

Summer 2017

# PHILOPTOCHOS PERSPECTIVE

Philanthropy • Fellowship • Faith in Action

*Please join us for an afternoon of fun and fellowship as we continue to strive to uphold the mission of Philoptochos*

**Metropolis of Chicago Philoptochos**

**Annual Luncheon**

**“An Afternoon in Byzantium”**

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2017**

**EMPRESS BANQUETS - ADDISON, ILLINOIS**

**To Benefit:**

**The St. Iakovos Retreat Center**

**Metropolis Philanthropic Endeavors**

**The Pick Up Your Cross & Follow Me Ministry**

*(focusing on children with special needs and their families)*

**It's Not Too Late To Donate To**

**The Metropolis Philoptochos Philanthropic Endeavors**

**If you are unable to attend, please consider  
making a donation Send donations to:**

**Marilyn Tzakis**

## Table of Contents

Calendar	3
Hurricane Relief	4-5
National Board Meeting	6-9
National Shrine	10-11
Patty Tsaoussis Dinner	12-13
St. Demetrios	14-15
Aid to Greece & Cyprus	16
Heart To Heart Kaffe's	17-18
SS Peter & Paul	19-20
President's Meeting	21-28
Assumption – Madison	29
Feed the Hungry	30
St. Basil Chicago	31
St. Spyridon	32
Annunciation – Milwaukee	33
St. Helen's – Rockford	34-35
St. Nicholas – St. Louis	36
St. Mary's – Minneapolis	37
Assumption – Town & Country	38

***Email Chapter submissions to:  
[marilynnjemas@gmail.com](mailto:marilynnjemas@gmail.com)***

## President's Corner

As a new year of Philoptochos activities begins,

I Wish You:

Comfort on difficult days,  
Peace on troublesome days,  
Smiles in the face of sadness,  
Rainbows to color your world,  
Laughter to burst from your lips,  
Sunsets to fill your heart with beauty,  
Gentle hugs to raise your spirits,  
Friendships to warm your life,  
Beauty for your eyes to behold,  
Confidence when you are in doubt,  
Faith to fill your heart with belief,  
Courage to be truly honest with yourself,  
Patience to accept life and its lessons,  
And love to complete it all.

With sisterly agape,

Pam



President Pam Argyris

# **METROPOLIS OF CHICAGO**

## **Calendar of Chapters' Events**

### **September 2017**

**09/23 Metropolis Philoptochos Annual Luncheon @ Empress Banquets - Addison, IL**

09/29 St. Nectarios, Palatine, Annual Fashion Show @ Concorde Banquets- Kildeer, IL

09/30 Three Hierarchs, Champaign, IL Food Festival, 11:00 am – 6 pm

### **October 2017**

**10/14 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Metropolis-wide Dress-a-Girl Sew-a-thon @ St. Basil, Chicago**

10/14 Autumn Festival @ St. Nicholas, Oak Lawn

10/14 Holy Apostles, Westchester: Annual Fashion Show at The Abbington in Glen Ellyn

10/15 St. Spyridon, 100th Anniversary Celebration @ Georgios Banquets.

**10/31 St. Demetrios, Elmhurst: SS Cosmas & Damianos Great Vespers**

### **November 2017**

**11/01 St. Demetrios, Elmhurst: SS Cosmas & Damianos Feast Day Divine Liturgy**

11/04 St. Nicholas, St. Louis, Grecian Kitchen Holiday Open House @ Family Life Center

### **December 2017**

12/2&3 St. Spyridon Craft Show 2017 12/7 St. Demetrios Christmas Party @ Café La Cave

**12/10 Christmas Open House @ the Metropolis House, 40 E Burton, Chicago**

### **January 2018**

**01/07 Metropolis Vasilopita venue TBD**

*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:**

**Kathy Walstrom – [kathywalstrom@gmail.com](mailto:kathywalstrom@gmail.com) - 847-606-9889**

## Hurricane Relief – Ways to Help

The Greek Orthodox Ladies Philoptochos Society is committed to serve victims of disasters. Once again, National Philoptochos answered the call in the immediate aftermath of the recent Hurricanes. On August 31, 2017, the National Philoptochos approved a disbursement of \$30,000 to IOCC as an immediate and initial contribution to benefit victims. As the needs of the communities are better identified in the coming weeks and months, Philoptochos will continue to provide aid and comfort locally with hands-on support on the ground and nationally with additional financial support. Since 2004, National Philoptochos has distributed over \$600,000 around the world to victims of disasters.

