



The Philoptochos Phlash – September 3, 2024

On September 3, 2024, the Philoptochos Board met for its first meeting of the Ecclesiastical year and voted to support many upcoming ministries, plan some wonderful future events, and share the successes of recent events. We are excited to welcome more parishioners, men and women, into our ministry. Here are the highlights:

- **2024 Convention Updates** – Laura Jadelrab, Angela Koros, Barbara Karvelis and Mary Peros attended the national convention in San Diego. It was a wonderful opportunity to understand fully what our organization does to help those in need. Our organization of 25,000 women raised \$2,659,447 in 2023 for people less fortunate. There were over 300 delegates in attendance. Speakers shared presentations on creating happiness, healthy caregiving, and exercising for health. Several changes to our bylaws were voted on and will go into effect in 2025. Two notable ones are the addition of a Prison Ministry and the reallocation of 50% of the Vasilopita funds to support grants helping youth. A budget was adopted for 2024-2025. Our chapter prepared 500 koulourakia for the convention which were much appreciated. Thank you to Othonia Makris and Emmy Denton and a Holy Cross crew. The 2026 Convention will be held in Cleveland, Ohio.
- **Holy Cross Name Day** – Please join us after Vespers on Friday, September 13 for a coffee hour reception and on Saturday, September 14 for a delicious luncheon as we honor the name day of our beloved Church.
- **Shared Community Coffee Hour** – We are excited to announce that our Holy Cross ministries will each be in charge of a month of coffee hours, helping the Philoptochos ladies, but also sharing in the gift of fellowship that coffee hour provides for all our parish. It will be a wonderful extension of this fellowship to have everyone have the chance to participate. There will be an informational meeting on September 8, after Liturgy.
- **New Membership Events** – We are in the process of planning some exciting and fun events for the whole family! Some possibilities are a Western Night or an Old-Fashioned Down-Home Barbecue! Stay tuned for more information.
- **Trina Turk Shopping Night** – Another event in the works is an evening of munching appetizers and sipping champagne while shopping for some beautiful Trina Turk items. Details to follow.
- **School Care Closet** – We will continue to help provide personal hygiene items to a local low-income school by collecting monetary donations quarterly.
- **Light the Path 2024 Save the Date**– This year the event will be held in Southern California at the Los Coyotes Country Club in Buena Park on November 17 at 2pm.

Thank you! The Philoptochos