



## “For the Edification of the Church”

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■ For the fourteenth consecutive year

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

**Duration:** November 17, 2024 – January 31, 2025 (New Style)



**O**n Sunday, November 4, 2024 (Old Style), for the fourteenth consecutive year, the opening ceremony of the Charity Shop was held, which is organized annually as a fundraising activity by the St. Philaret the Merciful

Guild, under the protection of the Holy Patrons of our Metropolis: the Mother of God “Surety of Sinners” and the Three Holy New Hierarchs, whose Synaxis was celebrated the previous day (the first Sunday of November).

Friends and supporters came to the shop in Ano Liosa (Municipality of Phyle) and were present for the service of the Small Blessing of the Waters and a special prayer for the inauguration of the Charity Shop, which was served by His Eminence, Metropolitan Cyprian of Oropos and Phyle, assisted by Hierodeacon Father Gabriel Hagiokyprianites.

Also present were His Eminence, Metropolitan Ambrose of Methone; Archimandrite Theodosios, Abbot of the Monastery of Sts. Cyprian and Justina; the Reverend Fathers Athanasios Kanatsoules and Soterios Gioules; the Mayor of Phyle, Mr.





Christos Pappous and his wife; and the Deputy Mayor, Ms. Eleni Liakou.

Representatives of monastic communities belonging to our Metropolis, as well as other members of our Local Church, were also in prayerful attendance at this annual

endeavor 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.

**He** noted that this year marks the **forty-fifth anniversary of the founding of our Holy Metropolis** by our ever-memorable Father and Elder, Metropolitan Cyprian of blessed memory, and the **twentieth anniversary of the founding of the St. Philaret the Merciful Charity Guild.**

**He** thanked the Mayor and the Deputy Mayor for their support for the social work of our Church in general, and in particular for this effort to help our needy brothers and sisters who “stretch out their hands to us,” especially in view of the upcoming feast days.

**The** President of the Guild, Mrs. Athena Choriatopoulos-Tounta, expressed her gratitude to our Most Reverend Metropolitan, as well as to all those who contributed to the realization of the Charity Shop.

**The** visitors then had the opportunity to browse the shop and choose from a variety of ecclesiastical and decorative items, icons, household objects, and clothing, etc., which are being sold at very affordable prices. Volunteers of the Guild offered refreshments at the entrance to the shop.

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**The members** of the Board of Directors of the St. Philaret Guild express their heartfelt best wishes





that our All-Good God grant every blessing to all those who have donated various items for sale in the Charity Shop, to those who volunteer their time for this purpose, and to all those who will visit the shop, each contributing in his or her own

way to the charitable work of our Holy Metropolis.

**G**od willing, the gift shop will be open until January 31, 2025 (New Style).