The National Philoptochos Emergency Fund makes it possible for Philoptochos to respond with immediate aid when disasters strike. Heartfelt thanks go to the more than 400 local Philoptochos chapters across the US, along with their communities, without whose support the work of the National Philoptochos would not be possible. Working together, with the love and blessings of God, we will continue our work to lessen the pain, loss and suffering of the most fragile in our society.

To support the National Philoptochos Emergency Fund, please log on to the website below to make your donation:

<http://www.philoptochos.org/outreach/disaster-relief/>

---

### HURRICANE SURVIVORS NEED YOUR URGENT HELP

IOCC will begin supporting people with cleanup activities and eventually, home builds. A financial gift to IOCC's Hurricane Response Fund will enable us to react quickly and effectively to the many needs in the regions affected. Together we can provide relief and long-term support through emergency aid, recovery assistance, and other essentials for those in need. Please help in any way that you can. There is a tremendous need for hygiene kits and clean-up buckets. Instructions for creating and shipping kits can be found at:

<https://www.iocc.org/take-action/assemble-emergency-kits>

***HURRICANE SURVIVORS  
NEED YOUR URGENT HELP***



**THANK YOU St. Basil Philoptochos!!**

**The clothing you sent was given to those affected  
by Hurricane Harvey.**

**They and we appreciate your work done with love!**

**Love,**

**St. Nicholas Philoptochos, Corpus Christi, Texas**

*St. Basil's responded quickly to the urgent needs of those affected and sent a collection of Dress-A-Girl clothing to our Philoptochos sisters in Corpus Christi, Texas to distribute.*

*"Giving is a Joy if we do it in the right spirit. Ask what can I share, rather than what can I spare."*

# St. Andrews - Chicago Hosts Philoptochos National Board Meeting



I am the face of  
**PHILOPTOCHOS**







A big thank you to all the lovely ladies in our Metropolis who helped make our Philoptochos National Board Meeting a huge success!







I am the face of  
PHILOTOCHOS



A Philoptochos Member uses her lips for truth, her voice for kindness,  
her ears for compassion, her hands for charity and her heart for love and prayer.

## National Shrine Philoptochos Fundraising Initiative



At the National Board Meeting, National President Maria Logus presented a check for \$200,000 to His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios, Geron of America for the St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church and National Shrine Philoptochos Fundraising Initiative. With this donation, Philoptochos brings the total amount donated by the Society to over \$1.5 million. A Thank You to all of the Philoptochos Chapters and Metropolises across our country who have participated in this fundraising effort during the past three years!

St. Nicholas Church and Shrine will serve as a beacon of love for all who come to pray and reflect, and for those who visit the World Trade Center and National September 11th Memorial & Museum, St. Nicholas will be a declaration of our Orthodox Christian faith to the world. We encourage you to continue to help your local Philoptochos Chapter or Metropolis Philoptochos with small or large fundraising activities. Once we have raised \$2.0 million, our commitment will be met and our noble mission will be achieved. Also, you may also purchase St. Nicholas merchandise from Shoppe Philoptochos, and 100% of the profits will support the Initiative. The St. Nicholas silk tie and sterling silver charm make wonderful gifts for family and friends. To order, visit our website at: <http://www.philoptochos.org/resources/shoppe-philoptochos/>

Watch the latest developments in the progress of St. Nicholas by following the construction via Live Webcam: <https://www.stnicholaswtc.org/en/webcam>

For further information and resources, visit [www.philoptochos.org/news/saintnicholas](http://www.philoptochos.org/news/saintnicholas). To be part of the St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church and National Shrine Philoptochos Fundraising Initiative, please donate fundraising proceeds directly to your local Philoptochos Chapter or your Metropolis Philoptochos.

