

the Archon

ORDER OF SAINT ANDREW THE APOSTLE
ARCHONS OF THE ECUMENICAL PATRIARCHATE IN AMERICA



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Special Edition



ECUMENICAL PATRIARCH
BARTHOLOMEW
APOSTOLIC VISIT TO THE
UNITED STATES

OCTOBER 20 - NOVEMBER 6, 2009

36-PAGE PICTORIAL TRIBUTE
covering the historical visit of
His All Holiness Bartholomew

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Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew and Archbishop Demetrios honor National Commander with Athenagoras Human Rights Award

Twenty-Seven new Archons invested at Archdiocesan Cathedral of the Holy Trinity
Complete coverage offered on page 27

Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew appears on *60 Minutes* Segment on Orthodox Christianity

NEW YORK, NY

Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew, the leader of the 300 million-member Orthodox Christian Church, feels "crucified" living in Turkey under a government he says would like to see his nearly 2,000-year-old Patriarchate die out. His All Holiness spoke to Bob Simon for a 60 MINUTES story, which was broadcast Sunday, Dec. 20 on the CBS Television Network.

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60 MINUTES

CBS News Anchor Bob Simon of the program **60 Minutes**, interviews His All Holiness at the Halki Seminary.



**2009
ARCHON
WEEKEND**

OCTOBER 30TH - NOVEMBER 1ST
WALDORF-ASTORIA · NEW YORK

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THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

PATRIARCHAL PROCLAMATION OF ECUMENICAL PATRIARCH BARTHOLOMEW

† BARTHOLOMEW

By God's Grace

Archbishop of Constantinople, New Rome and Ecumenical Patriarch
To the Plenitude of the Church
Grace, peace and mercy from the Savior Christ Born in Bethlehem

Beloved concelebrants and blessed children in the Lord,

*Heaven and earth have united
Through the birth of Christ.
Today, God has appeared on earth,
And man has ascended to heaven.
(Christmas Hymn)*

The distance and separation between God and humanity resulting from sin has been abolished with the assumption of the entire human nature by the Only-Begotten Son and Pre-eternal Word of God. It was God's good will – that is to say, His initiative and will – that the incarnation of His Son should abolish all such distance uniting heaven and earth, as well as creation with its Creator.

During the Feast of the Entrance of the Theotokos, the Church chanted: "Today is the beginning of God's good will and the proclamation of human salvation." During that feast, through the dedication of the blessed Mary to the temple and her preparation there to become the bearer of the boundless God, the road was paved for the incarnate dispensation of God, which foretold our salvation.

During the feast of the Annunciation, when the divine conception of the Inconceivable occurred through the Holy Spirit within the womb of the Theotokos and divine nature began to coexist with human nature in order that – as St. Athanasius the Great articulated it – "we might become deified," the Church again chanted: "Today is the beginning of our salvation and the revelation of the pre-eternal mystery; the Son of God becomes the son of the Virgin." Thus, the "divine good will" welcomed at the Entrance, as well as the salvation commenced and revealed at the Annunciation, are today rendered a tangible reality, as we celebrate the great and holy day of Christmas. Today, "the Word assumes flesh and dwells among us" (John 1.14), while the Angels celebrate the event, chanting: "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will among humankind." (Luke 2.14)

With the Incarnation of the Divine Word, the salvation of the human race has already potentially occurred. For those who believe in Jesus, live in accordance with this faith, fulfilling His commandments and practicing His teaching, are thereby elevated to become the friends and participants of God! They become "partakers of divine nature" (2 Peter 1.14), gods by grace! This takes place exclusively within the Church, where we are reborn in Christ and adopted by the Father through Holy Baptism and through the holy Sacraments, as well as by cultivation of virtue in order to be filled with divine grace and the Holy Spirit, growing "to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ" (Eph. 4.13) until we reach the level of saying, like St. Paul: "It is no longer I who live, but it is Christ who lives in me." (Gal. 2.20) Those who acquire such perfection are not regarded by Christ simply as His friends or brothers, but are recognized by Him as members of His Body. This is why, from the height of the Cross, he would say to His Most Holy Mother about the Evangelist John: "Woman, here is your son," and to John: "Here is your mother." (John 19.26-27) Christmas, therefore, opens wide the door of human "christification" and deification by grace; and for this reason, "the entire creation rejoices in celebration and the heavens delight with us" on this day of significance and salvation." (Hymn of December 28)

With these joyful and hopeful realities before us, from the sacred See of the Ecumenical Patriarchate at the Phanar, we extend to you our fervent festive congratulations and wholehearted Patriarchal wishes on this central feast of the Christian calendar. We greet all of our beloved faithful throughout the world, the beloved children of the holy Mother Church – clergy of all levels, monastics and laity, pastors and parishioners, and especially those suffering, experiencing sorrow, need or trial. May the pre-eternal Son of God – who was born in a cave and lay in a manger – who for our sake became Son of Man, render all of us worthy of his self-emptying love and of His sacred, venerable incarnate dispensation.

Holy Christmas, 2009

Ἁγία Χριστούγεννα, 2009

† BARTHOLOMEW of Constantinople
Your fervent intercessor before God



ECUMENICAL PATRIARCH BARTHOLOMEW



APOSTOLIC VISIT TO THE UNITED STATES

NEW ORLEANS · NEW YORK

ATLANTA · WASHINGTON D.C.

Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew's just-completed sixth visit to the United States will be noted for a number of accomplishments.

It raised the public's consciousness about the environmental condition of the Mississippi River through the eighth Religion, Science and the Environment Symposium, held in New Orleans from Oct. 21-25, which featured a diverse group of theologians, scientists, policy makers, environmentalists, representatives of business and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), and members of the print and electronic media.

It received wide attention, not only through the local New Orleans press, but also through such major regional and national media including the Washington Times and Washington Post, Religion News Service and

the Wall Street Journal, which published an Op-Ed piece from His All Holiness, and the Charlie Rose Show on PBS. The Ecumenical Patriarch's appearance on the program also marked the first time that an Ecumenical Patriarch has been interviewed on American television.

In addition to restating his concern for the environment, His All Holiness fielded numerous questions in the hourlong interview. He addressed topics that included the history and function of the institution of the Ecumenical Patriarchate and its worldwide role, relations with the Roman Catholic Church, issues facing the Church in Turkey and other relevant matters. (To view the archived program in its entirety, go to: www.charlierose.com).

The Roman Catholic Church honored His All Holiness with

the bestowal of an honorary degree from Fordham University, the premier Jesuit school in the United States. Within the Church, Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew made his first appearance at an Archdiocesan Council meeting and invested the newest group of Archons into the Order of St. Andrew.

He also made first-time visits to St. Demetrios Church in Merrick, N.Y., where he presided at the Vespers of St. Demetrios and to Sts. Constantine and Helen Church in Annapolis, Md., where he observed the 18th anniversary of his enthronement as Ecumenical Patriarch.

A major part of His All Holiness' schedule included meetings with several key religious and political leaders in New York, including other Orthodox hierarchs, Jewish leaders, the UN secretary general, Mayor Michael Bloomberg and former President Bill Clinton.

In Washington, the high point of his visit was the second private meeting in six months with President Barack Obama, when the two met in the Oval Office on Nov. 3. Vice President Joseph Biden hosted a private dinner for the Ecumenical Patriarch, as did Secretary of State Hillary Clinton.

A Capitol Hill luncheon hosted by Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi and Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid rounded out the Ecumenical Patriarch's high-level encounters with American leaders.

He also raised the awareness of one of the nation's major think tanks, the Brookings Institution, where he spoke on the Ecumenical Patriarchate's efforts on the environment. ■

[Written by Jim Golding]

APOSTOLIC VISIT PHOTOS BY N. MANGINAS, D. PANAGOS, AND J. MINDALA

NOVEMBER 3 • His All Holiness with President Barack Obama in the Oval Office of the White House.



APOSTOLICAL VISIT
TO THE
UNITED STATES
OCT 20
OCT 21

NEW ORLEANS, LA

ARRIVAL · OPENING OF RSE SYMPOSIUM



OCTOBER 20 • His All Holiness blesses the faithful as he arrives at the Louis Armstrong International Airport in New Orleans, LA.



OCTOBER 20 • Faithful from the surrounding New Orleans area anxiously await the arrival of His All Holiness to America.



