

# SAINT SPYRIDON GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

1391 E. Chaffee Street, Upland CA 91785

May 25, 2007

To the Officers and Members  
Of the Philoptochos

Dear Officers and Members,

Praise to God the Comforter of the Christian Pentecost!

Even though I have served but for a short time at Saint Spyridon, I consider it my duty to congratulate our St. Elizabeth Chapter of the Philoptochos, for its dedication to a holy mission and for the unquestionable competence that has become evident in action.

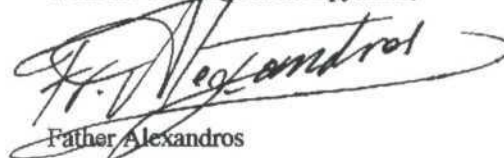
I also write to let everyone know that I support the goals and ideals of the Society, and to offer my help in areas that the by-laws specify to be the priest's responsibility.

1. The priest does not own, control, or supervise the Philoptochos. He serves as Spiritual Advisor (see Article V, Section 1, and Paragraph 3).
2. Insofar as the Society promotes active participation in our Orthodox Community (see Mission Statement, Paragraph 1), officers and members of the Society can count on my full support. We will work together, and we will ask God to bless us with what we need in order to be faithful stewards.
3. I am happy to help resolve any disputes or conflicts that will arise, from time to time, and seem inconsistent with the values of our Orthodox Faith (see Mission Statement, Paragraph 1). In that way, our work will not be lost by reason of weaknesses, misunderstandings, or oversights, into which we can fall as human beings.
4. Please keep in mind that the priest needs to be notified of meetings, at least five days:
  - (1) Before the six yearly *general* meetings of the entire chapter (Article V, Section 7, and Paragraph 1b)
  - (2) Before the scheduled *board* meetings (Article V, Section 7, and Paragraph 2b)
  - (3) Before the planned *Executive Board Meetings* (Article V, Section 7, and Paragraph 3a).

Your job is difficult and challenging, but it stands out as a true blessing in the lives of so many. Christ helped the poor, fed the hungry, healed the sick, and comforted the broken hearted. For him, this was by no means a sideline. That work, in an organized form, has now been placed on the shoulders of the Philoptochos. You are doing Christ's work. If I can be of help, all you have to do is ask. I, too, am here to serve.

In our prayers, we do not cease to sing of God's philanthropy. He loved mankind and demonstrated it by word and deed. May God help us to continue what He started and do it with one heart and mind, with dedication, power, and effectiveness.

With the blessings of St. Spyridon,



Father Alexandros