ARCHBISHOP ELPIDOPHOROS
ENTHRONEMENT

THIS SPECIAL ISSUE OF ARCHBISHOP ELPIDOPHOROS’ ENTHRONEMENT WAS MADE POSSIBLE BY THE GENEROUS SUPPORT OF:
John & Margo Catsimatidis / The Behrakis Family Foundation / Michael and Robin Psaros / Stephanos and Areti Cherpelis
Metropolitan Epidodorphos of Bursa Elected Archbishop of America Sends Message to Community through TNH

By Theodore Kaldmoskon

Metropolitan Epidodorphos of Bursa was elected unanimously Archbishop of America on Satu-

day May 11 by the Holy and Sacred Synod of the Ecumenical Patriarchate.

Shortly after his unanimous election Archbishop Epidodorphos made the following exclusive state-
mement to The National Herald: “I am deeply touched because the Ecumenical Patriarch and the Sy-
nod honored me with their vote and confidence. I express my feel-
ings of gratitude to our Pa-

riarchs and to the Holy Synod. Light-

ness God, and with His Grace I will

serve the people of this Holy Arckdioce of America, a people whom I love and who love the Church, who are faithful to its traditions and respect our Ec-

umenical Patriarchate. I greet my beloved brother members of the Holy Synod and the other brother

Hierarchs and I believe from my heart the revered clergy and the

people of God. I am looking for-

ward to meeting our people. We

have many things to do together.

All together. Christ is risen.”

The Ecumenical Patriarchate issued the following announce-

ment:

“Today, Saturday May 11, 2019, the Holy and Sacred Sy-
nod, continuing its work, pro-

ceeded to the election of the Archbishop of America.

The election of His-Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros between the two candidates, Metropolitan Makarios, was elected unanimously:

The Community is thirsty to regain its

peace. The National Herald warmly welcomes Archbishop Epidodorphos. On his face we can see the ability, determination, optimism… and hope.

A Message from the Publisher

Dear Readers,

The Special Insert that you hold in your hands is the product of the collaboration of many prominent people under the direction of dearcolleague, theologian Theodore Kaldmoskon, aims to celebrate the enthronement of Archbishop Elpidophoros.

June 22, the day of the enthronement, is a day for which we have been waiting many years. It will be a day of joy, opti-

mism, and hope — we believe the Arch-

bishop’s name, which means “Bringer of Ho-

pe” is not accidental.

This is the beginning of a new era that we need so much.

It is important that our new Archbishop is not coming as an observer or a tem-

dorarily limited mission, but as a new dy-

namic hierarch, with broad horizons and a

radical program that promises to put his

seal on the Archdiocese of America and

the Greek-American Community.

Archbishop Epidodorphos is assuming responsibility for our Archdiocese during one of the most critical periods of its history — as we all know. This presents a great

challenge, but it is also an unprecedented opportunity to reorganize and rebuild.

The Community has passed through a difficult period. It was effectively headless for a considerable time.

The Community bent under the strain, but it did not raise a white flag. It was seri-

ously injured, but it has the strength and substance to recover.

On June 22 a great circle closes, which

opened with the departure of Archbishop

Iakovos from active service in 1996.

For the Community, it was a long and

disappointing period that also shook it up.

The Community is thirsty to regain its

peace. The National Herald warmly welcomes Archbishop Epidodorphos. On his face we

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From the Secretariat of the

Metropolitan Elpidophoros of Bursa elected Archbishop of America on Saturday May 11, by the Holy and Sacred Synod of the Ecumenical Patriarchate.

Metropolitan Elpidophoros, born in 1967 in Bakirköy, Istanbul University of Thessaloniki, from which he graduated in 1991. In 1993, he finished his postgra-

uate studies at the Philosophical School of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki. From 1994 at the Patriarchal Cathedral

from the Secretariat of the

Continued on page 4

FROM THE FAMILY OF THE LATE GUST C. KRARAS

READING, PA

THE NATIONAL HERALD

SPECIAL EDITION JUNE 2019
Your Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros

Your unanimous election by His All Holiness our Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew and the Holy and Sacred Synod of the Patriarchate to the Archbishopric Throne of our beloved Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America is the manifestation of the work of the Holy Spirit.

It is a historic development to the life of our Church and Omogeneia in America full of hope, optimism and prospect for the future. Your ethos, your dynamism, your pastoral sensitivities, you administrative and academic credentials promise the resurrection of our Archdiocese and its institutions.

We welcome you with open hearts and arms. We stand ready to be your coworkers in the Vineyard of our Lord.

We proclaim you ΑΞΙΟΣ! With much respect and love.

Archon Michael and Robin Psaros
Archangel Michael Greek Orthodox Church
100 Fairway Drive, Port Washington, NY 11050 • Tel: (516) 944-3180

The Archangel Michael Greek Orthodox Church in Port Washington, NY along with the Presiding Priest John K. Lardas, Protopresbyter Joshua Pappas, Protopresbyter Father Dennis Strouzas, the President Michael Bapis, and the Members of the Parish Council, the Philoptochos and all other Organizations express our Gratefulness to our loving God for the election by our Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew of our new Archbishop of America.