## National Shrine Philoptochos Fundraising Initiative



9/11/2001

Thank you to all of the Chapters that have completed their Chapter Commitment to the St. Nicholas Church and Shrine. It is heartwarming that so many Chapters joined together to help fulfill our Metropolis commitment to this Shrine. Our Metropolis is within \$5000 of completing our Metropolis commitment to National Philoptochos.

1. St. Demetrios Chicago
2. Assumption, Chicago
3. St. Andrew Chicago
4. St. Basil, Chicago
5. SS Constantine & Helen, Palos Hills
6. St. George, Chicago
7. St. Spyridon , Palos Heights
8. St. Haralambos, Niles
9. Assumption, Homer Glen
10. St. Demetrios Elmhurst
11. St. Catherine's Philoptochos, Annunciation, Decatur
12. St. John the Baptist, Des Plaines
13. Assumption, East Moline
14. SS. Peter and Paul
15. Assumption, Hegewisch
16. Three Hierarchs Philoptochos, All Saints, Joliet
17. Annunciation, Kankakee
18. St. Nicholas, Oak Lawn
19. SS Constantine & Helen, Rockford
20. Holy Cross Justice
21. St. Nectarios, Palatine
22. St. Sophia, Elgin
23. St. Iakovos, Valparaiso, IN
24. St. Elias, Dubuque, IA
25. Transfiguration, Mason City, IA
26. Holy Trinity, Sioux City, IA
27. Annunciation Cathedral, Chicago
28. Ascension of Our Lord, Lincolnshire
29. Holy Anargyroi, Rochester, MN
30. Assumption, Town & Country, MO
31. Assumption, Madison, WI



9/11/2017

As construction on the Church & Shrine continues to completion, you can view a live stream of the work at:

<https://www.stnicholaswtc.org/en/webcam>

## Patty Tsaoussis Farewell Dinner Party

Long-time Metropolis Board Member Patty Tsaoussis has moved to Tarpon Springs, Florida.



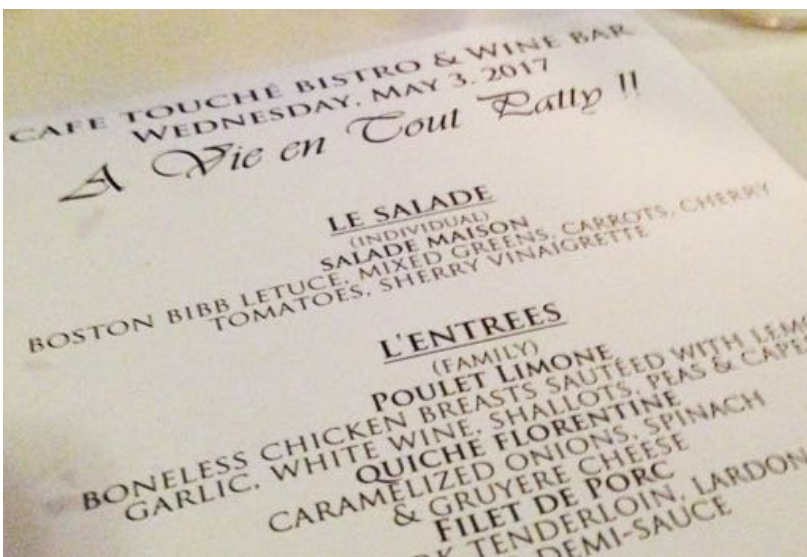
Today will never come again. Be a blessing; be a friend.



True friendship isn't about  
being inseparable,  
it's being separated  
and nothing changes.

Even if we don't see each other daily,  
a bond as strong as ours  
is capable of shortening any time  
or distance between us,  
and keeps us close.

I am the face of  
**PHILOPTOCHOS**



Remember, all our Philoptochos friends are just like a gift, a box, or letter.

It's what inside that really counts.

## St. Demetrios – Chicago - Spring Is In The Air Event



“Do small things with great love.” Mother Theresa



I am the face of  
**PHILOPTOCHOS**



Philoptochos – Our charitable reputation precedes us.

