

Winter 2018-2019

# PHILOPTOCHOS PERSPECTIVE

### Philanthropy • Fellowship • Faith in Action

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### President's Corner

Happy New Year 2019, Χρονια Πολλα, Καλη Χρονια!

I hope that 2019 brings you and your loved one's happiness, good health and love.

As we begin a new year let us really think about our mission as Philoptochos members...To help the poor, the destitute, the hungry, the aged, the sick, the unemployed...let's take it a step further. Let us love more, judge less and practice more love and kindness to everyone. Let us reach out and extend that helping hand to those who need kindness the most. In doing so we will reap the reward of feeling better about ourselves and understand that a small gesture can mean the world to someone else. As Gandhi said, "The change that we wish to see in the world must begin with us."

The Metropolis of Chicago Philoptochos is pleased to announce that the following Philoptochos members have been reappointed to serve on the National Board of Philoptochos for the 2018-2020 term: Pam Argyris, Irene Arsoniadis, Christina Hiotis, Marilynn Jemas, Arlene Siavelis Kehl, Georgia Sarlas, Kathy Siavelis, Joanne Stavrakas, Marilyn Tzakis and Peggy Vranas. These ladies are assets to our Metropolis and will serve the National Philoptochos Board with dignity, faith and commitment.

The Metropolis Christmas Open House was celebrated on Sunday, December 16, 2018 at St. Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church in Chicago. This event was hosted by the Metropolis Board under the chairmanship of Patricia Gerbanas and Carol Stamas. We thank the St. Demetrios Philoptochos and the chapters throughout the Chicago area for supplying the homemade sweets, appetizers and pastries. His Eminence, Metropolitan Nathanael stood for hours personally greeting the hundreds of guests who came to receive his pastoral Christmas blessings.

The 58<sup>th</sup> annual Vasilopita Celebration took place on Sunday, January 13, 2019 at SS. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church in Palos Hills. Thank you to the St. Helen's Philoptochos chapter and their chair, Renna Lemberis, and to Very Reverend Athanasios De Medeiros and the entire community who worked tirelessly to bring another successful Vasilopita Celebration to the Chicago area. The traditional cutting of the Vasilopites, cut by His Eminence, Metropolitan Nathanael, recognized various ministries and organizations of the Metropolis.

As the Metropolis of Chicago Philoptochos chapters continue to promote the values and endeavors of Philoptochos, we sincerely thank our beloved spiritual leader, Metropolitan Nathanael and our new Chancellor, Very Reverend Chrysostom Panos, for their guidance and support of our efforts.

Again, best wishes to all for a happy and healthy New Year!

Your sister in Christ, Pam

Pam Argyris, Metropolis of Chicago Philoptochos President



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

#### January

- 01/13 Metropolis Vasilopita; SS. Constantine & Helen, Palos Hills
- 01/16 St. Antonios Vespers; Chapel at the Metropolis Home
- 01/17 St. Antonios Divine Liturgy; Chapel at the Metropolis Home
- 01/26 St. Sophia Trivia Night
- 01/26 St. Nicholas, Oak Lawn; Greek Cooking Class and Luncheon
- 01/28 St. Mary, Minneapolis; Inaugural Book Club Discussion: God's Path to Sanity

#### February

- 02/03 St. John the Baptist, Des Plaines; Non Event Event Fundraiser
- 02/03 Holy Trinity, Fond du Lac; Godparent Luncheon
- 02/03 St. Mary, Minneapolis; Sweet Sunday (for CMF) and Membership Tea
- 02/06 Metropolis Board Meeting & CMF Luncheon Committee Meeting; Hellenic Foundation
- 02/16 Presidents Meeting; St. John the Baptist
- 02/23 St. Mary, Minneapolis; Ladies Night Out
- 02/28 St. Haralambos; Niles; Tsiknopempti Dinner

#### March

- 03/02 SS. Constantine & Helen, Palos Hills; Night at the Bouzoukia
- 03/03 St. Spyridon Apokreatiko Luncheon
- 03/03 Ascension of Our Lord Aporeatiko Glendi; Concorde Banquets
- 03/07 CMF Luncheon Committee Meeting; site TBD
- 03/23 Metropolis Lenten Retreat; St. Spyridon
- 03/30 Quilt-A-Thon; SS. Constantine & Helen, Palos Hills