Your Eminence
Archbishop
Epidorhos of America

ΕΙΣ ΠΟΛΛΑ ΕΤΗ
Kalwos Ήλθατε Σεβασμιώτατε!

The clergy and faithful of the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of San Francisco convey our respect and love to His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros of America on the occasion of his Enthronement as our Spiritual Father and Shepherd!

Εἰς πολλὰ ἔτη, Δέσποτα!

WITH BROTHERLY LOVE AND RESPECT IN CHRIST,
To this end, Most Reverend Archbishop Elpidophoros to America.

Presiding Priest of the Holy Resurrection Community Fr. Andreas Vithoulkas, the Parish Council, St. Catherine’s Philoptochos, as well as the rest of the community’s ministries, would like to welcome, with love and respect, His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros to America.

We promise to support him in all his endeavors throughout our journey as your spiritual leader.

May God grant him many years! Amen!
The Order of AHEPA had the good fortune and honor to be the first group to meet newly elected Archbishop of America, His Eminence Elpidophoros.

Supreme President George E. Loucas and the official AHEPA leadership delegation met His Eminence hours after the announcement of his election in Constantinople.

The entire AHEPA family expresses its heartfelt congratulations and best wishes and looks forward to working together to build upon the long-standing tradition of the “Twin Pillars of Hellenism in America” -- AHEPA and the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America.
The unanimous election and enthronement of His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros of America marks a new beginning to the course of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America and our Greek-American Community.

A new chapter has been opened in the history of our Church, which all of us are called to write together, because the life of our Church and Community is a responsibility we share, each from our own post and our own charismas.

*The big challenge of our new Archbishop Elpidophoros will be to carve new ways and prospects having in mind all the generations of today and those of tomorrow.*

After all, each generation has its characteristics, concerns, necessities and sensitivities.

We are convinced that Archbishop Elpidophoros will teach the essence of our Orthodox faith, and also the great and unique Hellenic Heritage.

*Welcome Your Eminence.*

ἈΣΗΜΑ! 

The Behrakis Family Foundation
Archbishop Elpidophoros

We march with you on your spiritual journey.

Congratulations

The Drakotos Family
The First Interview of Archbishop Elpidophoros Ephiphanios of American Greeks with The National Herald

By Theodore Kalouskos

The unanimously elected Archbishop Ephiphanios of America gave his first interview to The National Herald, in which he speaks about the Orthodox (Hellas Greek Community), the Ecumenical Patriarchate, the Saint Nicholas Cathedral in New York, the critical issues of the present day and the need for our integration in American society.

The Archbishop emphasized regarding the Community, among other things, “for us, you are my pride, my precious co-workers, my fellow travelers for the sake of the glory of God, and my supports in strengthening the crown of Orthodoxy, our Ecumenical Patriarchate.”

The complete text of the interview is as follows:

TNH: Your Eminence, how do you feel about your election to the Archdiocese to the Smithsonian Institution?
AE: The truth is that the main feeling I was experiencing after my election was one of relief, because I had been aware for many years of the long period of inadequate policies that preceded the solution to the major issues. However, I could not feel relief whether I was the Holy and Sacred Synod-elected me in another brother among the other Hierarchs of the Ecumenical Throne. However, to respond, in my case, means nothing other than one of a feeling of responsibility. More specifically, my pursues of responsibility.

TNH: When you entered the Patriarchate in 1994 as a young deacon, did you ever think one day you would become Archbishop of America?
AE: Others have not had in my wildest dreams, my dear Mr. Kalouskos, the only thing that connected my ordination to the diaconate with America were the words the Patriarch used when he named me Elpidophoros. He never mentioned that when our Patriarch was enthroned on November 17, 1991, Archbishop lobbies of blessed memory, a young deacon to the Patriarch: “I fear from danger (Alyanima), a well-keeping (Pegagia), ‘confident’ (hodidme), ‘scrupulous’ (afthonitis) and a banner of hope” (Ephphaneia), putting on the names of the Saints whose feet salute to the Holy and Sacred Synod. I am also to remember that in his address to the Patriarchate and the Ecumenical Patriarchate.

TNH: Do you know the reason of Church Life in America to continue traveling around the country to support the priorities you will have to take on in the near future?
AE: I’m not going to like my finger. Our Church in America has serious problems. These problems stem from one common cause: the lack of love for the people for the Archdiocese of the United States. No one believes that there is any Church in America where they do not have ordained who they can. That is not a happy circumstance, but let us pray that the people of the Archdiocese because the people among them that regard the Church and the Holy and Sacred Synod. They have a key to any people that the God of God’s love, money made with labor and sweat. We must try to get them to understand their mission in the Church and their value in the Church of God and we have entertained their offices to throw the main content of the Church. Therefore, the first thing we need to do is to work hand in hand with the Church to this end. To this end. To this end. The last thing the young men have no open access to the Church. It is matter of priority for us.

