# Metropolis of Atlanta Philoptochos

## A LEGACY OF FAITH, HOPE, CHARITY AND LOVE

Our legacy has been lovingly passed down from generations of faithful Orthodox women for more than 80 years. It is a tradition of hope and charity that has been placed in our care, not only giving us a way to more fully participate in our faith and serve our church, but instilling in us a great love of philanthropy.

#### WHAT IS PHILOPTOCHOS?

Philoptochos, a Greek word meaning "friend of the poor", is the philanthropic arm of the Greek Orthodox Church and one of the largest philanthropic religious organizations in the United States. We are a society of spiritually faithful Christians united in our mission of love and service to others.

We are involved in all areas of philanthropy including many local, national and international organizations. On a global scale, our charities are as varied as helping victims of places ravaged by natural disasters or building a church in Africa. At the national and local level, we support a wide variety of charitable causes for children, low income families, the elderly, veterans, victims of abuse and domestic violence, the hungry, the homeless, the sick and the suffering.

The benevolent works of Philoptochos are a continuation of Christ's ministry here on earth, we not only support numerous non-profit organizations, but our members are spiritually enriched through their experiences of fellowship with a purpose.

"Show me your faith without your works, and I will show you my faith by my works." Arom the Epistle of St. James



Philoptochos Supports Charities For The Elderly

#### WHO ARE OUR MEMBERS?

The Metropolis of Atlanta Philoptochos Society has over 71 chapters and more than 3,700 members who are inspired by the teachings of Christ to love and care for all people. As we continue to do God's work, we not only discover the joy of giving and helping, but also in creating fellowship and treasured friendships among our members.

Following the dictates of Christ, we seek to aid those who are in physical or emotional pain, we volunteer in homeless shelters, conduct food drives, raise funds for cancer, autism and other medical needs. We also provide support for Orthodox missions, missionaries, continuing education for our clergy and provide scholarships for young men wishing to dedicate their lives to the priesthood. We help our parishes in countless ways by extending our hand to all in need.

Our philanthropic organization is a tradition that is lovingly passed down from one generation of Greek Orthodox women to the next. The dedication and committment of the generations of women that founded this organization and the generations of women that have suported it since, are the reason our society exists today.

#### A LEGACY OF PHILANTHROPY

The philanthropic endeavors of the Greek Orthodox Ladies Philoptochos Society are a genuine expression of Christian charity, which has been evident in the many meaningful programs and activities undertaken during its existence.

Philanthropia is a tradition dating back to the Byzantine Empire, which was the first State to offer philanthropic and charitable assistance to its citizens.

St. James, in his Epistle, Chapter 1, Verse 22, exhorts all Christians to "be doers of the Word and not hearers only". Our beloved members are "doers". Their accomplishments are monumental and are in the archives of every chapter of our organization.

"If there is among you a poor man....

you shall open your hand wide to him and
willingly lend him sufficient for his need,
whatever he needs.... for this thing the Lord
your God will bless you in all your works and
in all to which you put your hand."

Deuteronomy 15:7-10



Supporting Children's Charities For Over 80 Years

### **HOW CAN YOU HELP?**

Philoptochos believes our members are our greatest resource. We need your talents and skills in leadership, organization, special events, planning and presentation, graphic arts, web design, social media, photography, decorating, floral design, fashion, public and press relations, sales, food preparation and service, writing, translation or calligraphy.

Whether you become an active or supportive member, Philoptochos will provide you with many opportunities to choose from, during times that are convenient to your busy schedule.

## JOIN PHILOPTOCHOS TODAY!

Have you thought of getting involved in your community or reaching out to someone in need? Do you want to help others? Philoptochos is reaching out to all women 18 years old and older to invite, to embrace and to involve them in our philanthropic endeavors, and to meet the increasing needs within our society, one person at a time.

We welcome all of the women of the Greek Orthodox Church to experience the beauty that can be found in a life of service to others. Please contact your local Philoptochos chapter, or reach out to us on our website at http://atlantametropolisphiloptochos.org, to learn more about becoming a member of our beloved organization.

The tradition continues become a member today!

http://atlantametropolisphiloptochos.org

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