#### April

04/06 Quilt-A-Thon; SS. Peter & Paul
04/11 CMF Luncheon Committee Meeting; site TBD
04/12 & 13 Kimissis Tis Theotokou, Racine, WI; Annual Rummage Sale Fundraiser
04/17 & 18 Spring Bake Sale, St. Haralambos
Мау
05/04 SS. Peter & Paul Spring Fundraiser
05/12 St. Spyridon Mother's Day Luncheon
05/17 Metropolis Board Meeting @ SIRC
05/18 Presidents Meeting @ SIRC
05/28 St. Mary, Minneapolis; Spring Finale Dinner
June
06/20 CMF Luncheon Committee Meeting; site TBD
August
08/21 CMF Luncheon Committee Meeting; site TBD
September
09/12 CMF Luncheon Committee Meeting; site TBD
09/25-29 Clergy/Laity/Philoptochos Conference, Minneapolis, MN
October
10/17 CMF Luncheon Committee Meeting; site TBD
November
11/02 Metropolis Wide Dress A Girl Sew-a-thon @ St. Basil, Chicago

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 - updated1/9/19

# **September Luncheon**









A great attitude becomes a great day which becomes a great month which becomes a great year which becomes a great life.







# Perfect Philoptochos Kindness acts without thinking about kindness.















### **Metropolis of Chicago Board**



# **Philoptochos Inspiration**

comes from working on projects we really care about with people we really care about.

We were honored to have our beloved past president, Georgia Barris, attend our September Luncheon. Not long after, Georgia passed away. May her memory be eternal.

### Saints Constantine & Helen – Palos Hills

Christianiki Philoxenia is our beautiful outreach program that began seven years ago, thanks to Koula Pitsis. It connects the five sister parishes across our communities here on the southwest side of Chicago. A luncheon was held and our own Koraes 8th graders assisted with serving the guests. During the luncheon, the participants enjoyed a lovely performance by Krysta Proviznic.









GOD'S 3 ANSWERS TO YOUR PRAYERS.

- 1. YES
- 2. NO

3. I HAVE SOMETHING BETTER IN MIND



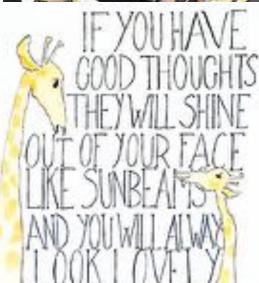
























Find the time Take the time Make the time To smile, to speak a kind word to recognize anther person

### Our Chapter set up an apartment for someone in need.















### Members participating in the Baking Days for our 33rd Annual Bazaar.









# actions > words



### **Christmas Party**

Each table was uniquely decorated for Christmas. Donations were collected for several charities.



# Celebrating the Christmas Season with

# Hope, Happiness & Peace















Check presentation by members of the Philoptochos National Board to the Greek American Rehabilitation & Care Center for installation of a state of the art patient call system.



Plan On Attending

Mark Your Calendar

Reserve Your Table



SAVE THE DATE

THE NATIONAL PHILOPTOCHOS 17<sup>™</sup> BIENNIAL 2019 CHILDREN'S MEDICAL FUND LUNCHEON November 16, 2019

Chicago Marriott Downtown Magnificent Mile Michigan Avenue, Chicago, IL

Hosted by: The Metropolis of Chicago Philoptochos

### **Presidents Meeting – SS Peter & Paul**





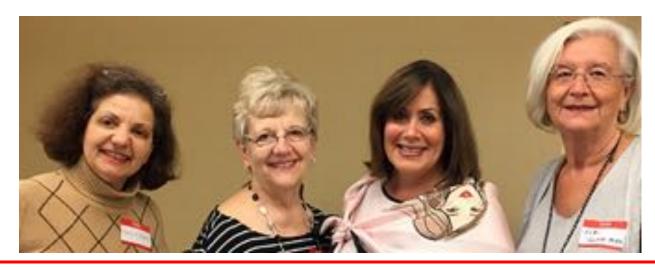






Metropolitan Nathanael appointed The Very Rev. Chrysostom Panos as the Metropolis of Chicago Chancellor. Eve Tselepatiotis (center) presented information on the National Hellenic Museum and info for Philoptochos Chapters and churches about coordinating for trips and wanting more info and updates. Trip info link is:

https://www.nationalhellenicmuseum.org/education/school-programs/school-fieldtrip-request/

























"She was unstoppable. not because she did not have failures or doubts. but because she continued on despite them."



### St. Basil - Chicago

St Basil Philoptochos hosted their 6th annual Metropolis Dress a Girl Around the World Sew-a-Thon. The dresses and pants we make this year will be hand delivered to needy girls and boys in India, Kenya and Uganda. We thank all who came from the following churches: Annunciation Cathedral, Assumption, Holy Apostles, St Andrew, Sts Constantine and Helen, St Demetrios Chicago, St George, St Haralambos, St John and St Sophia. Special thanks to Dorothy and Helene for leading this wonderful ministry. "If God brings you to it, God will bring you through it."



