AE: After that we will need our own house in order. To invite again our beloved Theological School in our midst, the心中 College, which is in the heart of the most educational centers, in the heart of one of the countries where these issues can be solved. From the monasteries and the people that can mitigate the financial administrative and managerial weaknesses of the professionals. They exist. And many of them, even the most successful, belong to the flock of our Archdiocese. And they love the Church. We will invite them and I am sure all the people that they will void of their talents.

TNH: What do you believe about America? What are you to people who are speaking about Orthodoxy in America?
AE:”The American community really cares about the top of the successful Hellenes of this Church. The National issues are also foremost: the blessing of our Patriarch, the Ecumenical Patriarch, the Orthodox and the developed in traditional language, culture, and devastated. And we have to think we need to do to our mission, we can work together. Our Filipinos and all other cultures, friends and brothers, our own house in order. To elevate and manage them in the fear of God. I will ask them to work out of one room, which constitutes an integral and vital relationship with the people, of the islands of Imvros and the Hierarchy of the Ecumenical Patriarchate. May no one believe that there is any Church in America where they do not have ordained who they can. That is not a happy circumstance, but let us pray that the people of the Archdiocese because the people among them that regard the Church and the Holy and Sacred Synod. They have a key to any people that the God of God’s love, money made with labor and sweat. We must try to get them to understand their mission in the Church and their value in the Church of God and we have entertained their offices to throw the main content of the Church. Therefore, the first thing we need to do is to work hand in hand with the Church to this end. To this end. To this end. The last thing the young men have no open access to the Church. It is matter of priority for us.

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TNH: What stance do you give to the American Greeks who have emigrated to the Greek language and heritage and Greece? What are some of their qualities?
TNH: What stance do you give to the American Greeks who have emigrated to the Greek language and heritage and Greece? What are some of their qualities?

AE: “Our Hierarchs here in the United States are all valued and valued congregation, who with the Church and preserved the faith of our Patriarch in America will think, care about them, and about them. They will feel that they hold the door of the Ecumenical Patriarchate is closed, and is what our work hard for the people of the Ecumenical Patriarchate, because they have the open access to it. I want to inform you that the young generations of Orthodox, who are not only as close to our Church as we would desire. And this could cause serious problems in the future, and will require a new generation of the guarding of our and a continuation of our services for our Communities and Institutions.

TNH: What will be the rela- tionship of the Archdiocese to the Ecumenical Patriarchate?
AE: “The Archdiocese of America is not only a branch of the Ecumenical Patriarchate. It is the prayer of the Mother Church. It is help for people who are not only as close to our Church as we would desire. And this could cause serious problems in the future, and will require a new generation of the guarding of our and a continuation of our services for our Communities and Institutions.

Now that our Patriarch has entrusted me with your pastoral care, you are my pride, my precious co-workers, my fellow travelers toward the glory of God, and my support in strengthening the crown of Orthodoxy, our Ecumenical Patriarchate. And they love the Church. We will invite them and I am sure all the people that they will void of their talents.

That’s the first day of my ministry in the Patriarchal Court, I fell in love with America and had the devotion that I named it. After an undergraduate student in 1965, to try to...[continues]"
THE FOUNDERS OF FAITH WISH TO EXPRESS A HEARTFELT WELCOME TO
His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros of America
MAY GOD GRANT HIS EMINENCE MANY BLESSED YEARS

FAITH
An Endowment for Orthodoxy & Hellenism

Promoting Hellenism, supporting the Greek Orthodox faith and celebrating excellence in education for future generations. FAITH is an independent organization founded in 2004 with the mission to promote Hellenism, an understanding of the Greek Orthodox faith and excellence through a series of high quality, innovative educational programs and cultural initiatives for young people and future leaders of our community.

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First without Equals: A Response to the Text on Primary of the Patriarchiate

By its Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros of America and Professor of Theology, University of Thessaloniki

In a recent synodal decision[1] the Church of Russia, once again, by choosing its isolation from both the collegial dialogue with the Roman Catholic Church and communion of the Orthodox Churches, has once more insistently and unmistakably demonstrated her intention to maintain the primacy of the Moscow Patriarchate in the Orthodox world. This means to claim that ‘the primacy of the Moscow Patriarchate is to be adopted as the unprecedented distinction between the local Churches; on the one hand, the ‘pri- macy’ of the card and on the other, the ‘sec- ondary’ ones in order to justify the ab- sence of its delegation from the primacy (an absence declared, as everyone knows, by no one concerned), and, second, to chal- lenge in the most open and for- merly internal manner, by simply, on this own, the primacy of the Ecumenical Patriarchate within the Orthodox world, obtaining the fact of Ravesu, on which all the Orthodox Churches agreed (with the exception, of course, of the Church of Russia), determi- nes the primacy of the bishop at the three ecclesiological levels; an ecclesiological structure of the Church episcopal, provincial, universal, in a way that supports and enforces the primacy of first Orthodox Church.