# ❤️ TO ❤️ Aid to Greece and Cyprus Campaign

**On July 3, 2017, The National Executive Board approved disbursements totaling \$115,000 for aid to the people of Greece and Cyprus bringing total amount of financial support to date to \$789,120.**

The Heart-to-Heart Campaign of the Aid to Greece & Cyprus Committee of the National Philoptochos Society wants to emphasize the dire need for YOUR personal help this year for the Heart-to-Heart Campaign.

The Ladies of the Philoptochos of earlier generations were called upon to provide help for the starving, homeless, and suffering multitudes in our motherland, and today we are once again called upon to provide the same service.

Today Greece is facing no less ominous situation in terms of human suffering. Poverty levels have risen 40% as of 2015. Seven thousand suicides have been reported in the last seven years, bringing it to an average of a thousand suicides a year. Widespread unemployment has forced people in their forties and fifties to survive on the pensions of their elderly parents. Greece is facing a major public health calamity. Churches and Apostoli are helping by running soup kitchens and preparing food packages to be delivered to the hungry.

The National Philoptochos Aid to Greece & Cyprus Committee has recommended one of the ways to help by holding Heart-to-Heart Kaffe-Popups. The Kaffe Popups have the ability to build a grass roots campaign to mobilize communities on an almost no cost basis to raise funds and provide aid to help the people in Greece & Cyprus.

It is easy to hold a Heart-to-Heart Kaffe-Popup at your home. Invite guests to come together at your home. Those attending are free to give any amount they deem appropriate; there is no minimum required; the important thing is your presence and your care and moral support. Spend time discussing the situation in Greece & Cyprus and emphasize how contributions can certainly help to alleviate human suffering.

At the conclusion of the Kaffe Popups, the hostess will fill out the form below, providing the attendees' details and amount donated. All Checks are made out to The National Philoptochos with "Aid to Greece & Cyprus Campaign" written in the memo. If cash is donated, the hostess converts the money to a cashier's check or money order, made out to the National Philoptochos. The form and checks are then sent to Christina Hiotis, Metropolis Treasurer, who will forward them to the National Philoptochos each month. We hope that many of the attendees of these Kaffe Popups will be inspired to hold their own Kaffe Popups, resulting in a grass roots network to help the people in Greece & Cyprus.

Our OXI in 2017 should be 'NO' to poverty, 'NO' to human suffering, and 'NO' to disease and sickness.

We ask that you to participate in this Campaign by holding a Heart-to-Heart Kaffe Popup at your home. The same request is being sent to all the Chapters in our Metropolis. Christina Hiotis, will be in contact with the chapters to offer any further information or help in organizing these Kaffe Popups.

Following videos shed light on the situation in Greece & our responsibility. It can be shown at the Kaffe Popups:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QBEd\\_ENBXwU](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QBEd_ENBXwU)

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HoXlwl3I\\_RE](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HoXlwl3I_RE)

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Hostess:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

Name	Email	Amount



## Heart-to-Heart Pop-up Kaffé

Our past National President Aphrodite Skeadas has instituted The Heart to Heart Pop-Up Kaffé to provide additional aid to our suffering brothers and sisters in Greece & Cyprus. I was one of the first asked to organize a Pop-Up Kaffé in my community. It was easy. Just invite friends to an intimate fun event free of charge, with the intent to make a donation to aid the hungry & needy in Greece & Cyprus. I contacted the ladies of Philoptochos and my family giving them the details. The first person I contacted was Janet Koliopoulos with whom I partnered with to do a Kaffé. We decided to create a cozy corner in our church's hall and bring our treats along with wine and music and have a fun girls' night while we donated to a great cause. We aimed at 25-30 ladies & the generosity of those who attended, along with the generous contributions of those who could not attend, made our efforts very successful. We described the plight of our brothers and sisters who are faced by destitute situations, such as being deprived of food, shelter and medical supplies due to the economic crisis of the past seven years. National Philoptochos has created a mission called "Apostoli" which has undertaken the duty of providing meals in soup kitchens and assists with medical supplies. Poverty in Greece has risen by 40% since 2015. Every dollar donated will feed a hungry individual. Whatever you give, let it be from the heart. That is why this networking campaign is called Heart-to-Heart!!! The ladies immediately started to write their checks. Thank you to all that donated and attended out event. It was a very rewarding experience to see such a heartwarming response with the generated fund from our Philoptochos sisters and friends. Cathy Gofis, Kaffé Popup Hostess



## St. Demetrios – Chicago - Heart-to-Heart Pop-up Kaffé

St. Demetrios Ladies Philoptochos of Chicago held a Pop Up Cafe, hosted by Vickie Sideris, to benefit the National Philoptochos Aid to Greece & Cyprus Fund. Thank you to all that attended for their generous donations.



