



“For the Edification of the Church”

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■ For the twelfth consecutive year

Opening Ceremony of the Charity Shop Organized by the St. Philaret the Merciful Guild

Duration: November 13, 2022 – January 6, 2023 (New Style)



On Sunday, October 31, 2022 (Old Style), there took place the opening ceremony of the charity shop organized annually as a fund-raising effort by the St. Philaret the Merciful Guild, under the protection of the Holy Patrons of our Metropolis:

the Mother of God “Surety of Sinners” and the Three Holy New Hierarchs.

Friends, supporters, and passers-by came to the shop in Ano Liosia and were present for the Small Blessing of the Waters and a special prayer for the inauguration of the charity shop, served by His Eminence, Metropolitan Cyprian of Oropos and Phyle, with the assistance of Archimandrite Father Theodosios, Abbot of the Monastery of Sts. Cyprian and Justina, and Hierodeacon Father Gabriel Hagiokyprianites.

Also present were the Reverend Father Soterios Gioules; the Mayor of Phyle, Mr. Christos Pappous, and his wife; Deputy Mayors, Ms. Eleni Liakou, Mr. Georgios Avrames, and Mr. Georgios Antonopoulos; Municipal





Councillor, Stavros Katsilas, and the President of the Municipality of Phyle, Mr. Dionysios Vlachos.

Representatives from monasteries belonging to our Metropolis and other members of our Local Church were also in prayerful attendance at this annual effort of our charitable Guild.

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Following the service of the Blessing of the Waters, Metropolitan Cyprian gave thanks to God, by Whose good pleasure the charity shop was organized once again this year.

He also thanked the Mayor, his staff, and the other local dignitaries in attendance for their support for the social work of our Church, and for this endeavor in particular, which is undertaken solely for the sake of coming to the aid of our needy brothers and sisters in these difficult times.

As a token of gratitude, Metropolitan Cyprian offered Mayor Christos Pappous an icon painted by the icon studio that operates under the aegis of the St. Philaret Guild.

The President of the Guild, Mrs. Athena Choriatopoulos-Tounta, addressed words of gratitude to our Most Reverend Metropolitan, as well as to all those who contributed to the realization of the shop, stressing that all of the items on display had been donated to the Guild for that purpose.

The visitors then had the opportunity to browse the store and choose from a variety of ecclesiastical and decorative items, icons, household objects, and clothing, etc., which are being sold at very affordable prices. Volunteers of the Guild offered refreshments at the entrance.

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The Board Members of the St. Philaret Guild warmly convey their best wishes to all those who have donated various items for sale in the gift shop, to those who volunteer their time for this purpose, and





to all those who will visit the shop, each contributing in his or her own way to the philanthropic efforts of our Holy Metropolis.

God willing the gift shop will be open until January 6, 2023.