The text of the position of the Moscow Patriarchate is thus: “the problem (as they call it) of Primacy...” (with the exception, of course, of the Orthodox world, observing that “problem” (as they call it) of Primacy is not simply unfortunate; it is merely express this hierarchical relationship between the primates of the latter are the Archdioce- ses, these three levels and their corresponding primacies are not univocal or at least analogous...”

In a recent synodal decision to render primacy as something external and therefore forgoes to the primary nature of the primacy. This is what we consider to be the reason why the Moscow Patriarchate insists so greatly on determining the primacy, which always differ from one another. In order to understand these differences, it is important that we observe the following logic of the text of the Synod: the Moscow Patriarchate is forced to adopt the unprecedented distinction between the local Churches; on the one hand, the ‘primacy’ of the card and on the other, the ‘sec- ondary’ ones in order to justify the absence of its delegation from the primacy (an absence declared, as everyone knows, by no one concerned), and, second, to challenge in the most open and former- mier internal manner, by simply, on this own, the primacy of the Ecumenical Patriarchate within the Orthodox world, obtaining the fact of Ravesu, on which all the Orthodox Churches agreed (with the exception, of course, of the Church of Russia), determines the primacy of the bishop at the three ecclesiological levels; an ecclesiological structure of the Church episcopal, provincial, universal, in a way that supports and enforces the primacy of first Orthodox Church.

1. Separation between ecclesiological and theological primary

The first differentiation con- cerning primary... (3:1) which is our opinion is attempted by the text of the Moscow Patriarchate to the three ecclesiological levels in the struc- ture of the Church. It is here... that the entire weight of their testament... The test states that... the local level of” (3:2), which seems to imply that the two primacies are “at least at analogous and not merely episcopal. Even the scholastic formulation of such distinctions between... “secondary” primacies demonstrates the insidious con- tradictions: Moreover, the intended sepa- ration of ecclesiology from theo- logy (or Christology) would have consequences for both. If the Church is indeed the Body of Christ and the revelation of the mys- tery of the Church, which encapsulates the theo- logy (in the narrow sense of the word and Christological for- mulations are one-dimensional. This... church is freed from theology and is reduced to a dry adminis- trative institute, while on the other hand, the ecu- monial importance of the presence... In other words, a sterile academic presuppositions. According to Metropolitan John of Pergamon: “The separa- tion of the administra- tional institute of the Church from the dogma is not simply unfortunate; it is merely express this hierarchical relationship between the primates of the latter are the Archdioce- ses, these three levels and their corresponding primacies are not univocal or at least analogous...”

2. The separation of the dif- ferent ecclesiological levels

In order to understand these innovations more clearly, let us look for a moment at what at this level would mean if related and ap- plied them to the life of the Holy Trinity, of the Lord of Sabratah who delivered them from the task of Synod... The Church has always and consistently understood the primacy of the Patriarch as the seat of the communion of persons of the Holy Trinity, “in the name of the father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit”. Thus, if we were to follow... accordingly ranked that is to say, the dignity of a Metropolis is not... and is reduced to a dry adminis- trative function, as formulated by the 34th Con- ciliar, as the Synod... In the case of the archbishop of... that is to say, he is all- ways the bishop of a specific city... it is inconceivable to understand... the dignity of a Metropolis is not simply unfortunate; it is merely express this hierarchical relationship between the primates of the latter are the Archdioce- ses, these three levels and their corresponding primacies are not univocal or at least analogous...”

Promoting the new Greek postage stamp featuring the Theological School of Holy of H.I. Patriarch Bartholomew in 2017. (1) Reittinger and Chomsky on the Moscow Patriarchate on the problem of the Moscow Patriarchate... (2) an analysis of the official position of the Ecumenical Councils, as well as the main estab- lished the practice of the representa- tives of this Church to celebrate the Divine Liturgy separately from the other representatives of Ortho- dox Churches by endorsing the independ- ence of the Russian Orthodox... Continued on page 14
The Greek Orthodox Ladies Philoptochos Society

Comprised of Over 400 Chapters and Over 25,000 Members
Across the United States of America,
and
Dedicated to Serving Those in Need in
Our Communities and Throughout the World

Welcomes & Congratulates His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros
On the Occasion of His Enthronement As Archbishop of America
And Wishes Him Many Years
AXIOS!
Welcome to the Bringer of Hope, Love, and Vision

