Metropolitan Alexios suggested at the 2013 Clergy Laity Philoptochos Conference just as we make the Vasilopita for Saint Basil, to do a similar Fanouropita Event in September for the Youth activities of our beloved Metropolis.

The Fanouropita Event proceeds will be used for the youth, so all that are interested will be able to attend youth activities held within the Metropolis. The money will be distributed by the Metropolitan when help is requested by the parish priest.

We can achieve this by each Chapter holding a Fanouropita Event each year. As we are the mothers, aunts and grandmothers of our youth, we realize the necessity of keeping our youth a priority and close to our church, for our children are truly the future of our church.

Below are some ideas to assist Philoptochos Chapters raise funds for our Annual Metropolis Fanouropita Fundraiser. This plan is modeled after a parishes’ Annual Vasilopita celebration.

**The Primary method used to raise funds is through a Pastry/Sweets Auction:**

- Organize a nice luncheon, with a delicious meal with all the trimmings that will also net a good profit. Be creative and make sure it one of the best and most appealing meals you have in your parish, one that builds a great reputation so that people will really look forward to attending. Perhaps you have a famous chef in the parish who will prepare the meal or you just have parishioners who are known for their wonderful meals. Set a ticket price for adults in the $12-$15 range and a lower children’s price, $5-6. Make it a family event. The proceeds of the luncheon should also go toward this cause.

- Find bakers in your parish. Each parish probably has some parishioners known for their baking skills. You want to create a list of approximately 12-25 items. It could be Mrs. So and So’s koulouria, the best dipsles, cheesecake, brownies and of course, “Fanouropita”, which can be made to look and taste more like Vasilopita, (suggested recipe is attached). These pastries, etc. should be beautifully wrapped colored plastic and pretty bows. Cookies, brownies, etc. should be in large quantities, i.e. 10 dozen Koulouria, 100 brownies.

- Find two good Auctioneers: parishioners that are excellent communicators that will create excitement and a fun atmosphere. Always try to begin with a good starting bid at least in $100 and up. Several people bidding for the same item is a great thing and it creates a little competitive spirit. For the auction, you can encourage families to share the donation and the items; you can have a group of parishioners living in the same neighborhood bid on one item and share it; or individuals can also bid on an item(s) for their family.

- Before the event, you may want to find individuals, families, friends, etc. who will give an opening bid or show interest to bid on a certain item. This will help when you begin the auction knowing that you have a solid starting bid.

- You may have some other ideas or ways to add to the event. Be creative and achieve the best results possible for our Metropolis Youth.