



“For the Edification of the Church”

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■ A new period begins for our Metropolis' charitable organization

St. Philaret the Merciful Guild Elections

Phyle (Athens), 3/16, 2016

With the blessing and approbation of His Eminence, Metropolitan Cyprian of Oropos and Phyle, an elective Special General Meeting of the members of the St. Philaret the Merciful Orthodox Women's Guild was held on Wednesday, November 3/16, 2016, at 6 p.m.



The elections were made necessary owing to the resignation of two members of the Board of Directors for serious personal reasons (health and family), namely that of its President, Mrs. Athena Choriatopoulou-Tounda, and its Secretary, Mrs. Charikleia Routse.

Over two-thirds of the members in good standing were in attendance, as required by the bylaws for the holding of elections.

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In a particularly moving and prayerful atmosphere, before the Icon of the Panagia “the Surety of Sinners,” Hierodeacon Joseph, who is responsible for the spiritual supervision and smooth functioning of the Guild, made a brief historical retrospective of the progress of the Guild from its foundation in 2004 to the present, with special reference to the persons and accomplishments of the two Presidents that were active during that





time, always by the prayers of our Church.

On behalf of our Metropolitan, he thanked the outgoing President, Mrs. Athena Choriatopoulou-Tounda, for her excellent and fruitful collaboration and the way in which she always carried out her duties with a profound sense of service to others, which is indicative of her simultaneous cultivation of the virtues, and especially that of humility.

He congratulated and thanked the entire Board of Directors, and personally its Secretary, Mrs. Charikleia Routse and its Treasurer, Mrs. Nikoletta Simertziadou, for their work.

Over the last eighteen months, the Guild has acquired a new large office, created a website in Greek and English, organized a computerized system, received positive appraisal from the Administrative District of Western Attica and from the Municipality of Phyle, incorporated many volunteers who offer their services on a daily basis, and, as a result of all of the above, has won the trust of donors from abroad, who assist the work of our Guild.

Finally, new individuals were proposed who were deemed capable of shouldering the administrative responsibilities of the Guild for the next period. All of the people nominated have served the Guild in various positions for a number of years.

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The outgoing President, Mrs. Athena Choriatopoulou-Tounda, then warmly thanked everyone for their participation in the work of the Guild and their cooperation. Mrs. Charikleia Routse and Nikoletta Simertziadou also delivered brief farewell speeches.

The election proceeded flawlessly and the president of the committee, Ms. Katherine Kostoula, announced the results.

For the Board of Directors, Mrs. Despoina Libizou was elected as President, Mrs. Argyro Stefanou as Secretary, and Mrs. Aimilia Gkou-



pha as Treasurer.

Mrs. Theodora Koutsouba, Mrs. Marianne Pagoulidou, and Mrs. Demetra Kourea participated on the election committee. Mrs. Orsa Papasoteriou was elected Steward.

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The whole process, during which the presence of the Divine Comforter was manifest, ended with light refreshments and expressions of best wishes to the new Board of Directors for success in their work, by the intercessions of St. Philaret the Merciful and the prayers of the ever-memorable Founder of our Guild, Metropolitan Cyprian († May 17, 2013).

From the Office of the Guild