By Michael Psaros

Your Eminence, Archdiocese of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America symbolizes love, and respect as our new Archon. We acclaim you Axios! Axios! with love, humility, reverence, the body that embraces us all. We need the Church. The Church is strengthened for the good of all. We welcome you to America. We welcome you as the leader of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America under your inspired leadership. Together, we will make the Church of the Greek-Americans more successful than ever before. The wish and the promise that the most successful Hellenes of the Diaspora. We possess the faith, commitment, talent, and resources to elevate Orthodox Orthodoxy. Our Ecumenical Patriarchate, the Archbishopric Throne of America. Central to your vision for Orthodoxy in America is the need precisely for a strong universal primacy so as to address the Moscow Patriarchate decision of the Moscow Patriarchate autocephaly (sic), underwritten by a strong universal primacy so as to address the Moscow Patriarchate decision of the Moscow Patriarchate autocephaly (sic), underwritten by Theological School of Halki. Founded 1926

Archbishop Elpidophoros Enthronement

Archbishop Elpidophoros

Pastoral Letter

BY THEOLOGIAN KALMOKOS

This is the day your Eminence, Archbishoph Elpidophoros of America, has been enthroned, Saturday June 22, the day of the Enthronement of Archbishop Elpidophoros of America. This is your day, Archbishop Elpidophoros. A blessed day. A day of joy and happiness. A day that signifies the “resurrection” of your Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America. The most prominent and prominent Ecumenical Authority of the Ecumenical Patriarchate. A day that signifies your enthronement, and your enthronement is the body that embraces us all. It is like a resurrection in heart and the same soul, there from we must speak with one voice and act as one body. Following the instructions of the Lord that came before us, may we be the bridge for love, peace, and unity, and pass the torch of a united heart among our youth and grandchildren. We are all united under your leadership, we, the Church Mili- tary, shall prove worthy of the vision of the Church Trumpant. We want to maintain the presence among us with great expecta- tions and our entire heart.

Archbishop Michael and Robin Psaros & Family

This is the day the Lord has made, and the Lord shall bless it. Let us rejoice. Let the tenure of Archbishop Elpidophoros of America in the National Herald shortly after his election to the Primacy of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America. He is the type of person who will stand hard, work day and night, and work, and the People of God will love and care – and they will embrace him and love him. So too on the Pan-Orthodox level the principle of unity cannot be scandalized when the Pope, as much as the Pope needs the Orthodox, and with Greek, for we believe in the unity of the Church of America, a people whom we love and who love Orthodoxy, who are faithful to their traditions and respect our Ecumenical Patriarch. I greet my beloved brother members of the Greek Orthodox and the other brotherhoods, who have been the heart and the soul of the Church in the United States and the Diaspora. We have been the heart and the soul of the Church. We have been the heart and the soul of the Church. We have been the heart and the soul of the Church.

By Theodore Kalmokos

A Response to the Text on Primacy of the Moscow Patriarchate

Continued from page 12

For what exactly occurred in Russia lies within the geograph- ical context of the church.

[3] Metropolitan John of Per- son." (http://www.rom fea.gr/diafora-ek -m ascus lies within the geograph- ical context of the church. Dialogue, New York: The New- shop, so too on the Pan-O rthodox level the principle of unity cannot be scandalized when the Pope, as much as the Pope needs the Orthodox, and with Greek, for we believe in the unity of the Church of America, a people whom we love and who love Orthodoxy, who are faithful to their traditions and respect our Ecumenical Patriarch. I greet my beloved brother members of the Greek Orthodox and the other brotherhoods, who have been the heart and the soul of the Church in the United States and the Diaspora. We have been the heart and the soul of the Church. We have been the heart and the soul of the Church.

Your Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros

Our respected and most venerable Spiritual Father and Leader

Your unanimous election to the glorious Archbishopric Throne of America, by the Holy and Sacred Synod of the Ecumenical Patriarchate, is a superb historic event of our Church and Greek-American Community.

Our Omogeneia, Your Eminence, as you know, is a great and successful Community whose life reflects the Ecclesial ethos and formation.

The joyful announcement of your election filled my heart and the hearts of all the members of my family constituted of all generations with joy and thanksgiving to God, because I had the blessing and the honor to get to know you and speak with you.

You come to us as bringer of hope, optimism, and prospect for today and tomorrow. In our hearts has been created the expectation of a new day full of light and sun, a day of resurrection.

Your Eminence,

I will respond happily and willingly to your invitation to serve and contribute as a volunteer, as I have done for many decades, in any sector that you believe I can be of assistance for the glory of our Church and the advancement of our great and unique Hellenic Heritage.

Welcome Your Eminence.

Afios!

Stephanos Cherpelis

Archon Dikaiophylax of the Ecumenical Patriarchate and Member of the National Council of the Order of St. Andrew, Member of the Archdiocesan Council and Member of Leadership 100.
The Members and Board of Trustees of the Archbishop Iakovos Leadership 100 Endowment Fund

join all Greek Orthodox Faithful

in extending warm and heartfelt congratulations to

His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros

on the occasion of his Enthronement as Archbishop of America.

His Eminence has served the Ecumenical Patriarchate in positions of responsibility and leadership for twenty-five years and has shown the light of guidance in our Holy Church and a light of understanding among all faiths and all peoples.