OCTOBER 20 • His All Holiness addresses the hierarchs, clergy, and faithful upon arrival.



OCTOBER 20 • Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew is welcomed by His Eminence Metropolitan Alexios of Atlanta and Archon John Georges.



OCTOBER 21 • Archons Theofanis Economidis and George Marcus, His Eminence Metropolitan Gerasimos of San Francisco, His Eminence Metropolitan Nikitas of the Dardanelles, His Eminence Geron Metropolitan Athanasios of Chalcedon, together with His All Holiness.



OCTOBER 21 • Ms. Maria Beckett, coordinator of the Religion, Science, and the Environment (RSE) Symposium receives the blessing of His All Holiness.



OCTOBER 21 • His All Holiness is introduced at the opening of the RSE Symposium.

OCTOBER 21 • “We have reached a defining moment in our history...the point where absolute limits to our survival are being reached,” and we “instead of living on income, or the available surplus of the earth, we are consuming environmental capital and destroying its resources as if there is no tomorrow.” –Remarks in his opening address at the RSE Symposium



OCTOBER 21 • Religious leaders from around the United States and Europe gather together to listen to the opening remarks of His All Holiness.



APOSTOLICAL VISIT
TO THE
UNITED STATES
OCT 22

NEW ORLEANS, LA

BLESSING THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER



OCTOBER 22 • Ms. Maria Beckett shows His All Holiness a collection of past Religion, Science, and the Environment Symposium DVDs.



OCTOBER 22 • His All Holiness attending the Second Plenary of the Symposium, entitled, "Climate Change, Consequences".



OCTOBER 22 • His All Holiness speaks with Brigadier General Michael J. Walsh, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and President Designee of the Mississippi River Commission.



OCTOBER 22 • Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew and Archbishop Demetrios walk together along the pier of the Mississippi River.



The Great Mississippi

OCTOBER 22 • His All Holiness waves to the symposium attendees prior to the blessing of waters.



OCTOBER 22 • As part of the Eighth Religion, Science and the Environment Symposium, Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew conducted the Service of Sanctification, blessing of the Waters, aboard the riverboat "Natchez" and symbolically sprinkled Holy Water over the Mississippi River. All the participants of the Symposium were aboard to witness the ceremony.





APOSTOLIC VISIT
TO THE
UNITED STATES
OCT 22
OCT 23

NEW ORLEANS, LA

MEMORIAL · THE 9TH WARD DISTRICT



OCTOBER 23 · Archbishop Demetrios, Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew, and Metropolitan Alexios of Atlanta outside the chapel in St. Louis Cemetery where a memorial service was held.



OCTOBER 23 · His All Holiness conducted a memorial service at the St. Louis Cemetery #3 of New Orleans, for the victims of Hurricane Katrina and also in memory of the late Archbishop Iakovos (top). Following his visit to the Lower Ninth Ward, he greeted a local resident who recently moved back to the area (above).

The Lower Ninth Ward

OCTOBER 23 · Upon his arrival in the area, His All Holiness walked up a platform overlooking the wetlands and was briefed by local officials on the work of the coastal restoration of the bayou, the re-building of the levees, and which would prevent storm waves and allow trees and other vegetation to flourish again in the area.

"God compelled you to come and stand with us in our fight to restore the natural environment in this area, which is part of God's creation," said City of New Orleans Councilwoman Cynthia Willard-Lewis as she thanked His All Holiness for his visit and his prayers and on behalf of the City Council presented him with a Proclamation, marking the occasion.



OCTOBER 23 • His All Holiness is given a tour by New Orleans Councilwoman Cynthia Willard-Lewis of the area where the levees had broke in 2006 (top). He made a return visit to the Lower Ninth Ward District to survey the recovery and restoration efforts of the wetland area in Bayou Bienvenue. His last visit was in January 2006, which made the front page of the *NY Times* (above).



OCTOBER 23 • The Ecumenical Patriarch prays with a local resident on the bayou, chanting the hymn of the Theophany.

'We are here again to pray for the victims of Hurricane Katrina and their families and to express our solidarity with the people of New Orleans. We shall also continue to pray and work for the protection of the natural environment...'

—His All Holiness addressing the local officials, conservationists and residents of the area





APOSTOLIC VISIT
TO THE
UNITED STATES
OCT 24

NEW ORLEANS, LA

DINNER AT THE AQUARIUM

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Aquatic Underworld

OCTOBER 24 • His All Holiness and Archbishop Demetrios enjoy a walk through the aquatic tunnel at the New Orleans Aquarium.



OCTOBER 22 • The Ecumenical Patriarch, Archbishop Demetrios, and Metropolitan Emmanuel of France hold discussions with Bishop J. Douglas Willey, Pastor of Life Cathedral; Rev. Lois J. Dejean of Ebenezer Baptist Church; Glenda Jones Harris of Ebenezer Baptist Church; Elder Joyce Ridgeway of the Greater St. Stephen Ministries; and Sherman Copelin of the Resurrection Catholic Church.



OCTOBER 24 • The Ecumenical Patriarch and the Exarch catch a bird's eye view of the rainforest habitat inside the Aquarium following the dinner.



APOSTOLIC VISIT
TO THE
UNITED STATES
OCT 25

NEW ORLEANS, LA

HOLY TRINITY CATHEDRAL



OCTOBER 25 • Holy Trinity Cathedral, founded in 1864, is the first Orthodox Church in the United States.



OCTOBER 25 • Archons Nick M. Moustoukas MD, Frank C. Cockinos from Charlotte, NC, and John Georges, receive the blessing of His All Holiness.



OCTOBER 25 • The cathedral choir sing praises during the Divine Liturgy.



OCTOBER 25 • A watercolor mural entitled, 'For you are the font of healing' depicts the January 2006 visit of His All Holiness to the devastated area of the Lower Ninth Ward.



OCTOBER 25 • The cathedral is filled to capacity as the Small Entrance is made during the Divine Liturgy.



OCTOBER 25 • A banquet was held in honor of His All Holiness following the celebration of the Divine Liturgy.



OCTOBER 25 • Before his departure from New Orleans, His All Holiness thanks the local law enforcement and U.S. State Department for their assistance in transportation.



OCTOBER 25 • His All Holiness interacts with the children of the parish.





APOSTOLIC VISIT
TO THE
UNITED STATES
OCT 25

MERRICK / ROSLYN, NY

SAINT DEMETRIOS CHURCH



OCTOBER 25 • Saint Demetrios Church in Merrick, NY.



OCTOBER 25 • His All Holiness is greeted with a bouquet of flowers by a child as he arrives.



OCTOBER 25 • His All Holiness awards Fr. Nikiforos Fakinos the epigonation and makes him an Ekonomos.



OCTOBER 25 • Crowds of faithful who were not able to fit inside the church gathered in a tent behind the church and watched the Vespers service through live video feed.



Patriarchal Chorostasia at Great Vespers

OCTOBER 25 • The church is filled to capacity as His All Holiness presides over the Vespers service.



OCTOBER 25 • Following Vespers, local clergy and their spouses from around the Direct Archdiocesan District were invited to break bread with His All Holiness at Limani Restaurant in Roslyn, NY.





APOSTOLIC VISIT
TO THE
UNITED STATES
OCT 26



OCTOBER 26 • Saint Demetrios Cathedral in Astoria, NY.



OCTOBER 26 • Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew is greeted by the students of Saint Demetrios Parochial School and student representatives of the Direct Archdiocesan District Parochial Schools.



OCTOBER 26 • His All Holiness extends prayerful best wishes to the Exarch on his nameday.



OCTOBER 26 • The students of the school entertain the Ecumenical Patriarch with traditional Greek songs and dances.



The Divine Liturgy

OCTOBER 25 • The Feastday
of Saint Demetrios celebrated
in Astoria.



OCTOBER 26 • His All Holiness made an unexpected visit to Saint Irene Chrysovalantou Patriarchal Monastery in Astoria, NY where crowds came to receive his blessing.



OCTOBER 26 • The Ecumenical Patriarch interacts with the children of the day care center and pre-schoolers of Saint Irene Chrysovalantou.



OCTOBER 26 • His All Holiness accompanied by Archbishop Demetrios and Metropolitan Paisios of Tyana, Abbot of Saint Irene Chrysovalantou Patriarchal Monastery.





