



GREEK ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE OF AMERICA

GREEK ORTHODOX LADIES PHILOPTOCHOS SOCIETY, Inc.

PHILOPTOCHOS SOCIETY SET TO CELEBRATE 85 YEARS OF PHILANTHROPY AT NASHVILLE CONVENTION

For immediate release: June 15, 2016

New York, NY- Hundreds of delegates from across the country are set to attend the 2016 National Philoptochos Biennial Convention from July 3 to 7 in Nashville, TN. The most significant event of the Greek Orthodox Ladies Philoptochos Society will run concurrently with the Clergy-Laity Congress of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America at the Gaylord Opryland Resort & Convention Center with the shared theme of "You are the Voice of Christ in a Changing World," as set forth by His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios, Geron of America.

Under the leadership of National Philoptochos President Maria Logus and Convention Co-Chairs Irene Arsoniadis and Theone Dickos, the program will include guest speakers, professional training, interactive discussions and award presentations, in an atmosphere of camaraderie and shared learning.

The Metropolis of Detroit Philoptochos and President Margaret Yates are hosting the event. In honor of Music City, there will be a cruise on the General Jackson Showboat to watch fireworks on the 4th of July and a trip to the Nashville Parthenon, a full-scale replica of the original in Athens.

Miss America 2016 Betty Cantrell, who is Greek Orthodox, will be a special guest. Other key highlights include the unveiling of the Leadership Institute, a Philoptochos initiative that will develop servant leaders, and a hands-on ministry in partnership with Feeding Children Everywhere-- to package 25,000 healthy meals for hungry children-- for both Philoptochos and Clergy-Laity delegates.

There will be an update on the St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church and National Shrine Philoptochos Fundraising Initiative and presentations on Greece and Cyprus outreach, the global water crisis, and how to support survivors of human trafficking.

One afternoon is earmarked for interactive discussions in rotating time slots to allow delegates full participation. Topics include how to evaluate social services cases of need and the culture of Philoptochos.

A video to mark the 85th Anniversary of the Greek Orthodox Ladies Philoptochos Society will highlight the deep history and exciting future of the organization. It will kick-off a celebratory afternoon in honor of the important milestone, and shine a light on the tremendous work of the 26,000 member Philoptochos Society.

The Greek Orthodox Ladies Philoptochos Society is the philanthropic arm of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America with 26,000 members nationwide. Philoptochos responds immediately to needs and crises and its philanthropic outreach extends to each area of the country and throughout the world. In 2015, National Philoptochos distributed \$1.74 million in philanthropic aid.

Press contact:

Rania Richardson, Communications Manager, Greek Orthodox Ladies Philoptochos Society
Phone: (212) 977-7770 x203 Email: rrichardson@philoptochos.org