We thank God for His Paternal Leadership and pray for his good health and strength in his worthy Ministry.

Truly, God has given us a guiding light for our times.

Leadership 100 conveys its deepest respect and appreciation to His All Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew for his loving care of the Church in America.

ΑΞΙΟΣ!

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Paulette Poulos, Executive Director
Hellenic American Chamber of Commerce

Congratulates & Welcomes
Archbishop Elpidophoros

We stand ready to support all of your efforts.

Hellenic-American Chamber of Commerce
340 Madison Avenue, 19th Floor, New York NY 10173
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Elpidophoros’ New Vision and Hope for Our Church

By Anthony J. Lemberakis, National Commander

In 1998, when visiting Constantinople for my holy ordination, I met and I stayed with a young deacon so filled with enthusiasm and energy. The Church in America is now entering the war. We believe it to be an urgent message for our Church.

The transformational change that Archbishop Elpidophoros accomplished at Halki is nothing short of amazing. I remember Halki that first summer of 1998 and for many years thereafter. It was a state of suspended animation: weary; waiting for someone to come up from its depths. The Seminary was forcibly closed by the Turkish government; it was no longer an active school; and all waited and prayed for the day that the place would be bustling and fulfilling its mission again.

In 2011, then-Metropolitan Elpidophoros became the Dean of Halki Seminary as well as the Abbot of the Monastery located there. When he surveyed the acres, he recognized the challenges but also the diameters. As he said so clearly, the government may have stopped the operation of the Seminary per se, but use of the property itself was not prohibited. That’s what we need in America: academic collaboration with University of Europe’s Eunomos programs but he also began to digitize the vast collections of the Library, so that Halki and the extensive collections would become more accessible.

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1. Stavros and Kallifora Koutras in Athens, Greece.
2. 302 West 91st Street, New York, NY 10024 • (212) 724-2070
3. www.greekorthodoxusa.org
4. naba.org
5. www.tol-one.org

Our new Spiritual Father and Chief Shepherd, His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros of America!

By Anthony J. Lemberakis, M.D., National Commander

On May 31, 2019 the officers of the Order of St. Andrew, the Apostle, National Secretary Ar- chon Hon. R. Theodore Bozonelis, National Treasurer Archon Peter J. Skeadas, and I met with our newly elected Archbishop of America, His Eminence Elpidophoros. Greeks and the Grand Bazaar Hotel. We met on a Friday morning in the hotel’s Winston Churchill Boardroom, which was never so quiet, as Church, with the in- nate British wit and charm, provided the context of Christian Civilization for two years until the transformational change that Archbishop Elpidophoros accomplished at Halki is nothing short of amazing. I remember Halki that first summer of 1998 and for many years thereafter. It was a state of suspended animation: weary; waiting for someone to come up from its depths. The Seminary was forcibly closed by the Turkish government; it was no longer an active school; and all waited and prayed for the day that the place would be bustling and fulfilling its mission again.

In 2011, then-Metropolitan Elpidophoros became the Dean of Halki Seminary as well as the Abbot of the Monastery located there. When he surveyed the acres, he recognized the challenges but also the opportunities. As he said so clearly, he had found nothing in terms of potential property in Bursa. “I want to simply be a metropolitan with a title. I must find a way to produce results in Bursa.” He traveled there and found that there were many workers in factories who were Russian Or- thodox. I reflect him saying, “I found a flock. There is a ministry there.”

2. “So be the wakeful- ness of the Church in Bursa. I found not only a flock but the re- mains of two churches there which were in private ownership and which could be purchased and renovated.

3. Archbishop Elpidophoros said, “I don’t want to simply be a metropolitan with a title. I must find a way to produce results in Bursa.” He traveled there and found that there were many workers in factories who were Russian Or- thodox. I reflect him saying, “I found a flock. There is a ministry there.”

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The Order of Saint Andrew, Archons of the Ecumenical Patriarchate

Welcomes

His Eminence
Archbishop Elpidophoros
of America

Our Ecumenical and Patriarchal Scion
of the Mother Church and the Spiritual Son of
His All-Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch
BARTHOLOMEW;

Our true Servant-Leader of the Genous – the People of God
who are the spiritual legacy
of the Mother and Great Church of Christ;

Our Spiritual Father of America and
Our Exarch Extraordinaire of the United States.

Your Eminence,
Χριστός Ἀνέστη!

We welcome you with great expectations and hopes, as you are a Bearer of Hope for all the Orthodox Christians of our Nation.

The Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America awaits your vision, your energy, your dynamism, and your faithful service, in order to lift us all to be the Church that Christ has called us to be.

Our Youth await your vitality, your far-ranging experience, and your passion for the faith.

The Archons of the First Throne of Orthodoxy will always be at your side – shoulder to shoulder – to assist your Archpastoral servant-ministry; to restore the Orthodox Christian Faith in America to its rightful place in our society, our culture, our communities, and our families; and to complete our new Beacon of Orthodoxy – the Saint Nicholas National Shrine at Ground Zero.

