

January 2010

Dear Friends,

Your Philoptochos has been very busy the past few months making plans for the coming year. There will be a lot going on during the upcoming months and I would personally like to invite all members of the Holy Trinity community to join in.

### **What's coming up...**

#### *February 10*

- **Emmaus House - Homeless Outreach.** Emmaus House, an Orthodox community outreach center in Harlem, offers basic assistance to the poor such as serving soup, providing blankets, clothing and toiletries to the homeless at several locations in Manhattan. Our Community is increasing its support of Emmaus House by participating in the serving of soup on a monthly basis to the homeless in Manhattan. We will be participating in a soup run on February 10<sup>th</sup>, departing from church at 5:30pm. If you would like to participate in this very meaningful outreach, please contact Despina Kartson or Maria Scaros-Mercado. We will keep you posted of future dates.

#### *February 25, March 11 and April 29*

- **Cooking for Hope** - This year the HOPE Soup Pantry has seen a 44% increase in the number of people who depend on the soup kitchen for a hot meal. Once again we are going to offer our cooking skills. We are scheduled to cook once a month for the next three months. We will prepare the food in our Church kitchen and then deliver it to the soup kitchen. Volunteers will help with chopping, cooking and washing. We will also need volunteers to deliver the food to the soup kitchen. We will be cooking for 200 people so all help is greatly appreciated. For more information please contact Georgia Lyras or Linda Kondos. Scheduled dates and times: 2/25 10:00am, 3/11 10:00am and 4/29 6:00pm.

#### *Weekly*

- **Community Food Drive** – HOPE distributes over 18,000 bags of groceries annually to those in need of food. Please support this worthy cause by bringing non perishable food each Sunday. For more information please contact Jeannie Hedge.

*Bi-weekly*

- **Pantry Volunteer** - If you would like to volunteer your time at the pantry look for this year's schedule on the Philoptochos bulletin board and join the many other volunteers from the New Rochelle area who help sort and dispense groceries to those in need.

*February 25th*

- This month the **Philoptochos Book Group** will meet to discuss **OLIVE KETTERIDGE** by Elizabeth Stroud at 7:00 p.m., all are invited to attend.

*February 28<sup>th</sup>*

- On February 28, the Ladies Philoptochos and the Greek School PTA will jointly sponsor a presentation on "**Autism Awareness**". Please join us in our social hall after the Liturgy for a power point presentation by our guest speaker Michelle Dunn, PhD, Director of Clinical Services at the Montefiore Autism Center and Professor of Neurology at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine.

*March 3<sup>rd</sup>*

- **Pre Sanctified Divine Liturgy**, 6:00. Following the service please join us for a Lenten meal and a discussion with Father Nick on "Fasting". We will also be packing care packages to be sent to our soldiers over seas.

*March 28th*

- After a very successful (and delicious) last year we are adding more items to our **Easter Market**. Easter is right around the corner so get your orders in early. We will start taking pre orders on February 21<sup>st</sup>. (see enclosed flier)

*June 12<sup>th</sup>*

- Our new **June Dance!** We'll keep you posted on all the details.

One last thing – February is **Membership Drive Month**. If you are not a member please join us, if you are already a member don't forget to renew your membership by sending in your 2010 dues. (See enclosed flier)

We look forward to seeing you all,

*Stephanie*

PS – fyi I've enclosed a list of the donations made by the Philoptochos for 2008-2009 made possible through your support. Thank you!