



# Get to Know Your Metropolis

## *Metropolis of Detroit Philoptochos*

Philoptochos General Meeting Carmel, IN

Vickie N. Sofianopoulos

22-Jan-2023

# Metropolis of Detroit Philoptochos

## *Philoptochos Overview*

*"Philoptochos" is derived from the Greek  
"philo" means friend  
"ptochos" means poor*



### Who we are

The Ladies Philoptochos Society is the philanthropic arm of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America, established in 1931 by Ecumenical Patriarch Athenagoras I

### Mission

To promote charitable, benevolent and philanthropic outreach; to preserve the sanctity of life and family; and to perpetuate and promote our Orthodox faith and traditions

### Organizational Structure

- National Philoptochos Board
  - 9 Metropolis Boards
  - 427 Chapters across the US
    - Over 25,000 members
- Between Jan-2018 and Aug-2020, the National Philoptochos distributed \$4.5M in philanthropic aid globally

***Philoptochos is the largest women's Christian charitable organization in the United States***

# Metropolis of Detroit Philoptochos

## Metropolis Board



Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Detroit  
**Metropolis of Detroit Philoptochos**  
Troy, MI



### ***Spiritual Guidance***

*His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros of America*  
*His Eminence Metropolitan Nicholas*

*The Metropolis of Detroit Philoptochos consists of 37 chapters in Arkansas, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, upstate New York, Ohio, and Tennessee with a total of 2,000 members*

### **Executive Board**

**President:** Debbie George (Holy Cross - Farmington Hills, MI)

**1st Vice-President:** Stephanie Storgion-Poplos (Annunciation - Memphis, TN)

**2nd Vice-President:** Paula Kalevas (St. Nicholas - Troy, MI)

**Recording Secretary:** Nikki Burns (Annunciation - Dayton, OH)

**Corresponding Secretary:** Cindy Crosson (St. Nicholas - Troy, MI)

**Treasurer:** Andrea Feles-Katsimbaris (St. Nicholas - Troy, MI) \*

**Advisor:** Theone Dickos (Holy Trinity Cathedral - Carmel)

### **Board Members**

Anne Feles (St. Nicholas - Troy, MI) \*

Tasoula Gaddis (Holy Trinity, Nashville, TN)

Katherine Kotsis (St. John - Sterling Heights, MI) \*

Patricia Ladas (Annunciation - Muskegon, MI)

Kim LaForest (St. John - Sterling Heights, MI)

Cindy Lambrinides-Keiholz (Annunciation - Dayton, OH)

Donna Linaras (Sts. Constantine & Helen - Westland, Michigan)

Vickie Sofianopoulos (Holy Trinity Cathedral - Carmel, IN)

Maria Stavropoulos (Sts. Constantine & Helen - Westland, Michigan) \*

Harriet Stoukas (Assumption - St. Clair Shores, MI)

Mary Tangalos (St. John - Sterling Heights, MI)

Christina Vlahopoulos (St. Nicholas - Ann Arbor, MI)

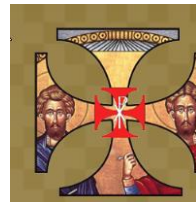
Margaret Yates (St. Nicholas - Ann Arbor, MI)

Cathy Yeotis (Assumption - Grand Blanc, MI)

Mary Spirou (honorary member)

# Metropolis of Detroit Philoptochos

## *Focus and Initiatives*



Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Detroit

**Metropolis of Detroit Philoptochos**

Troy, MI



### Board Offerings

- Support for Chapter presidents
- Dedicated Chapter liaisons
- Sharing of information and best practices
- Conduit to National
  - Chapter ratifications
  - National commitments
  - Per capita – \$15 per member
- Metropolis budget
- Metropolis website, Facebook, and Instagram social media courtesy of Andrea Feles-Katsimbaris
- Fundraising

### 5 Metropolis Commitments

- Partners in Philanthropy
- Scholarship Fund
- Summer Camp Programs
- Emergency Relief Fund
- St. Spyridon Fund

### Metropolis Operations

- Per capita – \$6 per member
- Metropolis Clergy Laity and Philoptochos Conference every 2 years - Sep-2023 in Ann Arbor
- 3-4 Board meetings per year
- 2 December receptions

### Key Fundraisers

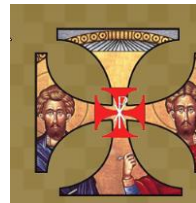
- “No Show” Event
- Online sales
- Spring Luncheon
  - 22-April-23 Troy, MI

### Children’s Medical Fund Luncheon

- The 18<sup>th</sup> biennial CMF luncheon was planned by the Metropolis of Detroit Philoptochos and hosted in Indianapolis Nov-2021
- Record donations for this nationally attended event exceeded \$500K to fund pediatric research programs
- Leadership –
  - Theone Dickos, luncheon chair
  - Katherine Kotsis, tri-chair
  - Evanthia Valassiades, tri-chair
  - Margaret Yates, tri-chair
- The next CMF luncheon will be held in Houston 11-Nov-2023