I am the face of  
**PHILOPTOCHOS**



"No one has ever become poor by giving."

Anne Frank



## SS Peter & Paul – Glenview - Fundraiser

The Ladies Philoptochos of Saints Peter and Paul Greek Orthodox Church in Glenview, Illinois hosted an exciting sold out fundraiser; A Night at the Races, on May 6<sup>th</sup> at Sunset Ridge Country Club in Northfield, IL. NBC Chicago news anchor Alex Maragos emceed the evening and author and philanthropist Gregory Pappas, was the keynote speaker. His Grace Bishop Demetrios of Mokissos along with Father Panagiotis Boznos and Father Kosmas Kallis began the dinner with invocation and benediction. The night included simulated Kentucky Derby horse racing, live jazz music, a silent auction and numerous other activities. Everyone attending had a wonderful time and was truly a great evening of fellowship. Chaired by Olga Panagakis, Maria Costas and Vicky Limperis the event raised over \$60,000. A significant donation was made to Project Hope, a division of the Greek America Foundation, benefitting Mama Maria's Pantry on the island of Samos, and to the National Philoptochos' Heart to Heart Campaign for Aid to Greece & Cyprus.



I am the face of  
**PHILOPTOCHOS**



## Newly Installed SS Peter & Paul Philoptochos Board



“I look forward to receiving the Philoptochos Perspective. The Perspective captures the best of the Metropolis and I make sure to find time to sit back and read about all that the Metropolis of Chicago is accomplishing.

Looks as if I left the Windy City for the Windy State.”

Patty Tsaoussis

## Heart-to-Heart Kaffé Popup at Presidents Meeting in Wisconsin



# Presidents' Meeting – St. Iakovos Retreat Center





I am the face of  
**PHILOPTOCHOS**

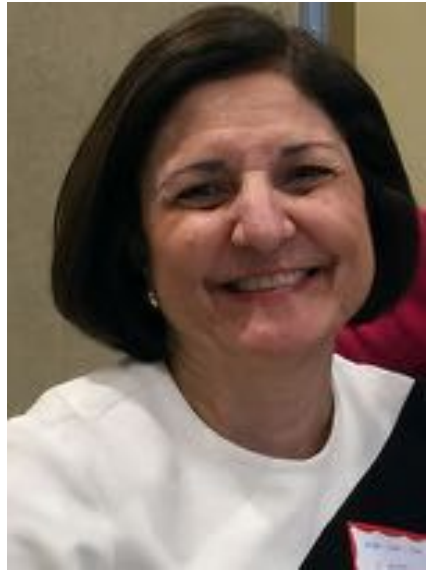


“Let us always meet each other with a smile; for the smile is the beginning of Love for others.”

Mother Theresa









Certificates were awarded to Chapters who had completed their commitment to the St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church and Shrine.



The Purpose of Life is not just to be happy,  
It is to be useful,  
To be honorable,  
To be compassionate,  
And to have made a difference.



## Assumption – Madison - River Food Pantry

As part of the mission in extending its helping hand to the larger community, the Assumption Greek Orthodox Church has been a long-term participant of the Grace Episcopal Church Food Pantry providing assistance to the homeless in Madison, Wisconsin. For almost a decade, the Ladies Philoptochos Society of Assumption Greek Orthodox Church has undertaken an active role in feeding the homeless by preparing meals for the Porchlight Men's Homeless Shelter located in downtown Madison. Four times per year, a group of volunteers of the Philoptochos chapter, and sometimes their middle and high school age children, work together to prepare a dinner for the food pantry. They purchase, cook and prepare dinners at the Assumption Church for 120-130 people and also provide financial support for the same number of luncheons. All the dinners consisting of Greek lemon chicken, rice and vegetables are picked up at the church by volunteer parishioners as soon as the meals are ready and delivered to the homeless shelter. Extending the outreach further in the community, this past May found the Philoptochos chapter cooking and serving a similar meal at the River Food Pantry in Madison. The Assumption chapter purchased, prepared, cooked and served at the Pantry in a warm, welcoming family atmosphere to more than 250 hungry people. This is Dane County's busiest food pantry. It's surrounded by low-income neighborhoods and subsidized senior housing, offers free groceries, meals and clothing to anyone who comes for help. The chapter plans to return and prepare additional meals during the year and maintain a steady relationship with the River Food Pantry.



