



Greek Orthodox Metropolis of New Jersey Philoptochos

March 1, 2018

Esteemed Presidents and Members of the Philoptochos Society,

Under the leadership of His Eminence Metropolitan Evangelos of New Jersey, I am pleased to announce that this year's Greek Orthodox Metropolis of New Jersey Clergy/Laity Assembly and Philoptochos Convention will take place on May 6-8, 2018. ***The Philoptochos Convention is held during the day on Monday, May 7, 2018***, with the Grand Banquet taking place that evening. The Assembly will be held at *The Venetian*, located at 546 River Drive, in Garfield, New Jersey. The day's Agenda will follow. *Registration is from 7:30-9:00 am.* This year's theme is:

*"Living in the Church, in Christ and according to Christ, who promised to be with us
"all the days of our life, to the end of the age." Matthew 28:20*

Delegate participation of **Philoptochos Chapters**, from all five (5) Regions, in the **Philoptochos Convention**, which will be held during the Clergy- Laity Assembly on **Monday, May 7, 2018**, is encouraged, as it is important to the life of the unified Ministry. Our agenda will include a discussion of future challenges facing the Holy Metropolis of NJ Philoptochos, as well as a review of any Resolutions for Adoption that have been submitted to the Metropolis of New Jersey for possible approval and presentation at the National Philoptochos Biennial Convention in Boston, Massachusetts in July 2018. If your chapter wishes to submit a Resolution for Adoption at National Philoptochos Biennial Convention in Boston, you must first submit it to the Metropolis of New Jersey Philoptochos for approval from our own Delegates.

The Metropolis of New Jersey Philoptochos will present its Two-Year Budget for review and approval by the Delegation. We will be asking each chapter to bring with them their chapter budget so they can share it with other chapters, thus assisting in the process of creating a budget. Small group workshops will be held so that others can benefit from experienced chapter treasurers and Finance Committees who understand the process and will be able to promote the essential bylaw, which includes ***'Each chapter shall approve an annual budget.'***

Voting eligibility at the meeting will be determined by the fulfillment of a chapter's 2018 Per Capita (stewardship), which must be paid no later than April 30, 2018, and the fulfillment of your chapter's yearly commitments. If you are uncertain of your chapter's commitment payment status, please contact either me, or the Metropolis Vice President Eleni Constantinides (eleni.constantinides@gmail.com) early in the registration process.

Your registration form accompanies this letter and must be returned to the Metropolis Headquarters by April 30, 2018, with the all-inclusive Registration Fee of \$175.00. Please begin the registration process as early as possible. You may also download our Registration Forms from our webpage: www.philoptochosnj.org. For overnight accommodations, a block of rooms has been reserved for our use at the Saddle Brook Marriott Hotel located at the intersection of Garden State Parkway and Route I-80 (138 New Pehle Avenue). In order to secure the rate of \$119.00 plus tax, per night, rooms must be reserved by April 15, 2018. For reservations call 1-800-832-6254 or 201-843-9500 and mention "GOMNJ 2018 Assembly account." Further information can be viewed on the hotel's webpage: www.Marriott.com/EWRSB.

Details of the 2018 Grand Banquet, to be held in the evening on Monday, May 7, 2018, at 6:30, will be sent in a separate letter to the parishes. Please refer to that letter for honoree name submission deadlines. We look forward to your participation in this year's Clergy/Laity Assembly.

May the blessings of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ be with you, as you work to fulfill your philanthropic Mission.
With Love and Respect,


Anastasia Michals, President

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