

**Stewardship Message**  
**Katherine Strakes, President, Philoptochos Society**  
**1985**

The theme is Stewardship and we have been hearing much about it in our Saint Demetrios Parish these past several months. This theme is not new to the Philoptochos Society since we stand for what Stewardship is all about. Our time is given freely, out of talents offered, and where needed, our treasury is almost emptied.

Service to our Church, community and fellow man is the basis of our existence.

In service to our Church we are ready at all times where needed to serve whether it be for receptions, luncheons, punch and cookies for the Sunday School children Easter floral needs or the coffee fellowship hour every Sunday. We paid for a new typewriter for the office and supplied one of the cabinets for our classroom. All told Philoptochos has given \$26,400.00 to our Church over these past nine years.

In service to our community we help where we can. We hosted and served Sunday dinner for our Goyans at their last retreat, we handled all the meal arrangements for the entire weekend of the recent Choir Federation that was hosted by our choir, we subscribe to the Campus Ministry periodical for our college students, we support Saint Basil's Academy with a monthly check as well as assisting a local student who attends the academy, and through our Benevolent Fund, assist needy families.

In service to our fellow man, the "Our Daily Bread" program is a prime example of fulfilling our Lord's commandment. We recently sent a donation to the Mexican Relief Fund and the Guadeloupe Home for Boys. Through our national Diocese dues we are part of a larger scale of helping our fellow man. The Diocese supports the Deborah Hospital in New Jersey which admits and treats heart patients including those from Greece.

We have many fund raising activities and we receive much help with them from many of our parishioners, and for this we are most grateful. Your support has been valued and appreciated. The Philoptochos tray at the Pangari is an example of this additional means of support.

Each letter in our name stands for an area of service that we try to be a part of: P – Philanthropy, H- Hospitality, I – Indigent needs cared for, L – Love offerings, O – Our Daily Bread, P – Parish needs, T – Time, Talent and Treasury, O – Outreach programs, C - Coffee Fellowship Hour, H – Hospital visitation, O – Orphan support, and S – Service, Spiritual growth and Sisterhood.

Be prepared, Stewardship is catching and we stewards of Philoptochos gladly and willingly accept the call for our time, Talents, and Treasury all for the Glory of God.