APOSTOLIC VISIT
TO THE
UNITED STATES
OCT 26
OCT 27

NEW YORK, NY

U.N. PRAYER SERVICE / G.O.A. VISIT



OCTOBER 26 • Ambassador Strobe Talbot was the featured speaker at the U.N. Prayer Service at the Archdiocesan Cathedral of the Holy Trinity.



OCTOBER 27 • Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew addresses the Archdiocesan staff inside the St. Paul Chapel.



OCTOBER 27 • Archon Jerry Dimitriou greets His All Holiness and welcomes him back to the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America.



OCTOBER 27 • His All Holiness skims through a recent issue of the Order of Saint Andrew's bi-monthly publication, *The Archon*, during his visit to the Archdiocese.

United Nations Prayer Service

OCTOBER 26 • His All Holiness presides at the Ninth Annual Orthodox Christian Prayer Service for the United Nations community. The service is sponsored by the SCOBA / SCOCH Joint Commission of Eastern and Oriental Orthodox Churches. A record number of over 40 ambassadors attended the service.





OCTOBER 27 • [L-R] Bishop David of the Coptic Orthodox Church; Archbishop Mor Titus of the Malankara Archdiocese of the Syrian Orthodox Church; Archbishop Khajag Barsamian of the Armenian Orthodox Church; Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew; Archbishop Mor Cyril Aphrem Karim of the Syriac Orthodox Church; Fr. Teklemariam Michael A. Greene; Archbishop Zecharius of the Ethiopian Church; Fr. John Meno of the Syriac Church; Cardinal William Keeler, Archbishop Emeritus of Baltimore; and Archbishop Demetrios of America.





APOSTOLIC VISIT
TO THE
UNITED STATES
OCT 27

BRONX, NY

FORDHAM UNIVERSITY

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Honorary Degree of Law

OCTOBER 27 • "We honor you for the extraordinary service that you have given to the Orthodox Churches, the whole Christian family and the world," said Fr. Joseph M. McShane, president of Fordham. "Throughout your ministry as the Archbishop of Constantinople, New Rome and Ecumenical Patriarch, and as the successor to the apostle Andrew, you have discharged the duties of your office with vision and holiness. In the model of your saintly predecessor, St. John Chrysotom, you have been a theologian of rare wisdom and wide erudition." Fordham University conferred an Honorary Doctorate of Laws, *honoris causa*, upon His All Holiness at the Rose Hill campus in the Bronx.



OCTOBER 27 • His All Holiness arrives at Fordham University's Rose Hill Campus. He had an audience with Orthodox Christian students at the Museum of Greek, Etruscan and Roman Art.



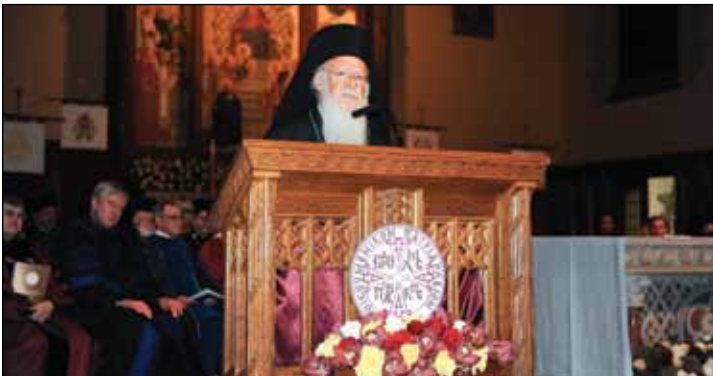
OCTOBER 27 • "This newly created rose is a special 'green' rose, grown to stay in many harsh climates without the use of any chemical pesticides ... [they] are the first Bartholomew roses grown in the world and will be planted on Fordham's Rose Hill and Lincoln Center campuses in memory of your visit here today," said Anne Neuendorf, president of the Orthodox Christian Fellowship. The rose will be registered with the American Rose Society.



OCTOBER 27 • Fr. Joseph McShane, President of Fordham University, introduces His All Holiness to the Orthodox Christian students who each had the opportunity to receive his blessing.



OCTOBER 27 • Archon Michael and Mary Jaharis greet Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew during a reception prior to the conferral ceremony.



OCTOBER 27 • His All Holiness addressed the audience with a speech that touched on "ecumenical consciousness," or the opening of the heart, opening up to others and to all things created by God.



OCTOBER 27 • Fr. McShane hosted a dinner at Tognino Hall in the Duane Library. An icon of Saints John the Baptist and Bartholomew was presented.



OCTOBER 27 • [L-R] His Eminence Geron Metropolitan Athanasios of Chalcedon; Fordham President McShane; Cardinal Keeler; Archbishop Demetrios of America; Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew; Rev. Timothy M. Dolan, Archbishop of New York; Edward Cardinal Egan, who was appointed the Papal Delegate of Pope Benedict XVI; Archbishop Celestino Migliore, Apostolic Nuncio, Permanent Observer of the Holy See to the United Nations; and Mr. John N. Tognino, Chairman of the Fordham Board of Trustees.



APOSTOLIC VISIT
TO THE
UNITED STATES
OCT 28

NEW YORK, NY

UNITED NATIONS / RABBI SCHNEIER / CLINTON



OCTOBER 28 • His All Holiness traveled to the United Nations Headquarters for a private meeting with His Excellency Ban Ki-moon, Secretary General of the U.N. The discussion revolved around the issues of mutual environmental concerns, climate change and the initiatives for dialogue among people, religions and cultures. His All Holiness later said in a comment to the press that Mr. Ban Ki-moon is aware of the environmental initiatives of the Ecumenical Patriarchate and its efforts toward the advancement of interfaith dialogue.



OCTOBER 28 • Archbishop Demetrios shows the Ecumenical Patriarch the various sacred artifacts found in the Michael and Mary Jaharis Byzantine Gallery in the Metropolitan Museum of Art.



OCTOBER 28 • Faith: An Endowment for Orthodoxy and Hellenism hosted a luncheon at the Metropolitan Museum of Art. Archon Michael Jaharis greets His All Holiness.



OCTOBER 28 • Actress Rita Wilson, a devout Greek Orthodox Christian, and wife of Tom Hanks, meets with His All Holiness.



OCTOBER 28 • His All Holiness addresses the Metropolitans, Bishops, clergy, and lay leaders of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America at the Central Park Boat House.



OCTOBER 28 • Archon Ernie Anastos, FOX 5 News Correspondent in New York, speaks with Archon Dean Poll, owner of the Central Park Boat House Restaurant in New York where the Archdiocesan Leadership Dinner was held.



OCTOBER 28 • At the Park East Synagogue in Manhattan, His All Holiness was received by Rabbi Arthur Schneier, President of the Appeal of Conscience Foundation and other Jewish religious and lay leaders. Rabbi Schneier offered a warm welcome and presented His All Holiness with a silver Menorah as a gift.



OCTOBER 28 • The Ecumenical Patriarch met with former U.S. President Bill Clinton at the Waldorf=Astoria Hotel.



APOSTOLIC VISIT
TO THE
UNITED STATES
OCT 29

ATLANTA, GA

ARRIVAL / ANNUNCIATION CATHEDRAL



OCTOBER 29 • Muhtar Kent, President and CEO of The Coca-Cola Company, together with executives of Coca-Cola, welcomes His All Holiness to the Atlanta Fulton County (Charlie Brown) Airport.



OCTOBER 29 • A Turkish rug depicting the seal of His All Holiness is presented to Mr. Kent.



OCTOBER 29 • His All Holiness was interviewed on the Charlie Rose show which aired a special one-hour episode on PBS. The interview can be viewed on www.charlierose.com.



OCTOBER 29 • National Commander Anthony J. Limberakis prays with the Archons of the Order of St. Andrew of the Metropolis of Atlanta during the Patriarchal Chorostasia.



An Ecumenical Gathering of Peace

OCTOBER 29 • His All Holiness leads the hierarchs, clergy, and faithful in prayer during an Ecumenical Gathering of Peace held in the Annunciation Cathedral in Atlanta, GA.



OCTOBER 29 • Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew, Archbishop Demetrios, Metropolitan Alexios of Atlanta, together with the Archons of the Metropolis of Atlanta.





