parishes used their creativity in supporting the upcoming National Philoptochos Children's Medical Fund. Children will continue to raise funds through October.



Sts. Constantine & Helen's - Palos Hills - Kids Helping Kids

Students raising funds for the Children's Medical Fund Luncheon. The Handmaiden Program, which consists of Sunday School Girls, sponsored a bake sale that raised over \$200!



Holy Cross - Justice- Kids Helping Kids

The youth of Holy Cross in Justice sponsored a popcorn sale during the annual Parish Festival to benefit The Children's Medical Fund Luncheon.



St. Demetrios – Chicago - Kids Helping Kids

The St. Demetrios Ladies Philoptochos would like to thank our GOYA for organizing a successful Bake Sale. All proceeds will benefit the Children's Medical Fund Luncheon.



Everyone needs a Hug.

It's fat-free, sugar-free and requires no batteries. It also relieves pain and stress. So here's a hug from me to you.



Even small stones make big ripples in the water.



St. Demetrios – Chicago - Kids Helping Kids



St. Nicholas – St. Louis - Kids Helping Kids

The St. Nicholas Philoptochos Newly Formed Kids Helping Kids Group organized a successful Lemonade Fundraising Stand at our Summer Festival to benefit The Children's Medical Fund Luncheon.



St. Nicholas – St. Louis - Kids Helping Kids



We had fun getting this done!



Kids are always happy to help!

St. Sophia – Elgin - New Philoptochos Board



Holy Trinity - Sioux City

Philoptochos prepared breakfast casseroles for the families staying at the Ronald McDonald House. They have participated in this program for the last four years.



St. Demetrios - Elmhurst



Ladies of St. Demetrios of Elmhurst Ladies Philoptochos Society visit regularly and take delicious pastries to The Greek American Rehabilitation and Care Center.

A Big Thank You from all the residents!

Ascension of Our Lord - Lincolnshire



Congratulations to the new Chapter President, Andrea Rogers.
Sincerest thanks to Past President Anna Duros.



*Celebration
of
Giving*







*Celebration
of
Giving*





Happiness keeps you
sweet
Trials keep you strong
Sorrow keeps you
human
and God keeps you
going



St. Andrew's - Chicago



Karen Anderson delivered 200+ packs of underwear, 200 toothbrushes & toothpaste to The Montessori School of Englewood.

Philoctochos Women have Big Ideas and even Bigger Hearts!



SS Peter & Paul - Glenview

SS Peter & Paul's Philoptochos Luncheon" A Celebration of Sisterhood "



Remember,
whenever you're in
a position to help
someone, be glad
and always do it,
because that's GOD
answering someone else's
prayers, through you.



*Congratulations to
Past President
Georgia Ryerson &
New President
Julie Mantice.*

SS Peter & Paul - Glenview





Smile



*Begin by coming together.
Make progress by staying together.
Find success by working together!*



Assumption – Homer Glen

Installation of New Philoptochos Board



*Appreciation
for others is
a wonderful
Philoptochos
thing.*

*Most brilliance
arises from
ordinary people
working
together in
extraordinary
ways.*



St. John the Baptist - Des Plaines

Our Chapter Volunteers To Feed the Hungry



Always Be An Encourager!

St. Sophia – Elgin - OPERATION CLASSROOM

St. Sophia Philoptochos/Metropolis Of Chicago Getting Kids Ready For School!



National Philoptochos' newest initiative!

"Operation Classroom", consists of Philoptochos Chapters across the country getting involved to help students, teachers and local schools get ready for the new school year. Irene Arsoniadis (Operation Classroom National Chair) and Pam Argyris (as part of our St. Sophia Philoptochos, Elgin, IL) delivered school supplies to a local school district's **"Stuff the Bus"** event.

"Stuff the Bus" will help distribute school supplies to those students in need.

Your chapter can also get involved in this initiative. Please let National know what you are doing to foster **"Operation Classroom"**.



Enthronement of Archbishop Elpidophoros

**Archbishop Elpidophoros Was Enthroned
As The Seventh Archbishop of The Archdiocese**



 Elpidophoros
@Elpidophoros

My beloved in the Lord, thank you for your prayers! As your Archbishop, I am your spiritual friend and brother, your servant in the Lord, your co-worker in Christ. Glory to God for all the gifts he has bestowed upon us.