"Be an opener of doors and unravel every challenge."

Mother Teresa









Sometimes the greatest gift you can give another person is to simply include them.

### A reminder to "think outside the box" in the New Year - dare to try something new or to re-imagine something old.

St. Basil Philoptochos, Chicago was recently recognized on the National Philoptochos Page. This creative chapter sold koulourakia with a brand new twist to honor Breast Cancer Awareness. At the end of October, the proceeds reached \$800! All proceeds went to **A Silver Linings Foundation**, a Chicago based organization that helps women in need receive lifesaving mammograms and diagnostic screenings.



# St. Andrews - Chicago

Sunday School students participated in The Birthday for Jesus Christmas Gift giving to needy children.













St. Andrews Philoptochos made fleece blankets for UIC Pediatrics.

Sister Jean received checks from the St. Andrew's Greek Orthodox Church Philoptochos for homeless families in need at the House of the Good Shepherd.



### MAKE A DIFFERENCE DAY

St. Andrews Philoptochos and GOYA planted spring bulbs to beautify the Church.



*"Make A Difference.Do more than is required of you."*George S. Patton





# PAY IT FORWARD

In honor of the name day of Its Tantacour Archibithup Deservice General Annesice Occuber (963)

- Partner with children in our communities to perform good deeds.
- Cipture the act with a phone-or video.
- Uplead is to Excelosik and/or homagium web/the hailing #Philopoches/hyphf/orward
- Instagram or Eacoback pasts must be 'public.'
- · Send Remains
- All submissions tell'have a chance to be foursered as the Philopenches Tarrhook Gever Phono & dat website
- Let's spark a chain of Positivity. Philapsochooff

## 10,000 ACTS

When given the childre between being right and being kind, change kind "Dr. Wayne W. Oyer

### End of year dinner with our St. Andrew's Philoptochos at Graziano's Restaurant.







### Holiday Gift Assembly – Hellenic Foundation

Philoptochos women from St. Demetrios, Chicago, St. Haralambos, Niles and the Metropolis Board gathered at the Hellenic Foundation to package gift bags for distribution to about 280 clients. In the bags were items such as crackers, tea, coffee, jams, olive oil, peaches, body wash, soap, sponges, towels, and small poinsettias.













## **St. Demetrios - Chicago**

### St. Demetrios Philoptochos Christmas Party was held at Fountain Blue Banquets.































Celebrating the Christmas Season with Hope, Happiness & Peace Thank you to all who attended The 90th Anniversary. His Eminence Metropolitan Nathanael delivered a touching speech about our community. Those that attended enjoyed a wonderful video tribute.



**St. Demetrios Dress A Girl** 



Creativity is contagious. Pass it on!

### **Annunciation - Chicago**

### **Annunciation - Stella & Dot Trunk Show Fundraiser**











BE SO HAPPY THAT WHEN OTHERS LOOK AT YOU, THEY BECOME HAPPY TOO.







**Annunciation Attended a Cubs' Game** 



Time flies when you're having fun with

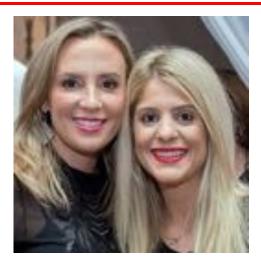
**Philoptochos friends!** 

## **St. Nectarios - Palatine**

### **Fashion Show Fundraiser**











A Philoptochos Friend is a present you give yourself.



to make you

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#### **St. Nectarios Christmas Party**







Celebrating the Christmas Season with Hope, Happiness & Peace



### **Ascension of Our Lord - Lincolnshire**

#### Fashion Show and Philanthropy











WORK FOR A CAUSE, NOT FOR APPLAUSE. LIVE LIFE TO EXPRESS, NOT TO IMPRESS. DON'T STRIVE TO MAKE YOUR PRESENCE NOTICED, JUST MAKE YOUR ABSENCE FELT.





















#### **Human Trafficking**

Our Chapter Learned How Selah Freedom, the National Organization with the Mission to End Sex Trafficking is Helping Victims in our Area.



















More information on this organization can be viewed at: https://www.selahfreedom.com/

National Human Trafficking Hotline # is:

888-373-7888

# KINDNESS IS GIVING HOPE TO THOSE WHO THINK THEY ARE ALL ALONE IN THIS WORLD.

# **Assumption – Town & Country**

### **Christmas Party**





















Wishing each day for you all the Wonderful Blessings Christ can bring to your life as you follow His ways of Love and Peace.