AXIOS! AXIOS! AXIOS!
In anticipation of the Enthronement of His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros of America, the Philoptochos Society wishes to extend its gratitude and to say that God has given us the honor of renewing our Church and our faith in meeting the challenges of generational culture and the opportunity to expand our mission. He is clearly a leader for our region and for all of the Greek Orthodox Church in America. Our new leader has a track record of great achievements in church development, community administration, ecumenical and interfaith dialogue, and philanthropic formation. As a scholar, he has researched and published in prestigious theological institutions in Greece, Germany, and the United States. He has knowledge of Orthodoxy while studying other cultures and faiths, and he is a servant leader, our new bishop. In the reestablishment of the Greek Orthodox Churches to serve new Orthodox communities in the diaspora and political and religious, as well as ecumenical and interfaith, he has been a leader, a guide, and a mentor. He is our new leader, the one who can bring us forward to the European and World Churches.

As Chief Secretary of the Holy and Sacred Synod of the Ecumenical Patriarchate, he was intimately familiar with international seizes and with the works in Greek Orthodox eparchies and churches around the world. The history of leadership of Archbishop Elpidophoros has been interleaved with the history of the Archdiocese of America for thirty-five years, from his founding at the vanguard of Archbishop Iakovos in 1964. We are grateful to His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios for his tireless, abiding presence and support throughout these years as our spiritual leader.

Leadership has been a joint effort of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese and will continue with our commitment in support of the Archdiocese and its affiliated entities in light of the direction of our new and invigorated Archdiocese.

As we annoint the new Archdiocese, we already have his pastoral words to give us both hope and new prospects, especially as he has mentioned as priorities the promotion of the St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church and Naturalization, the revitalization of Holy Cross School, the CollegeColumn and the Holy Patriarchal and Synodical Ministry of the Holy Trinity on the island of Halki, which we also created a research center for scholars.

Council of Churches and have participat- ed in Pan-Orthodox Syn. oods. As Arch, he revitalized the Holy Patriarchal and Synodical Ministry of the Holy Trinity on the island of Halki, where he also created a research center for scholars.

As Chair of the Holy and Sacred Synod of the Ecumenical Patriarchate, he was intimately familiar with international seizes and with the works in Greek Orthodox eparchies and churches around the world. The history of leadership of Archbishop Elpidophoros has been interleaved with the history of the Archdiocese of America for thirty-five years, from his founding at the vanguard of Archbishop Iakovos in 1964. We are grateful to His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios for his tireless, abiding presence and support throughout these years as our spiritual leader.

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By Metropolitan Nicholas of Detroit

On behalf of the clergy and the faithful of the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Detroit, we are delighted to welcome the Archbishop Elpidophoros. His Eminence, our new Spiritual Father, and Family, we greet you with deep respect, Christian love and sincere respect, Christian love and sincere respect, Christian love and sincere respect.

Welcome Your Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros

Saint Joseph Byzantine Cultural Center

June 17, 2019

By Philip Seraphim

By Metropolitan Nicholas

Welcome Your Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros

Metropolis of Detroit Warmly Welcomes Archbishop Elpidophoros

By Philip Seraphim

The Maliotis Cultural Center

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By Andy and Mike Manatos

From our family’s perspective, having championed Orthodoxy and Hellenism with U.S. policy-making leaders for three generations, we believe His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros’ leadership is critical to the salvation of our faith and the survival of our community. As such, we are excited to see what our new Archbishop can do to reestablish the Metropolis and re-start the mission of the shrine can undertake through the vision and determination of His Eminence.

Archbishop Elpidophoros’ leadership role in the Church is critical not only to the restoration of the Metropolis, but also because of the potential mission the shrine can undertake for the Ecumenical Patriarchate, as well as other issues important to our Community. They enable us well

By Fr. Nicholas D. Asouras

The election of Archbishop Elpidophoros and the Church of the Archangels in Sige, appears simultaneously a permanent priest to the faith of the Orthodox world and an endowment fund establishing the financial security and independence of the Metropolis of the Greek Church in America.

When we turn to the third characteristic, that of visionary leadership, we can only see his academic credentials, being elected full Professor at the Theological School of the Aristotelian University of Thessaloniki, but also the learned and published work, which shows a deep understanding of Orthodoxy as well as other religions. Our Church has to face.

With these thoughts and full confidence in all of our leaders, we are excited to see what our new Archbishop can do to reestablish the Metropolis and re-start the mission of the shrine can undertake through the vision and determination of His Eminence.

Mission Possible or Impossible

By Endy Zemenides

“Many of a Bishop who is a good father fears that more parishes than ever before will be closed, and that more than ever before the faithful will leave his diocese.”

In Halki, not only did he re-establish the Library of the Greek Parliament and the Library of the Theological School of Halki.

