



The Ladies Philoptochos Society



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PHILOPTOCHOS BOARD

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Philoptochos News Phlash!

October 6, 2020

Highlights from our **Zoom** Board Meeting on October 6, 2020. We want you to know what we are working on and where your donations and contributions to Philoptochos go.

- ❖ **Father Leon Contos Graduate Scholarship** – It is with great pleasure that we are awarding this scholarship to a young lady who has been an integral part of our community – Alexandra Nemchik. Xandra is pursuing her teaching credential at San Francisco State University. We wish her all the success and happiness. We know she will be a great asset to the teaching profession.
- ❖ **Stewardship Partnering with Parish Council** – Philoptochos member, Robert Nemchik, will be a liaison to the stewardship committee as we partner with our Parish Council to raise needed funds both for our Church and for our ministries. Thank you, Bob.
- ❖ **Personal Care Closet** – We are continuing to partner with Gina Johnstone and her school to supply much needed personal care items for students from low-income families. This year we are hoping to expand this effort to include a Shoe Drive, giving new shoes, in correct sizes, for children who may not have them. Thank you, Nina Azar, Laura Jadelrab and Gina Johnstone for heading this shoe drive up. *[Please read Gina's letter at the end of this News Phlash for info on how you can help!]*
- ❖ **The 2020 Virtual Light the Path** – This event which benefits our seminarians will be held on Saturday, December 5 at 2. Many more details to follow.
- ❖ **Donations** - Our chapter sent a \$250 donation to Patriarch Athenagoras Orthodox Institute, originally begun by our beloved, Father Leon Contos. We also sent \$250 toward the California Fire Relief fund.
- ❖ **Membership** – Our current number is 117. It is never too late to join. Go to www.goholycross.org and click on **Donate** or talk to Helene Nemchik or Cathy Zamenes to see how painless it is.
- ❖ **Upcoming Events** – We discussed how we will be able to hold our upcoming events if in fact they are all virtual. We have some very fun ideas planned in lieu of in-person gatherings. Stay tuned!
- ❖ **Philoptochos ListServ** – Our database with which we can contact all of you and keep you informed of upcoming events continues to be so helpful. There are over 120 members currently receiving messages. Please make sure that when you fill out your membership form for 2020 or 2021 that you include your email. This will be a secure email system where only your name will appear on any email we send. If you know someone who may want to be included, please have them contact Nina Azar at ninaazar13@gmail.com.

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❖ Social Services Application – If you are experiencing financial hardship at this time, due to the virus, you might consider filling out an application to receive some relief. The Social Services ministry of the Metropolis and National Philoptochos might be able to help. Please visit the websites for both ministries for an application or email Mary Peros at mperos911@gmail.com or phone (650-766-3831) or Helene Nemchik (650-345-2719) for assistance. Father Peter is also a wonderful resource for confidential assistance through our Benevolence Fund.

As you can imagine, our needs for this community and the community at large are great at this time of pandemic and economic distress. Please help us by joining our organization or offering a donation of any amount to benefit our ministries.

Continue to keep safe!

*With love in Christ,
The Philoptochos of Holy Cross*

==== Update on the **Care Closet** ====

The Park School families are so appreciative of the support with these little things when they are focusing on getting their big needs met. I am hoping that this is a ministry that we can continue and possibly even expand given our current covid situation.

Right now, we have several bins that are pretty low. We especially need:

- ❖ pads
- ❖ women's deodorant
- ❖ toothpaste of all sizes
- ❖ hair brushes

We also need other things that our students need to distance learning on our wish list like headphones. I've put some on the Amazon wish list

(https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/WS5GGCPZ6YBR?ref=wl_share).

I'm looking forward to continuing this beautiful partnership!

Take care,
Gina