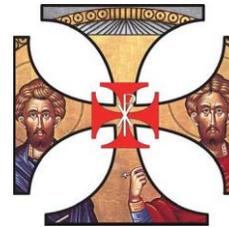


## National Philoptochos Society 2016-2018 President's Report



### Metropolis of Detroit Philoptochos

*Theone Dickos, President*

Your Eminence Archbishop Demetrios, Your Grace Bishop Sevastianos of Zela,  
National President Maria Logus, sisters of the National Board and fellow delegates,

It is my pleasure to bring you warm greetings from the Metropolis of Detroit Philoptochos. The Metropolis of Detroit covers a large geographic area from upstate New York, Michigan, parts of Ohio, Indiana and Kentucky, west to Little Rock Arkansas and south to Chattanooga and Memphis, Tennessee. With great anticipation, we look forward to participating in this convention and the 45<sup>th</sup> Biennial Clergy/Laity Congress:

**“All things are Possible to the One Who Believes in Christ.”**

With heartfelt wishes for a successful and productive Convention, we thank the Metropolis of Boston for their dedicated efforts in planning this wonderful program and event.

The Metropolis of Detroit Philoptochos Chapters continues to fulfill the mission of Philoptochos, and supports all our National Commitments and Programs, as well as the Metropolis of Detroit Commitments and endeavors. They are the following:

- Emergency Fund – assists victims of disasters
- St. Spyridon Fund – addresses the needs of the Metropolis Home and ministries.
- Scholarship Fund – assists seminarians from the Detroit Metropolis
- Summer Camp Fund – supports the Metropolis Camps in Michigan, New York, and Tennessee
- Partners in Philanthropy Fund – assists those in our Metropolis who need short term financial assistance

Every chapter in the Metropolis has embraced the mission of Philoptochos. The hearts of our members are big and warm. From 2016-2018, the chapters have reached out to the community in so many different ways; providing meals to the homeless in the Feeding the Hungry Initiative, providing school supplies to impoverished students, purchasing clothing at holiday time for youngsters who need winter clothing, coats and boots, visiting nursing homes, providing rides to church for those who otherwise would not be able to attend, remembering the elderly and homebound with cards, gifts and visits, helping pay hospital bills, funeral costs, utility bills, and stocking food pantries. Several chapters have also embraced the IOCC Initiative to provide school kits for children in Greece.

“Philanthropy with Love,” our Metropolis Philoptochos fundraising luncheon was held on April 29, 2017, and was a great success. We were honored to have Miss America 2016, Betty (Vasiliki) Cantrell, as our featured speaker. Her speech, followed by her musical rendition of “Let it Go” from the Disney movie Frozen was outstanding. All money generated from the event goes to the Metropolis Board charities.

From September 28 to September 30, 2017, we participated in our Metropolis Clergy/Laity Assembly and Philoptochos Conference in Buffalo, NY. In addition to the business at hand, three engaging and dynamic speakers spoke on the topics of Domestic Violence, Dementia and Alzheimer's and the Opioid Epidemic which is plaguing our country. We also heard from a very articulate young man (20years old ) who was a victim of domestic violence by his stepfather. His story brought tears to all of us. He is now in recovery, in college, and speaks to groups about his experience. Donations were made to Focus Detroit which provides children who live in poverty with food and educational services, The Family Justice Center of Buffalo, NY houses victims of domestic violence and The Alzheimer's Association. The young man was also given a donation to help with his school expenses.

As in the past years, the Metropolis Board hosted three receptions in December. On December 3, 2017, the board was pleased to host its annual Name Day Open House and reception for our beloved Metropolitan Nicholas at the Metropolis Center. St. Spyridon Vesper Service was held on December 11 and Divine Liturgy on Tuesday, December 12. The festive and beautifully decorated home created a lovely ambiance for the receptions hosted by the Metropolis Philoptochos Board.

In the spring of 2018, the Metropolis Board was busy planning a no show "Royal Tea" fundraiser to help fulfill our mission. The committee for the "Royal Tea" was comprised of ladies from the states of Indiana, Ohio and Tennessee. The invitation was received on Facebook or by email, and was also posted on the Metropolis of Detroit web site. The fundraiser benefitted the Partners in Philanthropy Fund which offers short term financial assistance and the Emergency Fund which helps victims of catastrophic disasters worldwide. The end of the drive took place on May 19, 2018, the day of the Royal Wedding. Many shared their love and blessings with a gift of a charitable donation. The no show "Royal Tea" generated excitement, and many chapters hosted Teas at their homes and other venues.

The Chapter Challenge has been embraced enthusiastically by the St. Nicholas Philoptochos in Ann Arbor, MI. The chapter is supporting a program for autistic children. "Creating Brighter Futures" is a family based autism clinic in Ann Arbor. It provides customized behavior analysis treatment for children from 2-18 years old. The chapter planned and implemented several fundraisers to help benefit this worthy endeavor.

Thank you to His Eminence Metropolitan Nicholas for his constant love, support and guidance of our Metropolis Philoptochos. Thank you to our Metropolis Clergy who support the work that we do for those in need. Thank you to Margaret Yates who served as President for six years. We are grateful for her inspiring and dedicated leadership. We remember Florence Stefanou for her outstanding contributions and exceptional efforts to the Metropolis Philoptochos. Thank you to the Metropolis Board for their love and support, and to all the Chapter Presidents for their commitment and all members throughout the Metropolis for their dedicated efforts in helping those who are less fortunate.

Metropolis of Detroit Philoptochos  
Theone Dickos, President