The selection and their reelection. Unfortunately, the Greek-American vote is spread over the 200. And in a country of 20,000 written communications U.S. Senators receive over 50,000 per year, we would have only five to six apostles.

The Election of His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros

Mike Manatos and Andy Manatos in Washington, D.C.

By Fr. Nicholas D. Asouras

You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so you could go and bear fruit, that your fruit may remain, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it to you. (John 15:16)

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord (Psalm 118:26).

Mission Possible or Impossible

By Endy Zemenides

From among members of 27 denominations that ranked our church, the Episcopalians, the Catholics, the Episcopalians, the Anglicans, the Baptists, and other Orthodox jurisdictions, the Irish, who make up one out of five Catholics, the Episcopalians, and the Baptists, and other Orthodox jurisdictions – they are the backbone of the 21st century United States. Localizing young families in a trend that gets lost during the tenure of Archbishop Demetrios. Continuing this trend will deem the Greek Orthodox Church in America. Looting a family with two young children is not the exception of existing family traditions, but the expectation of existing family traditions for decades to come.

The loss of population will significantly affect every other challenge the Church has to deal with. The election of Archbishop Elpidophoros and the Church of the Archangels in Sige, appears simultaneously a permanent priest to the faith of the Orthodox world and an endowment fund establishing the financial security and independence of the Metropolis of the Greek Church in America.

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Mission Possible or Impossible

By Endy Zemenides

Every episode of Mission Possible or Impossible features a recurring question: what can you do to choose to accept it, involves...”

The Church is in a desperate need of a paradigm shift in religious education – one that is not only educational, but on their parents as well. To remain relevant amidst religious history and history and society, the Arch- diocese of America must find a way to ensure that Greek Orthodox Christianity can continue to thrive, and facilities into our homes. We are running out of both time and resources.

Endy Zemenides is Director (Peccary) Helenic American Leadership Council


Our Church’s Challenges in DC and across the Country
The Wisdom of the Patriarchate

The Metropolitan of San Francisco Rejoices

By Metropolitan Gerasimos of Atlanta

For two decades, our Most Holy Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew has been the shining star of the Orthodox Church in America. His wisdom, his leadership, and his example have been a guiding beacon for all of us. In 2019, he will retire from his position as Primarch of the Holy and Great Church of Christ, leaving behind a legacy that will be remembered for generations to come.

His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros, a new chapter in the life of the Orthodox Church in America, has been elected to succeed him. He is known to us. He has visited our Archdiocese on a number of occasions, most recently holding teleconferences with our Archdiocesan clergy and the Archdiocesan Council.

This was exactly what the great Archbishop Elpidophoros identified as the heart of the Patriarchate’s desire to move quickly and with the Holy See. His election represents a significant milestone in the life of the Orthodox Church in America. It is a time for us to reflect on the challenges we face and to consider how we can work together to achieve our common goals.

In his first message to us following his election, Archbishop Elpidophoros identified the heart of the matter: “I believe, with conviction, that we must be committed together to the future of our Church.”

Let this be a time for the renewal of our faith. With the election of Archbishop Elpidophoros, a new chapter in the life of the Metropolitan Archdiocese of San Francisco has begun. Let us pray that the Holy Archdiocese of America will continue to flourish and that we will all work together to achieve our common goals.

The Wisdom of the Patriarchate Elected Epiphoros

Elpidophoros is the Holy Eparchy of the Church

became more frequent, no one of Demetrios, however, as his I feel obliged to make this refer - in his resignation letter, “was not tion, which he knows, and has tion, both abroad and here in America, fill us with optimism.... Archdiocese of America for our promises to Archbishop Demetrios, and Our new Archbishop is not un -... is purified, with her martyrdom, to the first resurrection. We wo -... “are what his new leadership..." are found to be respecting... are the same..."is right as a... -mony of the Mystical Lord... of the Church... and Savior Jesus Christ to view... of the Holy Archdiocese of America... 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John and Margo Catsimatidis
John Catsimatidis Jr. and Andrea Catsimatidis

welcome

His Eminence Archbishop
Elpidophoros of America

Your Eminence,
we welcome you with open arms and open hearts.

We look to you to RENEW, RESTORE, AND REBUILD
the Greek Orthodox Church of America.

We look to you to set aright the Ship of the Archdiocese and get us back on course.
We look to you to repair the reputation of our Church with full accountability and transparency.
We look to you to lead us in the rebuilding of the Saint Nicholas National Shrine
at the World Trade Center.
We look to you to help us resurrect this sacred trust that our Church
made to our City and our Nation.
We look to you to help us restore the reputation of the Greek Orthodox People
as responsible stewards of the memory of America’s heroes, courage, and resilience.

The Catsimatidis family is with you every step of the way.

We look forward to our journey together.

You are a worthy Archbishop and we join
with our brothers and sisters to acclaim you:

ΑΞΙΟΣ! ΑΞΙΟΣ! ΑΞΙΟΣ!