APOSTOLIC VISIT
TO THE
UNITED STATES

OCT 29
OCT 30

ATLANTA, GA

THE COCA-COLA COMPANY

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OCTOBER 29 • The President of Coca-Cola, together with his wife Defne, present a commemorative memorabilia to His All Holiness.



OCTOBER 29 • Archon Harry Moskos with his son and granddaughter.



OCTOBER 30 • Archbishop Demetrios, His All Holiness, and Mr. Kent at the Coca-Cola Headquarters.



OCTOBER 30 • His All Holiness with the Coca-Cola mascot polar bear during a visit to the Coca-Cola Headquarters.



OCTOBER 29 • His All Holiness addresses the guests at a reception and dinner held at the World of Coca-Cola.



J. MINDALA

2009 ARCHON WEEKEND

OCTOBER 30TH - NOVEMBER 1ST

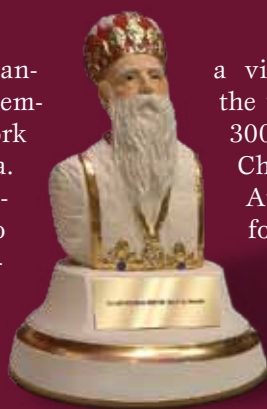
WALDORF=ASTORIA · NEW YORK

During his Apostolic visit to the United States, His All Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew described the moment as a "Patriarchal Privilege" and surprised the nearly 1,200 guests by honoring Anthony J. Limberakis, MD, National Commander of the Order of Saint Andrew, with the Athenagoras Human Rights Award. Dr. Limberakis became the 24th recipient of the Award and was honored for his leadership role to the Order and for his untiring devotion, love, and support to the Mother Church of Constantinople.

The award was presented Oct. 31 during the grand ban-

quet of the Order's annual three-day assembly at the New York Waldorf Astoria. The Award is presented annually to a person or organization, which has consistently exemplified by action, purpose and dedication, concern for the basic rights and religious freedom of all people.

Established in 1986, the award honors Ecumenical Patriarch Athenagoras who served as Archbishop of the Americas for 18 years before being elected Ecumenical Patriarch in 1948. He was universally acknowledged as



a visionary leader of the world's more than 300 million Orthodox Christians. Patriarch Athenagoras worked for peace among churches and people throughout his life.

Previous recipients have included

President Jimmy Carter, President George H.W. Bush, Former Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev, Archbishop Desmond Tutu, Mother Teresa, Elie Wiesel, Archbishop Iakovos of blessed memory, His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios of America, Exarch of the Ecumenical

Patriarchate, and last year's recipient, Rabbi Arthur Schneier.

This evening's festivities, however, centered on honoring the achievements of Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew as the spiritual leader of 300 million Orthodox Christians. The Order is deeply grateful for the philanthropic efforts of Archon Nicholas J. Bouras, National Vice Commander, who underwrote the Archon Grand Banquet for the 11th time.

His All Holiness, escorted by Archbishop Demetrios and National Commander Limberakis, was enthusiastically received as he en-



2009
ARCHON
WEEKEND

OCT 30

NEW YORK, NY

ORIENTATION DINNER / TRIBUTE CONCERT



OCTOBER 30 • Archons and Archons-elect introduce themselves during the Orientation Dinner held at Fordham University's Lincoln Center Campus.

tered a packed ballroom composed of visiting hierarchs and clergy from interfaith jurisdictions, Archons, dignitaries and guests. Honored dignitaries included the Honorable Michael Bloomberg, Mayor of New York City; His Excellency Archbishop

Timothy M. Dolan of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of New York; and Archon-elect Archon Mike Emanuel, White House Correspondent for Fox News. Archon Ernie Anastos, Emmy Award anchor for New York City's Fox 5 News, served as



OCTOBER 30 • His Grace Bishop Savas of Troas presents a commemorative plaque, on behalf of the National Council members, to Archon Christo Daphnides on his retirement.

master of ceremonies for the evening.

In tribute to His All Holiness, Limberakis said, "The environmental accomplishments of His All Holiness are without parallel. His All Holiness Bartholomew time and

again, has called upon humankind to respect God's creation, especially the great waters of the earth; whether on the ice caps of the Arctic Glaciers or on the Amazon River deep within South America's rainforest or most recently from the banks of the

Welcome New Archons!

OCTOBER 30 • National Commander Anthony J. Limberakis, MD, extends a warm welcome to all of the Archons and Archon-elect members and offers a visual presentation on the history of The Order, its role as advocate for the Ecumenical Patriarchate, and the 'humbling recognition and awesome responsibility' the Archon-elect members will now face.





A Tribute to Peacemakers

OCTOBER 30 • A concert, entitled, 'A Tribute to Peacemakers', was held in honor of Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew and in celebration of the tenth anniversary of the enthronement of Archbishop Demetrios of America at the Alice Tully Hall, Lincoln Center. Special performances were offered by the Manhattan Philharmonic, conducted by Peter Tiboris; Vassilis Varvaresos, Piano Soloist; and the Archdiocesan Metropolitan Youth Choir, directed by Maria Koleva.





2009
ARCHON
WEEKEND

OCT 30
OCT 31

NEW YORK, NY

AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY / ARCHON ASSEMBLY



OCTOBER 30 • His All Holiness is greeted by the Reverend Dr. R. Lamar Vest, President of the American Bible Society (ABS), along with local children who greeted him with flowers. A pictorial tribute was established in honor of His All Holiness' prophetic and pioneering leadership for the environment hosted by the ABS at the Museum of Biblical Art (MOBIA).



OCTOBER 31 • His All Holiness offered a private audience to the National Philoptochos Executive Committee, during which he expressed the gratification of the Mother Church for the important philanthropic work of the National Ladies Philoptochos Society.



OCTOBER 31 • "All of you are indispensable members of this responsible body of the Church – bishops and presbyters, clergy and laity, men and women, young and old," said His All Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew in his paternal and patriarchal exhortation to the members of the Archdiocesan Council of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America that had gathered in New York City for their regularly scheduled Fall meeting. The Ecumenical Patriarch expressed his "special pride" and "sincere gratitude" for the achievements of the Archdiocesan Council and the Church in America, for the "unfailing commitment" of the members and for their "fervent love for Christ and His teachings."



The Annual Assembly

OCTOBER 31 • The National Commander chairs the annual assembly where Archons, and their spouses, had the opportunity to hear various reports throughout the afternoon.

mighty Mississippi. His work in this regard is legendary and has earned him worldwide accolades and recognition as the leading environmentalist among the great religious leaders of all time.

“Yet as much as His All Holiness has devoted his energies to conserving God’s environmental creations, his ultimate benevolence has been toward the peaceful coexistence of God’s greatest creation, whom He made in His own image, the human being. He has brought together Jews, Christians

and Muslims, the children of Abraham to seek common bonds and mutual understanding. He has worked tirelessly with our Roman Catholic brothers seeking reconciliation and Christian unity throughout his nearly 20 years of Patriarchal stewardship continuing the dialogue of love and truth. He has been indefatigable in his efforts to strengthen Orthodox unity in a manner first utilized by the greatest Apostle Paul, through the conciliar process of the Synod and the Synaxis.

“He has called for tolerance and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms with courage and vision in his own country where religious freedom does not exist. His voice can be heard in the capitals of the free world, as well as in regions where the inalienable rights of humankind are not respected.

“Your All Holiness I want you to know, to keep in your heart, that the Archons of America will continue the Agonas, the struggle, to seek religious freedom for the Mother Church until our goal

someday becomes a reality.”

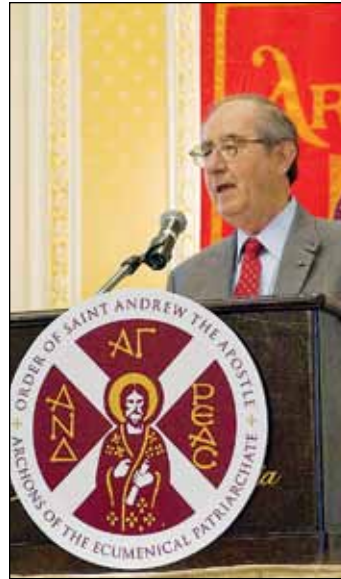
Limberakis then introduced a video tribute on the accomplishments of His All Holiness. At the conclusion of the video, members of The Order through the hands of the Exarch, Archbishop Demetrios, presented His All Holiness with a hand cross which was created by Pamela James, beloved niece of Archon Bouras. The cross was crafted in silver and gold and is a replica of the cross Archons are bestowed at their investiture.



