Philoptochos News Phlash! Highlights from our Welcome Back after summer break Hybrid Board Meeting on September 6th, 2022. We want you to know what we are working on and where your donations and contributions to Philoptochos go.

Father Peter gave the opening Prayer and extended to all members Festival appreciations. Laura Jadelrab President then opened with a warm and enthusiastic welcome, she gave out fun gift favors and icons for each board member.

2022 Fashion Show - Once again Helene Nemchick and team delivered us an outstanding event, everyone enjoyed coming together once again in person, the event net profit \$8,000.00 PLUS.

National Philoptochos Convention - *Celebrated 90 Years of Philanthropy,* July 3-7, 2022 Nina Azar attended as our chapter delegate, and gave highlights: Consecration of Saint Nicholas Greek Othodox Church and National Shrine at World Trade Center, NY. Opening of convention by His Eminence Elpidophoros. Presentations: Face of Compassion by Presvytera Kerry Pappas, Mudgirls (Women helping Women) Entrepreneurship Dorrie Papademetriou, Path for membership growth by Sarah Sladek and much, much more. See all on https://www.philoptochos.org/2022-2/

Name day Vespers Reception - Tuesday September 13th - Following service Hors d'Oeuvres and refreshments will be offered to visiting clergy and community hosted by the Philoptochos.

Coffee Hour Buddies - Our board instituted a plan for each board member hosting coffee hour to extend an invitation to community members to help. Please be open and receptive when you are called on. We also welcome volunteers on any Sunday.

Care Closet / Shoe Drive - Now that children are back in school, we would appreciate your donations to our Care Closet program, which is housed at San Mateo Park Elementary School. This program serves 325 children, aged 5-12, and possibly many more family members beyond that especially in the last three years. These are all underprivileged students who need our help. Making donations is very easy. Just visit this Amazon wishlist:

<u>https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/WS5GGCPZ6YBR?ref_=wl_share</u>. When you order through this link, the donations are sent directly to the school. Please contact *Christine Hopkins* (cphopkins322@Gmail.com) to inquire about in-person donations of personal hygiene products, such as soap, shampoo, conditioner, toothbrushes/toothpaste, etc.

In addition, *Nina & Kristen Azar* will be kicking off toward the end of October the shoe drive similar to last year's, so that shoes can be delivered to children by Christmas. Last year over 75 children received a new, shiny and cool pair of sneakers for Christmas. Look for more information on our website https://www.goholycross.org/Philoptochos/ emails, posted flyers, and in the bulletin.

As always monetary donations are gladly accepted as well.

Adopt -a- Student - Holy Cross Belmont currently has adopted Six students at Holy Cross, who are Students of Divinity a religious studies. As our adopted students, we send them well wishes and small surprises throughout the year.

Mark your Calendar - More Information to come

Young Adult Membership Event - Sunday October 23rd, 2022

IOCC Dinner in Castro Valley - Sunday November 6th, 2022

Christmas Tea - Sunday December 11th, 2022

May we be blessed with a healthy Year, so that we can help all those who need us. With our love,

The Ladies of the Philoptochos

PHILOPTOCHOS BOARD

Nina Azar

Kristen Azar

Mary Bazigos

Stella Charonis

Emmy Denton

Alicia Frangos

Diane Harris

Chris Hopkins

Laura Jadelrab

Barbara Karvelis

Hana Keilo

Angela Koros

Tula Kourtoglou

Christine Longinidis

Laila Louridas

Othonia Makris

Helene Nemchik

Mary Peros

Cathy Zamenes