



METROPOLIS
OF BOSTON

Bessie Papigiotis

**Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church
“Good Samaritan” Philoptochos Chapter #3067
Cranston, Rhode Island**

Bessie Papigiotis has been a member of her Philoptochos Chapter for 49 years. She has held numerous offices and served on the board, including President from 1973 – 1977, 1987 – 1991, and 2001 – 2003. She has also been an active member of the Metropolis Philoptochos Board for over 25 years, and was President from 1995 – 1999. She has been described as the “glue” that has held the Chapter together. Bessie works hard to bridge the gap between the experienced members and the newer members by encouraging them to work together. She is sensitive to those who are used to doing things a certain way, while encouraging younger members to bring forth fresh ideas. She understands the importance of the work of Philoptochos and that every effort makes a difference for those in need. She encourages participation in projects such as making breakfast bags to feed the homeless, preparing annual Thanksgiving baskets, knitting Forty Day Blessing blankets, and making Prayer Shawls for the sick. She was also instrumental in planning many successful trips to visit other important ministries including the Philoxenia House and Hellenic College Holy Cross. Bessie has helped families from Greece who have come to seek medical treatment, providing food and housing, offering comfort and support, and even obtaining financial resources to help them during a time of great need. These large and small tokens of friendship displayed by Bessie show her philotimo, a word without definition but evidenced by actions that truly touch the heart. She is not just a member of Philoptochos, she lives it through all aspects of her life as a role model and who embodies true philanthropy in all her work.