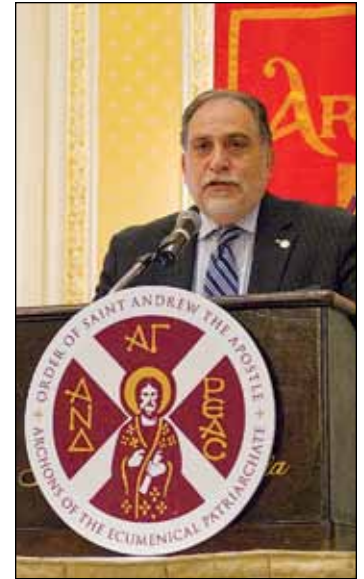
OCTOBER 31 • Archons Andrew and Mike Manatos report on the U.S. Religious Freedom Initiatives currently taking place in Washington D.C.



Archon Stephen Georgeson reports on the U.S. States which have Passed Religious Freedom Resolutions For The Ecumenical Patriarchate.



Archon Theofanis Economidis, reports on his religious freedom presentation that he delivered, together with Archon Achilles G. Adamantiades, PhD, at the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE).



Archon Alex Pritsos, Sergeant-at-Arms, reports on the communications efforts and Historic Archon Pilgrimage to Cappadocia, the Holy Land, and Mount Sinai, this past summer.





2009
ARCHON
WEEKEND

OCT 31

NEW YORK, NY

ATHENAGORAS HUMAN RIGHTS AWARD BANQUET



OCTOBER 31 • [L-R] Archons Michael Jaharis, John Catsimatidis, Archbishop Demetrios, Archbishop Dolan, His All Holiness, NY Mayor Michael Bloomberg, National Commander Limberakis, FOX News Anchor and Archon Ernie Anastos.

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The Tsapatsaris Family

OCTOBER 31 • Members of The Order through the hands of the Exarch, Archbishop Demetrios, presented His All Holiness with a hand cross. The design of the hand cross presented to His All Holiness, at the 2009 Archon Banquet in His Honor, is based on the cross presented to American Archons when they are invested into the Order of St. Andrew the Apostle. The creator of the cross is Pamela Kariotis, beloved niece of National Vice Commander Nicholas, and the late Anna K. Bouras, and granddaughter of Protopresbyter Nikitas Kesses of Blessed Memory, long time pastor of the Annunciation Greek Orthodox Cathedral in Chicago.

Prior to his passing, Fr. Nikitas gave his personal Pectoral Cross to Pamela. Since then it has been a source of spiritual inspiration in her life and career. Pamela and her husband James own a precious metals jewelry crafting facility in Bali, Indonesia. The Cross was designed by Pamela, hand-crafted by Muslim silversmiths on the Hindu-Buddhist island of Bali.



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2009
ARCHON
WEEKEND

OCT 31

NEW YORK, NY

ATHENAGORAS HUMAN RIGHTS AWARD BANQUET



His All Holiness expressed his thanks to the Archons, saying, "You have always been at the forefront of the sacred campaign of awareness and support for the Mother Church in her struggle to stand up for the religious rights of minorities as well as for the human rights of all people throughout the world. Your tireless efforts to encourage legislators across this nation -- both in individual States, where you have disseminated

information to your local representatives, but also in Washington DC, where you inspired support for a number of resolutions for the Ecumenical Patriarchate -- have resulted in a remarkable change of attitude throughout the world, as evidenced by the bold statements by President Barack Obama in the Turkish Grand National Assembly, where the re-opening of the historic Theological School of Halki was explicitly men-

tioned. Moreover, we have been deeply moved and remain profoundly grateful for your consistent and persistent labors to raise the same sacred issues at the highest level before the European Parliament and the European Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg. For this and many other labors, we extend to you our abiding gratitude and fervent prayers."

The Ecumenical Patriarch

later presented the National Commander with the Athenagoras Human Rights Award to conclude the evening saying, "As your Ecumenical Patriarch and spiritual father, we take this moment of personal and indeed Patriarchal privilege, to reinstate the normal tradition this evening. And we call the National Commander, Dr. Anthony Limberakis -- Archon Aktouarios of the Holy and Great Church of Christ, to

‘[The Archons] have always been at the forefront of the sacred campaign of awareness and support for the Mother Church in her struggle to stand up for the religious rights of minorities as well as for the human rights of all people throughout the world. Your tireless efforts to encourage legislators across this nation – both in individual States, where you have disseminated information to your local representatives, but also in Washington DC, where you inspired support for a number of resolutions for the Ecumenical Patriarchate – have resulted in a remarkable change of attitude throughout the world, as evidenced by the bold statements by President Barack Obama in the Turkish Parliament, where the re-opening of the historic Theological School of Halki was explicitly mentioned. Moreover, we have been deeply moved and remain profoundly grateful for your consistent and persistent labors to raise the same sacred issues at the highest level before the European Parliament and the Supreme Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg. For this and many other labors, we extend to you our abiding gratitude and fervent prayers.’

–Excerpt of His All Holiness’ address at the Grand Banquet



OCTOBER 31 • His All Holiness addresses the nearly 1200 guests in attendance at the 2009 Athenagoras Human Rights Award Banquet at the Waldorf=Astoria Hotel in New York.

National Commander with his wife, Dr. Maria Limberakis, his brother, Archon Dr. Cary Limberakis, and extended family rejoice in the day.





2009
ARCHON
WEEKEND

NOV 1

NEW YORK, NY

INVESTITURE

THE ARCHON > NOVEMBER / DECEMBER 2009



NOVEMBER 1 • Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew blessing newly-invested Archons.



NOVEMBER 1 • The Cross of Saint Andrew is presented to the newly-invested Archons.

receive from our hands the Athenagoras Human Rights Award, in recognition of his unceasing advocacy and continuous labors on behalf of the religious liberty of the Ecumenical Patriarchate and the most basic human rights, so that we may fulfill our spiritual mission to the Church and to the world.”

Earlier in the weekend, the Annual Archon Weekend commenced with an orientation dinner held on Friday, Oct. 30, at Fordham University’s Lincoln Center Campus. Members of the National Council and Regional Commanders of the Order of Saint Andrew joined Archons-elect and their spouses for an evening

of fellowship and introductions.

Limberakis extended a warm welcome to all of the Archons and Archon-elect members and offered a visual presentation on the history of The Order, its role as advocate for the Ecumenical Patriarchate, and the ‘humbling recognition and awesome responsibility’ the Archon-elect members will now face.

His Grace Bishop Savas of Troas, together with the National Council made a special presentation to retiring Historian and National Council member Christo Daphnides, Archon Kastrinsios.

The following day, Archons, Archon-elects, and their spouses, gathered for their annual assembly where various reports were presented throughout the afternoon. The meeting concluded with prayers for those Archons departed this past year.

On Sunday, Nov. 1, His All Holiness presided, assisted by Archbishop Demetrios, at the Investiture of twenty-seven new Archons from throughout the United States, following the Divine Liturgy at the Archdiocesan Cathedral of the Holy Trinity.

During the solemn Archon Investiture service, Ecumenical Patriarch

Bartholomew presented each Archon with the Cross of St. Andrew along with the official Patriarchal Certificate specifying the offikion designated for each Archon.

His All Holiness addressed the newly-invested Archons saying, “In order to relate the sense of noticing and the sin of ignorance to this service of investiture, we could claim that the predicament of the Ecumenical Patriarchate, the trampling of our human and religious rights as a Church, would be largely unknown to the world -- certainly to the political world -- without the supportive and successful campaigns of the Order

of St. Andrew. The Archons have brought to light the injustices with regard to our freedom of religion, while at the same time supporting in diverse ways the extensive ministry of the Mother Church.

“...You are distinguished supporters of the historical, spiritual, theological, and cultural treasures of the Church of Constantinople, which you defend so firmly, which you endorse so eloquently, which you sustain so generously, and which you embrace so

warmly. It is precisely for this reason that a distinct and proper title has been personally bestowed upon each of you by us as the Ecumenical Patriarch. It is an honor that you richly deserve.”