Annunciation Cathedral - Chicago

Archbishop Elpidophoros visited The Annunciation Cathedral for Liturgy and Luncheon.



"Good actions give strength to ourselves and inspire good actions in others."

- Plato -



Sts. Constantine & Helen's - Palos Hills

New Philoptochos Board



Sts. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church celebrated its Feast Day & Vespers. His Eminence Metropolitan Nathanael officiated.



Sts. Constantine & Helen's - Palos Hills Annual Bake Sale



"To Do" List
—Count my Blessings
—Let Go of what I can't Control
—Practice Kindness
—Listen to my Heart
—Be Thankful for what I Have
—Just Breathe
Amen

Sts. Constantine & Helen's - Palos Hills - Toddler Group

TODDLER GROUP STILL STRONG AFTER 10 YEARS!

Long time Philoptochos member & 1st VP Maria Visvardis started The Toddler Group program 10 years ago. Maria thought it was a wonderful way to bring together Philoptochos Yiayias, who watched their grandchildren & young mothers & their children. It also brought new, younger members to Philoptochos.

It has been a tremendous success.



Children
are the
future.

Teach
them

well and
they will
lead the
way.



Thinking Outside The Box

“Creating a Comfort Closet”

National Board Member, Evellyn Tsiadis, wanted to do something special for her mom, Irene Leontarakis, to honor her 85th birthday. Evellyn wanted to do something to honor the lessons she’s learned from her mom over the years and to recognize her for instilling in her a sense of giving, solidarity, love and support for fellow humankind. Evellyn decided to create YiaYia Irene’s Comfort Closet inside Somerville Middle School in New Jersey. The projects are usually handled by the school nurse at a school that might have a population of students that are in need for everyday products. Comfort closets usually contain things like body wash, dental care, feminine hygiene items, band-aids, shampoos and deodorants.

So in honor of her “manoula,” who herself was an orphan and didn’t always have what she needed growing up, Evellyn created YiaYia Irene’s Comfort Closet is already stocked with a lot of products that Evellyn, herself, purchased from local shops “Can you imagine her joy knowing that we’re filling carts with daily essential items for young people from her community?” Evellyn also hopes this move will inspire others to create similar comfort closets in honor of their family members throughout the country. “ It’s about creating a wave of gratitude for what we received from them, and transforming that into goodness and solidarity with kids in need.” For Evellyn, it’s all about helping children in need in a respectful loving manner— with dignity. After all, that’s what YiaYia Irene taught her kids.



*Philoptochos
members supply
inspiration and
plenty of
encouragement
to try new ways
to help others!*

SPREAD THE PERSPECTIVE

Our Philoptochos Good News Needs You!

Help the Perspective bring our good works and accomplishments to all in our Metropolis.

Share the Perspective!

We have all spent countless hours volunteering for Philoptochos. This year our Metropolis has been honored with the opportunity to host the Children's Medical Fund Luncheon. The countdown is at 3 months for all preparations to be accomplished, all funds raised and readied for distribution. Let's get ready! Make a list of additional ways you can help the CMF 2019 be a success. Join forces with others to boost your mood, inspiration and energize to achieve momentous results. Give thanks! Gratitude is the best foundation on which to build Miraculous results.

It's not too late for us all to dedicate ourselves to insure a very successful CMF. You are the most essential element to insure CMF will achieve or succeed our goals.

Thank you to all chapters that emailed their events to the Perspective for this issue. We are starting work on the next edition of the Perspective. We will feature the Clergy-Laity and the CMF luncheon. So, take lots of photos and please email your submissions to me. Each chapter's photos of fundraisers, events & outings add so much to the Perspective. When submitting please email the photos along with the name of the church & event.

Many important events are coming up in the next few months. I am anxiously awaiting your emails, articles and photos for our next Perspective. Email your submissions to:

marilynnjemas@gmail.com

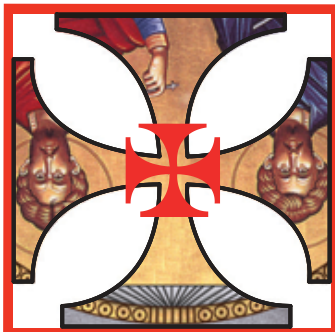


Marilynn Jemas,
Your Perspective Editor



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