## Feed the Hungry – Host Chapter - Ascension of Our Lord



National Philoptochos President Maria Logus and other National Executive Board members visit the Metropolis of Chicago Feed the Hungry Food Program.

I am the face of  
**PHILOPTOCHOS**

## St. Basil - Chicago

St. Basil Philoptochos assembled sack lunches for the Lincoln Park Community Shelter. This shelter provides safe living space to 35 people each night. There is no limit on how long guests can stay as long as they are making progress toward their goals, which include moving to permanent housing and viable employment.



## St. Spyridon Mother's Day Luncheon

At the Annual Mother's Day Luncheon, Chapter President Toulia Georgiopoulos announced Honorary Life Members Litsa Alikakos, Sally Banakis, Betty Catsogiannis, Zafira Jouras, Sophia Kolyvas, Georgia Korbakes, Zoe Korbakis, Panayiota Paraskis, Angeline Sieracki, and Toulia Stameson.



I am the face of  
**PHILOPTOCHOS**





## Annunciation – Milwaukee

Annunciation Philoptochos of Milwaukee was pleased to present \$5300 to Kathy's House, in memory of Chapter Treasurer Lesa Potos. Kathy's House is a hospital guesthouse committed to providing affordable lodging and caring support in a "home away from home" environment for families who need to travel to Milwaukee for medical care.



## St. Basil's – Loukamatha Sunday



# St. Helen's - Rockford

Philotochos Members Working Hard and Having Fun





“A life lived to help others is a life worthwhile.”

Albert Einstein



I am the face of  
**PHILOPTOCHOS**

## St. Nicholas – St. Louis

Jar of Giving. Philoptochos and Sunday School have teamed up to help pay down the church debt. The class which collected the most is pictured below.



The new St. Nicholas Philoptochos Board is pictured below.



Philoptochos is one of God's ways to encourage us to:

Go make a difference

Touch a Heart

Inspire others

And go out and help others enjoy their day.

## St. Mary's – Minneapolis

The St. Mary's Kourambiethes Crew and Melomakarona Baking Teams



# Assumption – Town & Country

## New Philoptochos Board



Presentation of Certificate of Completion of Chapter Commitment for the St. Nicholas Church & Shrine.

Current President Honors Former Presidents.



Selling pastries at Fair



Painting Party

I am the face of  
**PHILOPTOCHOS**

*Please send submissions to: [marilynnjemas@gmail.com](mailto:marilynnjemas@gmail.com)*



*Thank you to all Presidents and Chapters that participated in this edition of the Philoptochos Perspective!*

*Hope you enjoyed the new edition of the Perspective. Great things to read that are informative, positive and all about Philoptochos-ing in our Metropolis.*

I am the face of  
**PHILOPTOCHOS**

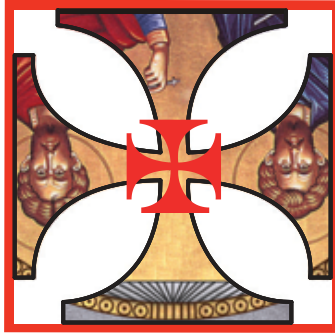
You may also purchase St. Nicholas merchandise from Shoppe Philoptochos. 100% of the profits will support Philoptochos Initiatives. The St. Nicholas silk tie and sterling silver charm make wonderful gifts for family and friends. Many other gifts are available.

To order, visit our website:

<http://www.philoptochos.org/resources/shoppe-philoptochos/>

Published by:

The Greek Orthodox Ladies Philoptochos  
Society Metropolis of Chicago



---

---

---

Place  
Postage  
Here

---

---

---

---