Concelebrating hierarchs included His Eminence Geron Metropolitan Athanasios of Chalcedon; His Eminence Metropolitan Emmanuel of France; His Eminence Metropolitan Ambrosios of Korea; and all the members of the Holy Eparchial Synod. ■



THE 2009 ARCHON CLASS



Theodore James Athanasakes <i>Archon Notarios</i>	Ocean Ridge, FL	Nikolaos P. Koutsomitis <i>Archon Depoutatos</i>	New York, NY
Hon. Gus Bilirakis, Esq. <i>Archon Referendarios</i>	Palm Harbor, FL	Steven M. Laduzinsky, Esq. <i>Archon Nomophylax</i>	Chicago, IL
Daniel Alex Breno <i>Archon Depoutatos</i>	Mt. Airy, MD	Evangelos Lazarakis <i>Archon Maestros</i>	Haverhill, MA
Patrick Roy Crosson <i>Archon Hartoularios</i>	Livonia, MI	Nikiforos Mathews, Esq. <i>Archon Ekdikos</i>	Stamford, CT
Steven Doulaveris <i>Archon Maestros</i>	Florence, SC	George D. Mihaltzes, Esq. <i>Archon Nomophylax</i>	Bayside, NY
Constantine Economides, Esq. <i>Archon Dikaiophylax</i>	Wayne, PA	Gregory George Papadeas, DO <i>Archon Aktouarios</i>	Greenwood Village, CO
Michael Savas Emanuel <i>Archon Hypomnematografos</i>	McLean, VA	Lewis J. Patsavos, Dr. Theol <i>Archon Proto Ekdikos</i>	Cambridge, MA
James Basil Gabriel, Jr. <i>Archon Ostiarios</i>	Centerport, NY	Harry Steven Poulos <i>Archon Ostiarios</i>	Canton, OH
Ike Gulas, Esq. <i>Archon Ekdikos</i>	Birmingham, AL	Steven N. Sellas <i>Archon Hieromnimon</i>	Bridgeport, WV
Nicholas Kapnison <i>Archon Depoutatos</i>	Albuquerque, NM	Demetrios Seremetis <i>Archon Hymnmimniskontos</i>	Canton, MA
Nicholas A. Karacostas, Esq. <i>Archon Nomophylax</i>	Bayside, NY	Christos Spyropoulos <i>Archon Proto Notarios</i>	Old Brookville, NY
Nick H. Katapodis <i>Archon Hartophylax</i>	Atlanta, GA	Theodore Vlahos <i>Archon Hartoularios</i>	Kewanee, IL
Theodore P. Klingos <i>Archon Referendarios</i>	New York, NY	Constantinos M. Zografopoulos <i>Archon Eftaxias</i>	Chicago, IL
Mihail Koulakis <i>Archon Hieromnimon</i>	Porter Ranch, CA		





APOSTOLIC VISIT
TO THE
UNITED STATES
NOV 1
NOV 2

WASHINGTON D.C.

ANDREWS AIR FORCE BASE

Arrival at 'Andrews'

NOVEMBER 1 • A member of the Air Force salutes His All Holiness as he arrives in Washington D.C. to conclude his visit to the United States.



NOVEMBER 1 • U.S. Chief of Protocol, Capricia Penavic Marshall, officially welcomed His All Holiness to Andrews Air Force Base on behalf of the President.



NOVEMBER 1 • Senator Paul Sarbanes welcomes His All Holiness to Washington.



NOVEMBER 1 • Diplomats and dignitaries greet His All Holiness as he arrives in Washington D.C.



NOVEMBER 1 • Parishioners and faithful from around the Washington D.C. area welcome His All Holiness.



NOVEMBER 2 • His Excellency Nabi Sensoy, Ambassador of Turkey to the United States welcomes His All Holiness to the Turkish Embassy. A meeting was held between the two on issues relating to the Ecumenical Patriarchate.



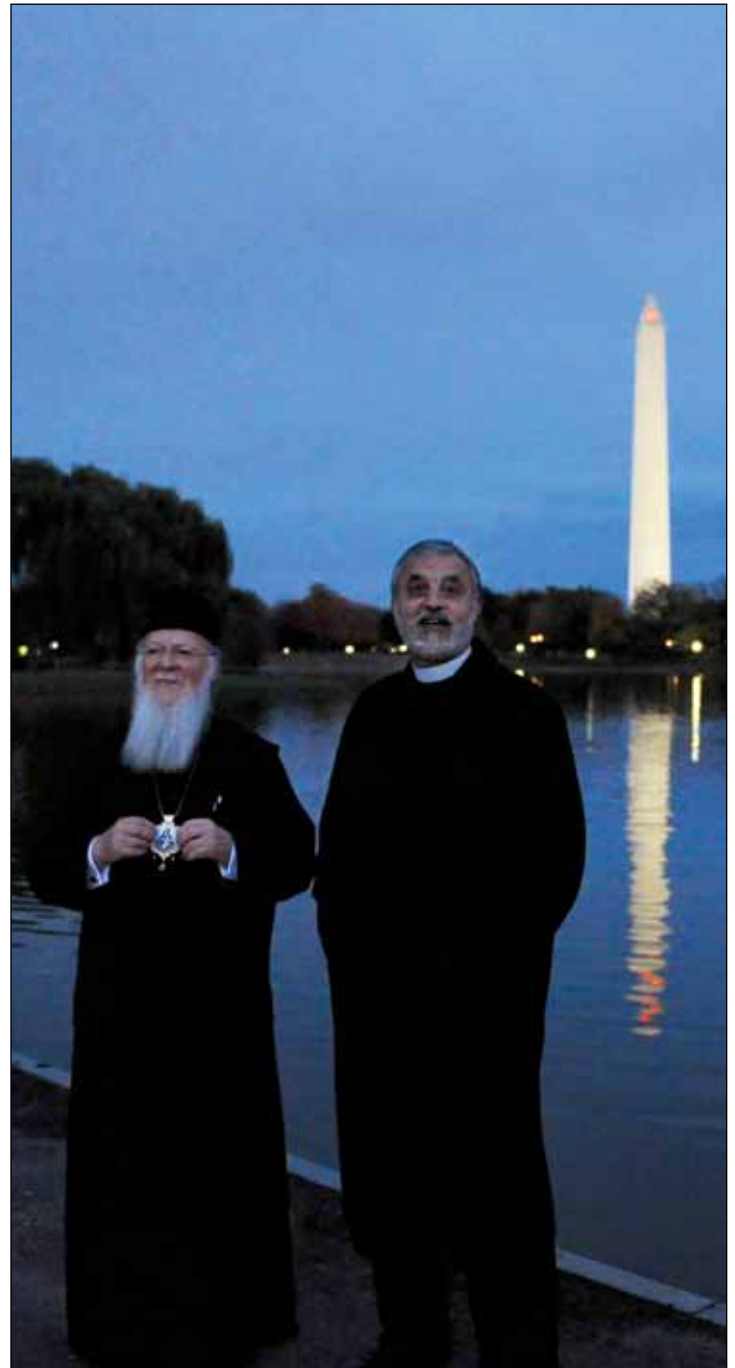
NOVEMBER 2 • His Excellency Vasilis Kaskarelis, Ambassador of Greece to the United States hosted a luncheon for His All Holiness.



NOVEMBER 2 • National Commander Limberakis speaks with John Podesta and Strobe Talbot during the luncheon.



NOVEMBER 2 • [L-R] Regional Commander Archon Andrew Manatos, Archon Andonios Trakatellis, Congressman John Sarbanes, Archon Mike Manatos, and Archon Peter Papanicolaou.



NOVEMBER 2 • Archon Spiritual Advisor, Fr. Alex Karloutsos and His All Holiness walk together around the Washington Mall.



APOSTOLIC VISIT
TO THE
UNITED STATES
NOV 2

ANNAPOLIS, MD

SAINTS CONSTANTINE AND HELEN CHURCH



NOVEMBER 2 • Hierarchs, clergy, and faithful await the arrival of His All Holiness outside Saints Constantine and Helen Church.



NOVEMBER 2 • Children are dressed in traditional Greek costumes waving flags of the Ecumenical Patriarchate, anxiously awaiting the arrival of His All Holiness to their parish.