# Metropolis of Detroit Philoptochos

## *National Commitments*



Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Detroit

**Metropolis of Detroit Philoptochos**

Troy, MI

### Annual National Philoptochos Commitments

- Autism Assistance Fund
- Ecumenical Patriarchate Fund
- General Medical Fund
- Hellenic College / Holy Cross School of Theology Lenten Event and Scholarship Funds
- International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC) Fund
- Orthodox Christian Fellowship (OCF) Fund
- Orthodox Christian Missions & Support a Mission Priest Funds
- National Philoptochos Emergency Fund
- National Sisterhood of Presbyteres Benevolent Fund
- Retired Clergy and Widowed Presbyteres Benevolent Fund
- Saint Basil Academy & Sisterhood of Saint Basil Funds
- Saint Photios Shrine Fund
- Social Services & Cancer and Other Major Illnesses Funds
- United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF)
- 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Founders Fund

*This is all possible due to  
the generosity of our  
members like you,  
thank you!*

# Metropolis of Detroit Philoptochos

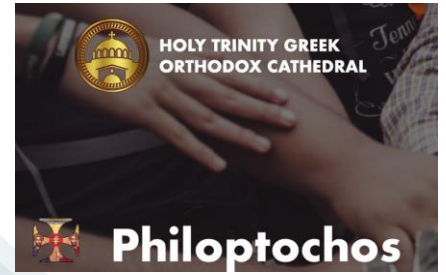
## *Carmel, Indiana Chapter*



### ***Spiritual Guidance***

*His Eminence Metropolitan Nicholas  
Father Gregory Hohnholt, Dean of the Cathedral (pictured)*

*The Evangelistria Chapter of Holy Trinity Greek  
Orthodox Church in Carmel was chartered in 1945  
and has 150 members*



### **Executive Board**

**President:** Lea Dunbar

**1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President:** Wendy Mudis

**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President:** Kathy BeMiller

**Recording Secretary:** Vickie Sofianopoulos

**Corresponding Secretary:** Lorrie Clevenger

**Treasurer:** Cindy Woodruff

**Assistant Treasurer:** Cheryl Andros

**Advisor:** Diana Dine

### **Board Members**

Evie Anastasiadou

Renee Brochhagen

Theone Dickos

Irene Doney

Becky Kapsalis

Niki Martine

Veronica Megremis

Dawn Nicholos

Irene Sarris

Sheri Seat

Sondra Vitsas

### **Additional Outreach**

- BackSack Program
- Bread & Bowl Soup Kitchen
- Friends of the Metropolis
- Giving Tree
- Give Kids Art
- Gleaners Food Bank
- Merciful HELP Center Pantry and Tools for School
- IOCC Ukraine Relief
- Operation Classroom
- Parishioner Visitations
- Philo Food
- Project College Outreach
- Ronald McDonald House
- Thanksgiving Gift Cards
- The Julian Center
- Wheeler Women's Mission
- World Central Kitchen

# Metropolis of Detroit Philoptochos

## Resources

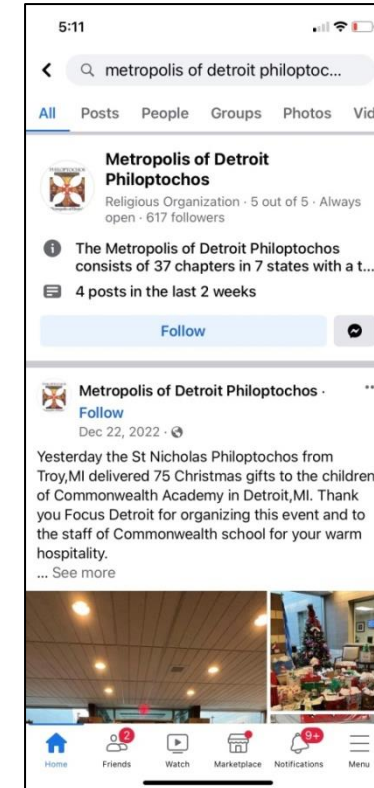
### Key Links and Resources

- Link to Philoptochos National site - [Welcome to Philoptochos - Greek Orthodox Ladies Philoptochos Society, Inc](#)
- Link to Metropolis of Detroit Philoptochos site - [Home | Metropolis of Detroit Philoptochos](#)
- Link to Philoptochos Carmel Holy Trinity Philoptochos site - [Philoptochos — Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral \(htcindy.org\)](#)
- Facebook and Instagram sites
- National documents:
  - [Philanthropy Witness Newsletter - Greek Orthodox Ladies Philoptochos Society, Inc](#)
  - [Convention-Voice-10.08.2020.pdf \(philoptochos.org\)](#)

### Metropolis Assistance

- Partners in Philanthropy – grants of up to \$1,000 to those in need
- Florence G. Stefanou Memorial Scholarship – \$1,000

### Metropolis Facebook and Instagram sites





## *Philoptochos*

- P - philanthropy that you bestow upon the poor and needy*
- H - hope you give to the hopeless*
- I - illuminating Christ's life in darkened hearts*
- L - your love to God and love of neighbor*
- O - opportunities you provide the underprivileged and forgotten*
- P - providing for our special children at St. Basil Academy*
- T - time, talent, and treasure you employ as extension of Christ's loving arms*
- O - your optimistic view of humanity for you Christ in all people*
- C - your care of the sick and suffering*
- H - your healing of broken hearts, broken emotions, and broken lives*
- O - offering yourselves unselfishly to the least of Christ's brethren*
- S - being the inner strength of our lives, our parishes, and our Church*



***Think about how we can grow our membership  
and engage the next generation of leaders!***