



St. Demetrios Philoptochos Society  
22909 Center Ridge Rd  
Rocky River, OH 44116

*Dear St. Demetrios Community Member,*

*I am writing you today to invite you to join our Ladies Philoptochos Society of St Demetrios. If you aren't aware of what and who we are, we are the Women's Philanthropic arm of the Church and have been in existence for over 75 years. We represent Greek women at the National level, the Diocese level as well as locally in our own Greek Church communities. Philoptochos is the largest Christian Women's Charity organization in the United States. Our Archbishop calls us his "Mighty Army of Women". To find out more about what we do, along with our National sisterhood you can go to [www.philoptochos.org](http://www.philoptochos.org) to see and read more.*

*In our own Philoptochos and St Demetrios Community, we have proven that by working together the job has been made easier, as we have grown our Philoptochos Membership this past year to over 100 strong! Our Community's generosity has been there to help us in our support of St. Basil's Academy, our own St Demetrios Food bank and other Food Banks in the area, the Schools we support and our Welfare and Outreach services. With our Welfare and Outreach services we support many in need both here within our St Demetrios community, out in the near Westshore Community and a far as the need arises. I feel confident that with our new Membership drive, our St Demetrios Community will all be there for us again. It is only with your continued support and membership that we can continue to do all that we do. Your membership is what shows how much you support and appreciate all that we do.*

*I hope you know that being a part of the Philoptochos is more than belonging to a social group, coming to a meeting here or there, or helping at a coffee service after Church. Philoptochos means "Friend of the Poor", and therefore it means that we are an arm of the Church that is "reaching out" into our Community. We have many ways already organized and set-up for you to join: like our tutoring program at Louis Agassi, the lunch program at the Bridge school, baking for our Holiday Bake sale, or helping to organize one of our many Coffee Memorials. But you may have your own interests that you would like to help bring others into, or get involved with. Meals on Wheels, Quilting for Veterans, or making Pillowcases for children in the Hospital, we have many resources and ideas....so many needs, so little time! I look forward to having many of you join us this year and becoming more and more active in your own way. We will be holding General Meetings each month and we hope to see all of our Members so that you know more about the good we do, and can join us more fully. Our Philoptochos should strive to be a St. Demetrios Community Philoptochos. That means that we should have more MEN as members too. I know that they like to be "Philanthropic" in their activities just as well as the women. (I promise we won't make them serve coffee if they don't want to.)*

*In making your generous "Free Will" donation for your membership, please keep in mind that each local chapter must set aside per capita contributions for the National (\$15) and the Metropolis (\$10). Therefore, the total local chapter's obligation from each of its members to both the National and Metropolis is \$25.00. Please consider your donation, if possible, to be greater than this amount. All donations go towards the General budget for each of our divisions so that we can continue with all of the good works that we do throughout the year. We have suggested a few levels of membership for you to consider to help our coffers grow.*

*Please think about everything I've written above as you contemplate joining us for first time, or renewing your Membership for this year. Remember, when we work together the job is small; when we work alone the job is large.*

*Jeanne Paras  
Past Philoptochos President / Membership Chairperson*