NOVEMBER 2 • His All Holiness blesses the infirm as he arrives at the church.



NOVEMBER 2 • His All Holiness with Fr. Kosmas Karavellas, rector of Saints Constantine and Helen Church, with his daughter Felicia.



Welcome to the Metropolis of New Jersey

NOVEMBER 2 • His Eminence Metropolitan Evangelos of New Jersey welcomes His All Holiness and the visiting delegation to the Metropolis.



NOVEMBER 2 • A cake was presented in honor of His All Holiness visit to the parish.



NOVEMBER 2 • A banquet was held in honor of His All Holiness by the church parishioners.



NOVEMBER 2 • Hundreds of clergy and faithful from the surrounding DC area gathered to pray with His All Holiness during a Doxology service.



The Oval Office

NOVEMBER 3 • Ecumenical
Patriarch Bartholomew and
President Barack Obama spoke
about the Halki Orthodox
Theological Seminary during their
conversation held in the Oval
Office at the White House.

WASHINGTON D.C.

THE WHITE HOUSE

THE ARCHON > NOVEMBER / DECEMBER 2009







APOSTOLIC VISIT
TO THE
UNITED STATES
NOV 3
NOV 4

WASHINGTON D.C.

GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY / BROOKINGS INSTITUTION



NOVEMBER 3 • The Center for American Progress and Georgetown University co-sponsored the Patriarchal Lecture held at the University's Gaston Hall (top). Professor James J. O'Donnell, Provost of Georgetown University, and John Podesta, President of the Center for American Progress greet the Ecumenical Patriarch prior to the lecture (above).

NOVEMBER 3 • His All Holiness was greeted by the Fr. Costas Pavlakos and faithful of St. Katherine's Church outside Gaston Hall upon his arrival (top). Later, he addressed the students and professors at Georgetown University (above and below).



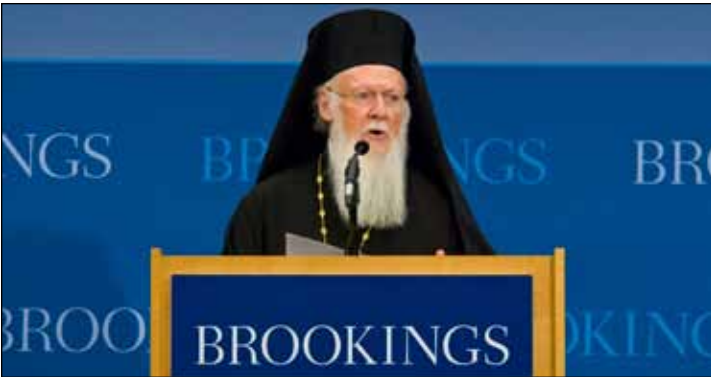
NOVEMBER 3 • "We have followed with great interest and sincere concern, the efforts to curb the destructive effects that human beings have wrought upon the natural world. We view with alarm the dangerous consequences of humanity's disregard for the survival of God's creation.

"Our predecessor, the late Patriarch Dimitrios of blessed memory, invited the whole world to offer, together with the Great Church of Christ, prayers of thanksgiving and supplications for the protection of the gift of creation. Since 1989, every September 1st, the beginning of the ecclesiastical calendar has been designated as a day of prayer for the protection of the environment, throughout the Orthodox world.

"It is fair to ask: Beyond any platitudes, what can Orthodox Christianity contribute to the movement to protect the environment? Fortunately, we have a very specific answer: We believe that through our unique liturgical and ascetic ethos, Orthodox spirituality can provide significant moral and ethical direction toward a new awareness about the planet.

"Our sin toward the world – the spiritual root of all our pollution – lies in our refusal to view life and the world as a sacrament of thanksgiving, and as a gift of constant communion with God on a global scale."

—Excerpt of His All Holiness' lecture entitled, '**A Changeless Faith for A Changing World**'



NOVEMBER 4 • A roundtable informal discussion is held with members of the Brookings Institute and the Patriarchal delegation prior to the lecture (top). His All Holiness addresses the principals and professors in the Falk Auditorium of the Brookings Institution (above).

NOVEMBER 4 • His All Holiness, seated next to Senator Paul Sarbanes, listens to the Brookings Institution President welcome the delegation to the facility (top). He later presented Strobe Talbot with his new book, "In The World, Yet Not Of The World" (above).



NOVEMBER 4 • "Many argue that the wealthy nations of the West became so by exploiting the environment – they polluted rivers and oceans, razed forests, destroyed habitats, and poisoned the atmosphere. But now that the poorer nations are developing and improving the quality of life for their citizens – like the West did during the 19th and 20th centuries – all of a sudden the rules are being changed and developing nations are being asked to make sacrifices the nations of the West never made as they were developing. They are being asked to reduce their impact on the environment – in other words, to curb their development. They are being asked to drive fewer cars, consume less oil, build fewer factories, raze fewer forests, and harm fewer habitats – all in the name of protecting the environment.

"Brothers and sisters – this simply cannot be. Not only is it unfair to ask the developing nations to sacrifice when the West does not – it is futile. They care not what we say – they watch what we do. And if we are unwilling to make sacrifices, we have no moral authority to ask others, who have not tasted the fruits of development and wealth, to make sacrifices.

"Fortunately, the West, and in particular America, is now showing that it recognizes this 'inconvenient truth' – that if we are to save our planet, sacrifices must be made by all. The Obama administration, as you know, has been very active in this regard. The President has signed an Executive Order challenging government agencies to set 2020 greenhouse reduction goals, and using the government's \$500 billion per year in purchasing power to encourage development of energy-efficient products and services."

–Excerpt of His All Holiness' lecture entitled, *'Saving the Soul of the Planet'*



APOSTOLIC VISIT
TO THE
UNITED STATES
NOV 4

WASHINGTON D.C.

SPEAKER PELOSI / VICE-PRESIDENT BIDEN



NOVEMBER 4 • [L-R] Metropolitan Evangelos, Metropolitan Nicholas, Metropolitan Ambrosios of Korea, Metropolitan Athanasios of Chalcedon, His All Holiness, Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi, Archbishop Demetrios, Metropolitan Methodios, Metropolitan Iakovos, and Metropolitan Alexios.



NOVEMBER 4 • The Ecumenical Patriarch presents a copy of his new book to Senator Olympia Snowe.



NOVEMBER 4 • Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi and Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid with His All Holiness.



NOVEMBER 4 • His All Holiness with members of the Holy Eparchial Synod and delegation outside the Capitol Building.



NOVEMBER 4 • Vice President Joseph Biden and his wife Dr. Jill Biden hosted a dinner for His All Holiness at their residence.



NOVEMBER 4 • Vice President Biden with Archon George Tsunis and his mother Helen.



NOVEMBER 4 • Archbishop Demetrios, Archon Michael and Mary Jaharis and Vice President Biden.



NOVEMBER 4 • Archbishop Demetrios, Vice President Biden, Archon Chris Spyropoulos and his wife, Stavroula.



NOVEMBER 4 • Archon George Behrakis and Vice President Biden.



APOSTOLIC VISIT
TO THE
UNITED STATES
NOV 5

WASHINGTON D.C.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE



NOVEMBER 5 • Secretary of State Hillary Clinton welcomes His All Holiness to the Department of State.



NOVEMBER 5 • His All Holiness sits down with the Secretary of State in discussion.



NOVEMBER 5 • His All Holiness addresses Secretary of State Clinton and the people gathered for the dinner.



Secretary of State Clinton honors His All Holiness

NOVEMBER 5 • A reception and dinner was hosted by the Secretary of State in the Ben Franklin Room at the Department of State.



NOVEMBER 5 • His All Holiness held a breakfast with his Halki schoolmates.



REPOSE OF PATRIARCH PAVLE OF SERBIA

STATEMENT OF ECUMENICAL PATRIARCH BARTHOLOMEW



Patriarch Pavle of Serbia

(WWW.SPC.RS)

It is with profound regret that we learned today of the repose in the Lord of our brother Patriarch Pavle of Serbia. After holding a memorial service at the conclusion of this evening's Vespers on the occasion of the feast of St. Matthew the Apostle and Evangelist, we entreated the Lord with all our heart and soul to grant rest to his blessed soul in the land of the living. Therefore, we convey our sincere condolences to the venerable Hierarchy, the pious clergy and faithful people of our sister Church in Serbia, where everyone is mourning the loss of their beloved Primate. Only Patriarch Pavle is today rejoicing for his heavenly journey.

