Our Legacy

FAITH
We remain steadfast in our faith and in Christ's calling of all Christians to serve Him and to live our lives as He lived His. We pass this legacy of faith to all of our children, to enhance their lives and to further ensure the continuation of this philanthropic organization and its ministry.

HOPE
We remind ourselves and others through our ministry, that Christ is our greatest hope and we seek to enrich their lives by sharing with them, the light of Christ. Hope anchors the soul, brings us abundant peace and renews the weary spirit.

CHARITY
We believe charity begins in the heart, it purifies us and elevates human love to the perfection of God's love. Living a life of service to others, is not only our gift to them, but it is also a gift we give ourselves. Charity gives meaning to our lives, it changes us, it lives in us and it makes us new.

LOVE
We endeavor to love one another as God loves us, eternally and without fail, and we seek to love our neighbor as ourselves. Philoptochos gives us the opportunity to discover in ourselves a greater depth of love, a love for others and a greater love for God and His purpose for our lives.

Our History

The history of the Greek Orthodox Ladies Philoptochos Society itself can be traced all the way back to 1894, during the time Greek immigrants were bravely leaving their homeland to embark on the long and often dangerous voyage to America. They arrived at Ellis Island by the hundreds, boldly leaving behind their family and friends, for the greatest adventure of their lives, for the land of opportunity.

Meanwhile, at the Holy Trinity Church in New York City, Father Paisios and several female parishioners, reached out to these new arrivals, to welcome them and to assist them in adjusting to their new lives. This ongoing effort to embrace the Greek immigrants, to aid the poor and to offer assistance, ultimately lead to the formation of the first Ladies Philoptochos Society in 1902.

Under the spiritual direction and guidance of Father Methodios Kourkoulis, the society applied for a charter from the State of New York. On July 23, 1928, they were finally granted a charter from the State of New York and were officially recognized as a women's philanthropic organization.

The enthronement of Archbishop Athenagoras as the Primate of the Greek Orthodox Church in North and South America, on February 28, 1931 forever changed the face of Philoptochos and as God would have it, ushered in a new era of major philanthropic accomplishments. His Eminence immediately recognized the need for the unification of the more than 300 Greek Orthodox philanthropic chapters that had formed all across the United States, into one philanthropic society. It did not take him long to achieve his dream.

On November 1931, during the Archdiocesan Fourth General Assembly in New York City, it was decided that Philoptochos would be the official philanthropic society of the Greek Orthodox Church of America.

Our beloved Metropolis of Atlanta Philoptochos Society was established in 1946.

The tradition continues, become a member today!

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Metropolis of Atlanta Philoptochos

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