

October 9, 2024

To the Reverend Clergy, Esteemed Parish Council Presidents, and Faithful Parishioners of the Metropolis of Atlanta:

Dear Reverend Fathers and My Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I hope this email message finds you all well, especially those whose parishes and homes are in the areas affected by the recent storms. Please know that I join all my Philoptochos sisters in praying for each and everyone of you, as we seek to offer emergency relief to those in need.

My purpose in writing is to reinforce the Archdiocese's initiative to provide national hurricane relief. In support of this effort, your Metropolis Philoptochos wants to be sure you are aware of the steps our Archdiocese is taking to collect relief funds for both Hurricanes Helene and Milton (Click here for detailed information on the National Hurricane Relief Fund). This email will also clarify how your Metropolis of Atlanta Philoptochos will proceed going forward.

First, I would be remiss if I didn't take this opportunity to thank all who answered Metropolitan Alexios's call to give to those affected by these devastating natural disasters. Your outpouring of generosity, in both prayers and assistance is very much appreciated.

Your Metropolis Philoptochos is especially thankful for our Archbishop Elpidophoros's establishment of the National Hurricane Relief Fund. The Metropolis of Atlanta will work in collaboration with the Archdiocese's newly established initiative to support those in need.

With the blessings of His Eminence Metropolitan Alexios, this means that any gifts previously sent to the Metropolis of Atlanta Philoptochos (care of our Treasurer, Martha Driscoll) will be forwarded directly to the National Hurricane Relief Fund, and the same process will apply to any future donations offered to the Metropolis of Atlanta Philoptochos as well.

We are especially thankful for the National Hurricane Relief Fund, as we are now facing two storms of unprecedented magnitude. As we work together, let us remember the words of St Paul: "We know that in everything God works for good with those who love him, who are called according to his purpose" (Romans 8:28).

Again, I thank all those who have shown generosity to those impacted by Hurricane Helene, and I know that each of you will keep those in the path of Hurricane Milton in yours prayers as well.

Faithfully,

Irene Politis President, Metropolis of Atlanta Philoptochos