We repeat the timely words of the Serb poet M. Betskovic about the late Patriarch: "None in this noisy era spoke so softly and yet was heard so widely as he. None spoke less and yet said more. None in our delusional age confronted truth with such calmness as he."

May his memory be eternal!

May the Lord and Founder of the Church reveal a worthy successor to lead the most holy Church of Serbia and father to the glorious Serb People in order to continue his exemplary ministry and preserve the traditions and ideals of his people.

At the Phanar, November 15, 2009

Ἡ Κωνσταντινουπόλις καὶ ἡ οὐνὴ ρώμη
καὶ ἡ Νέα Ῥώμη

† BARTHOLOMEW
Archbishop of Constantinople
New Rome, and Ecumenical Patriarch



(N. MANGINAS)



(WWW.SPC.RS)



(WWW.SPC.RS)

His All Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew met with Serbian President Boris Tadic during his visit to Belgrade, Serbia for the funeral of Patriarch Pavle, November 18th (top). He presided at the Divine Liturgy (middle) which was attended by heads of churches around the world and tens of thousands of mourners (bottom).

South Florida Archons & Invited Guests Meet in Boca Raton

BOCA RATON, FL

The first annual dinner gathering of the Archons of South Florida and Naples took place in Boca Raton, Florida, on Friday, November 13, 2009. Regional Commander John C. Scurtis planned the event at the Boca Raton Resort and Club. The resort was also the site of the National Philoptochos' 2009 Children's Medical Fund (CMF) Luncheon, which capped off the weekend's festivities and was chaired by John's wife, Evangeline Mekras Scurtis, president of the Metropolis of Atlanta Philoptochos.

The 41 dinner guests enjoyed a three-course seafood dinner and lively program. They were blessed to have the presence and support of His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios of America, His Eminence Metropolitan Alexios of Atlanta, His Grace Bishop Andonios the Chancellor of



Regional Commanders John C. Scurtis and Dr. Ted Vlahos presented Archbishop Demetrios with a monogrammed leather portfolio, on behalf of the Archons of South Florida and Naples, to commemorate the 10th anniversary of his enthronement as Archbishop of America.

the Archdiocese, and various clergy from New York and Boca Raton. Fourteen Archons from South Florida were joined by their wives; members of the National Council; regional commanders Dr. Ted Vlahos from Central-North Florida, Dr. Manuel Tissura from Atlanta, Peter Skeadas from New York and Harold Peponis from Chicago; and other visitors from South Florida and throughout the U.S., including CMF Keynote Speaker and recent Archon inductee, Fox News White House Correspondent Michael Emanuel.

The evening's program began with an invocation from Bishop Andonios, followed by a quick round of introductions by all present. Recently retired National Council historian and fellow South Florida Archon, Christo Daphnides, had the audience enthralled with a short history on modern Archons and the meaning of the various offikia.

National Council Secretary John Halecky and Treasurer James Fountas screened a DVD on His All Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew, highlighting his accomplishments, environmental activism, advocacy for religious freedom, and efforts at ecumenical dialogue and reconciliation among the churches of Christendom. They then led a lively discussion on the importance of supporting and participating in the annual Exarch's Appeal.

Central and North Florida Regional Commander Dr. Ted Vlahos followed with a presentation on bills going before the Florida State House and Senate in the 2010 session (HM 191, SM 314), which urge Congress to encourage the government of Turkey to grant the Ecumenical Patriarch "appropriate international recognition, ecclesiastical succession, and [the] right to train clergy of all nationalities and to respect property rights

and human rights of [the] Ecumenical Patriarchate."

Finally, commanders Scurtis and Vlahos presented Archbishop Demetrios with a monogrammed leather portfolio, on behalf of the Archons of South Florida and Naples, to commemorate the 10th anniversary of his enthronement as Archbishop of America. The culmination of a truly inspirational evening came when His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios spoke and imparted his wisdom and blessings upon all those present. There seemed to be a consensus among the Archons there that everyone parted with a feeling of camaraderie and renewed awareness of their common purpose to defend the Ecumenical Patriarch and Christ's Holy Church. ■

[Written by Eleni A. Monas]

Departed Archons

Leo P. Condakes

Archon Depoutatos
Swanpscott, MA • December 2009

John Patronik

Archon Depoutatos
South Holland, IL • November 2009

John W. Georgas

Archon Hartophylax
West Palm Beach, FL • November 2009

Michael G. Cantonis

Archon Hieromnimon
Tarpon Springs, FL • November 2009

James W. Morris

Archon Exarchos
Troy, OH • October 2009



May Their Memory Be Eternal



the ARCHON



ORDER OF
SAINT ANDREW
the APOSTLE
ARCHONS OF THE ECUMENICAL PATRIARCHATE

8 EAST 79TH STREET, NEW YORK, NY 10075-0106

CBS News program '60 Minutes' features His All Holiness



His All Holiness speaks to CBS News Anchor Bob Simon of 60 Minutes outside the Halki Orthodox Theological Seminary. The Patriarchal Institution was shut down by Turkish authorities in 1971. (N. MANGINAS)

'The appearance of the Ecumenical Patriarch on a program such as 60 Minutes is an extraordinary opportunity for the American public to become aware of our Orthodox Christian Faith. Millions of people who would otherwise have limited knowledge of the Orthodox Church will have the chance to see and hear the highest ecclesiastical personage of our Church in their living rooms. It is also a tremendous opportunity for our own Orthodox Faithful in the United States to see His All Holiness in a way that will surely touch their hearts and minds with love and deep respect.'

—ARCHBISHOP DEMETRIOS

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Orthodox Christians trace their roots to the earliest days of Christianity but do not answer to papal authority in Rome. Bartholomew is, in effect, their pope. The Patriarchate in Istanbul, Turkey, dates back to Roman times, when the city, then Constantinople, was the center of Christianity. Since then, history has seen the Patriarch and the part of his church in Turkey -- who are Turkish citizens of Greek ancestry -- discriminated against in their traditional homeland inside what has become modern Turkey, where 99 percent of the people are Muslim. One and a half million were expelled in 1923 and another 150,000 left after violent anti-Christian riots in Istanbul in 1955. A population once numbering near two million is now around 4,000.

"It is not [a] crime...to be a minority living in Turkey but we are treated as...second class," Bartholomew tells Simon. "We don't feel that we enjoy our full rights as Turkish citizens."

Turkish authorities closed churches, monasteries and schools, including its only orthodox Seminary, the Halki School of Theology. According to Turkish law the only potential successors to Bartholomew must be Turkish born and trained at the Halki. "[The Turkish government] would be happy to see the Patriarchate extinguished or moving abroad, but our belief is that it will never happen," says Bartholomew.

Leaving Turkey is not an option for Bartholomew, the 270th Patriarch, because his church was founded there 17 centuries ago. The area, Anatolia, is where the young Christian Church began to grow after its beginnings in the Holy Land near Jerusalem. Right in Istanbul, the Hagia Sophia can be found, the first great church in Christianity; the four gospels of Matthew, Luke, Mark and John were written in Turkey; in the Cappadocia region, hundreds of chapels contain amazing artwork--probably the oldest Christian art in the world - from the time Rome was ruled by the Caesars. The old-

est continuously operating Christian monastery in the world in the Sinai desert in Egypt. It contains a letter that Muslims do not refute was written by the Prophet, Mohammad; the letter instructs Muslims to protect the Christians in the monastery and to respect their faith throughout the world.

Bartholomew finds the letter ironic. "I have visited the prime minister, many ministers, submitting our problems...asking to help us," he tells Simon. But no help has come his way from the Turkish government, which prides itself on being secular and fears any special treatment for Orthodox Christians could lead to inroads by other religions, especially Islam. The Patriarch is determined to hold his ground. "This is the continuation of Jerusalem and for us an equally holy and sacred land. We prefer to stay here, even crucified sometimes," says Bartholomew. Asked by Simon if he feels crucified, His All Holiness replies, "Yes, I do." ■

[Source: CBS News]



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