On behalf of His Eminence Metropolitan Nathanael, the Philoptochos Board & the Young Adult League of the **Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Chicago** cordially invite you to attend the annual metropolis

























NEW YEAR PRAYERS Thank You Lord for giving me The brand new year ahead. Help me live the way I should As each new day I tread. Give me gentle wisdom That I might help a friend, Give me strength and courage So a shoulder I might lend. The year ahead is empty, Help me fill it with good things Each new day filled with joy And happiness it brings.





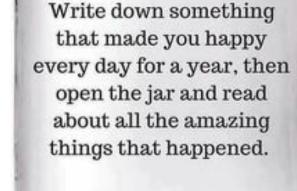




## **Metropolis Board Christmas Luncheon**







Happiness Jar

2019



Best thing to live for? To make life less difficult for each other. A Year can produce plenty of positive perspectives.

# **SS Peter & Paul - Glenview**

**50's Theme Membership Event** 

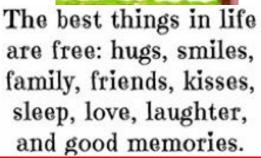


















#### **Holiday Faire**









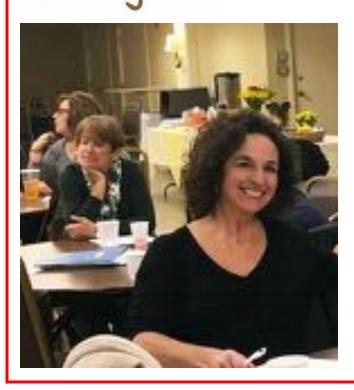
f we keep Christ in Christmas, He will keep us every day, And when we are in His keeping and we follow in His way, All our little, earthly sorrows, all our worries and our cares Seem lifted from our shoulders when we go to God in prayer. Saints Peter and Paul Philoptochos welcomed Melissa Molitor, Program Director from "ELYSSA'S MISSION", a local non-profit organization in Educating Students and Parents about SUICIDE PREVENTION and how to recognize & assist Teens & Young Adults most at Risk.



Begin and end your day with a **Prayer**.









Philoptochos Members Mission -To thrive & help others less fortunate to survive.

# **St. Haralambos – Niles**

#### **New Member Meeting**







#### The New Philoptochos Board



### **St. Demetrios – Elmhurst**

The ladies of St. Demetrios of Elmhurst Philoptochos

"Feed the Homeless "at the Cathedral in Chicago



**Fall Membership Meeting** 





Be Kind Be Fair Be Honest Be True And all of these things will come back to you.



### St. Nicholas – St. Louis

St. Nicholas Philoptochos delivers quilts to Cardinal Glennon Children's' Hospital. Quilts provided by Chicago Area Quilt-A-Thon.



St. Nicholas Philoptochos held their Annual Christmas Grecian Kitchen Event



### St. Mary's - Minneapolis

Thank you to Presvyteras Alexandria, Christa and Janis, for sharing their lives and insight at our October Presvytera Panel. We are blessed to have them at St. Mary's! Thanks also to Sandra Anderson, Stephanie George, and Carol Smith for coordinating the program, and to all who helped with set-up that evening.



Thank you to **Philoptochos Sunday** organizers Paulette Hastings, Linda Hodge, Connie Kouzes, Tina Menter, Carol Smith, and Dena Tortures, to Cris Regas. Thanks to all who helped recognize those in our parish who have or are serving in the Military, Reserves, or National Guard. More than \$385 was collected for <u>Minneapolis VA</u> <u>Community Resource and Referral Center</u>, which supports Veterans who are experiencing homelessness, or who are at risk of homelessness, or serious mental illness by promoting physical and mental health, assisting in securing and maintaining housing, and by working with Veterans to achieve increased community integration.



**More than 100 Christmas cards** were signed by parishioners for delivery (by the Red Cross) to soldiers deployed overseas and to veterans living in care facilities.





Thank you to all who made the Bling Sale a success: to those to sorted and set up Bling displays, to Glenna Alevizos for her fun talk on using your imagination with your jewelry & to all who donated and all who purchased jewelry, scarves and purses. **Over \$1200** was raised to give relief to Fire Victims in Greece.



The Cookbook Committee has been delighted at the positive response to **Come Sit at Our Table: A Celebration of Food**! If you haven't already picked up a copy for yourself or as a gift, you still can! Here's what you need to know. Cost is \$20 and profits go to Focus Minnesota.





You don't have to wait for someone to take your picture. Follow His Eminence Metropolitan Nathanael's lead and do a "selfie" and share with our Perspective.

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, so please email your submissions. 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

"ALONE WE CAN DO SO LITTLE; TOGETHER WE CAN DO SO MUCH." Helen Keller



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#### The Greek Orthodox Ladies Philoptochos Society Metropolis of Chicago

