



“For the Edification of the Church”

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■ For the eleventh consecutive year

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

Duration: November 14, 2021 – January 30, 2022 (New Style)

On Sunday, November 1, 2021 (Old Style, commemoration of the Holy Unmercenaries Cosmas and Damian) there took place, by the Grace of the Holy Patrons of our Metropolis—the Theotokos “Surety of Sinners” and the Three Holy New Hierarchy—the opening ceremony of the charity shop organized each year as a fundraising effort by our Holy Metropolis’ St. Philaret the Merciful Women’s Guild.



Friends, supporters, and passers-by came to the shop at its new location (Odos Strategou Liosi 8, 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 Hierodeacon Father Gabriel Agiokyprianites.



Also in attendance were His Grace, Bishop Ambrose of Methone; Archimandrite Father Theodosios, Abbot of the Monastery of Sts. Cyprian and Justina; the Reverend Father Soterios Gioules; the Mayor of Phyle, Mr. Christos Pappous; Deputy

Mayors, Ms. Eleni Liakou and Mr. Georgios Avrames; 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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After the Blessing of the Waters, Metropolitan Cyprian gave thanks to God, by Whose good pleasure the charity shop was organized once again this year, despite the difficulties occasioned by the coronavirus infection control measures.

He also thanked the Mayor, his staff, and the other dignitaries in attendance for their support of this endeavor, and, in general, for assisting the social work of our Church, for the good of the local community.

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 Guild then offered refreshments to all those in attendance, who took the opportunity to browse the store and choose from a variety of ecclesiastical and decorative items, Icons, and household objects, etc., which are being sold at highly affordable prices.

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May our compassionate Lord, by the intercessions of St. Philaret the Merciful, bestow abundant blessings on those who have donated items to the store, those who offer their services, and those who will visit the shop, each contributing in his or her own way to the philanthropic endeavors of our Holy Metropolis.

The gift shop will be open, God willing, until January 30, 2022.

