03/02/2025

# The Archbishop of Australia blessed the initiatives of the women of the Holy Diocese of Melbourne




On Saturday morning, 1 February 2025, His Eminence Archbishop Makarios of Australia liturgised at the Church of Saint Catherine, in the Melbourne suburb of Malvern, and was joined by Their Graces, Bishop Kyriakos of Melbourne and Bishop Evmenios of Chora. After the Divine Liturgy, His Eminence participated in and delivered an address at the Women's Day, an event organised by the Central Philoptochos Society of the Holy Diocese of Melbourne and hosted in the hall of the Parish of St. Catherine.

The event showcased the dynamic initiatives undertaken by the women of the Holy Diocese of Melbourne to promote the work of the Church and mutual support and cooperation in Christ among members of the Greek Orthodox community. More specifically, the Melbourne Central Philoptochos, the "GO Women Fellowship", the Sunday School initiative, the new "Early Learning & Family" Program to support

young children, mothers and families, and the expansion of the successful “Five Loaves” charity initiative were presented.

“These initiatives reflect the power of our Orthodox faith in action, demonstrating how we, as a Church, continually strive to respond to the needs of our communities, while preserving the sacred traditions of our faith,” Archbishop Makarios observed in his address and noted: “It is truly encouraging to see the zeal and dedication of so many women, who, with their unwavering determination, enrich our Church and strengthen the bonds of love and communion among us.”




His Eminence then referred to the central role of women in the life of the Church throughout history, presenting as an example to be imitated, the courageous Myrrh-bearers, who announced the Resurrection of Christ, and noted that the same spirit of devotion and love inspires and guides the women of the Holy Diocese of Melbourne in the initiatives they have undertaken and are implementing. “Today’s event is not only an opportunity to learn about these wonderful initiatives,” he noted, “but also a call to action.” “Each of you has been given unique gifts from God,” he continued, “and I encourage you to use them in the ministry of the Church and your community. Support one another, strengthen one another and work together harmoniously, for in this way you manifest the very love of Christ.”




The Archbishop, after congratulating His Grace Bishop Kyriakos of Melbourne, for his initiatives and his exceptional ministry in the field of charity, concluded his




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