

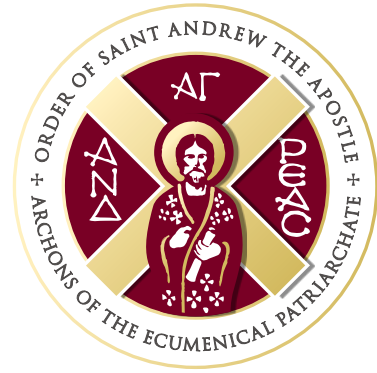


THE ARCHON

NEWSLETTER

Restoring THE TOMB *of* CHRIST

An exclusive look behind the year-long restoration of one of Christianity's holiest places



Nobel Peace Prize Nominees from Lesbos chosen as recipients of Athenagoras Human Rights Award, Oct. 21

- 12** Emilia Kamvisi and Stratis Valamios will be honored by the Archons, who have been selfless in taking on their role as rescuers of migrants and refugees who have been washing up on their shores of Mytilene, Greece, as they try to escape conflicts in the Middle East.

Sins Before Our Eyes

- 17** Justin Welby and Ecumenical Patriarch sign a joint declaration on Modern Slavery, following a forum co-sponsored by the Ecumenical Patriarchate and the Church of England: "We are convinced that there is an intimate and inseparable link between preserving God's natural creation and protecting God's image in every human being, especially those most vulnerable to the myriad forms of human exploitation that comprise the sin of modern slavery."



Archon Lenten Retreat

- 10** Fr. Christopher T. Metropulos, president of Hellenic College Holy Cross served as retreat master for the National Archon Lenten Retreat focusing on the topic, "Three Things Are Needed: Prayer, Virtue And Humility".



Defending the Faith

- 18** Archons of the Order of Saint Andrew have demonstrated their role as 'Defenders of the Faith' by addressing faithful in their local communities throughout the United States advocating for basic human rights and religious freedom for the Mother Church of Constantinople.

Exarch of the Ecumenical Patriarchate:
His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios
Geron of America

Spiritual Advisor:
Rev. Alexander Karloutsos

National Commander:
Anthony J. Limberakis, MD, Aktouarios

National Vice Commander:
John Halecky, Jr., Ekdikos

Secretary:
Hon. B. Theodore Bozonelis, Ekdikos

Treasurer:
James C. Fountas, Depoutatos

Legal Counselor:
Christopher Stratakis, Esq., Notarios

Historian:
George E. Demacopoulos, PhD Didaskalos
Tou Genous

Sergeant-at-Arms:
Alexander Pritsos, Hieromnimon

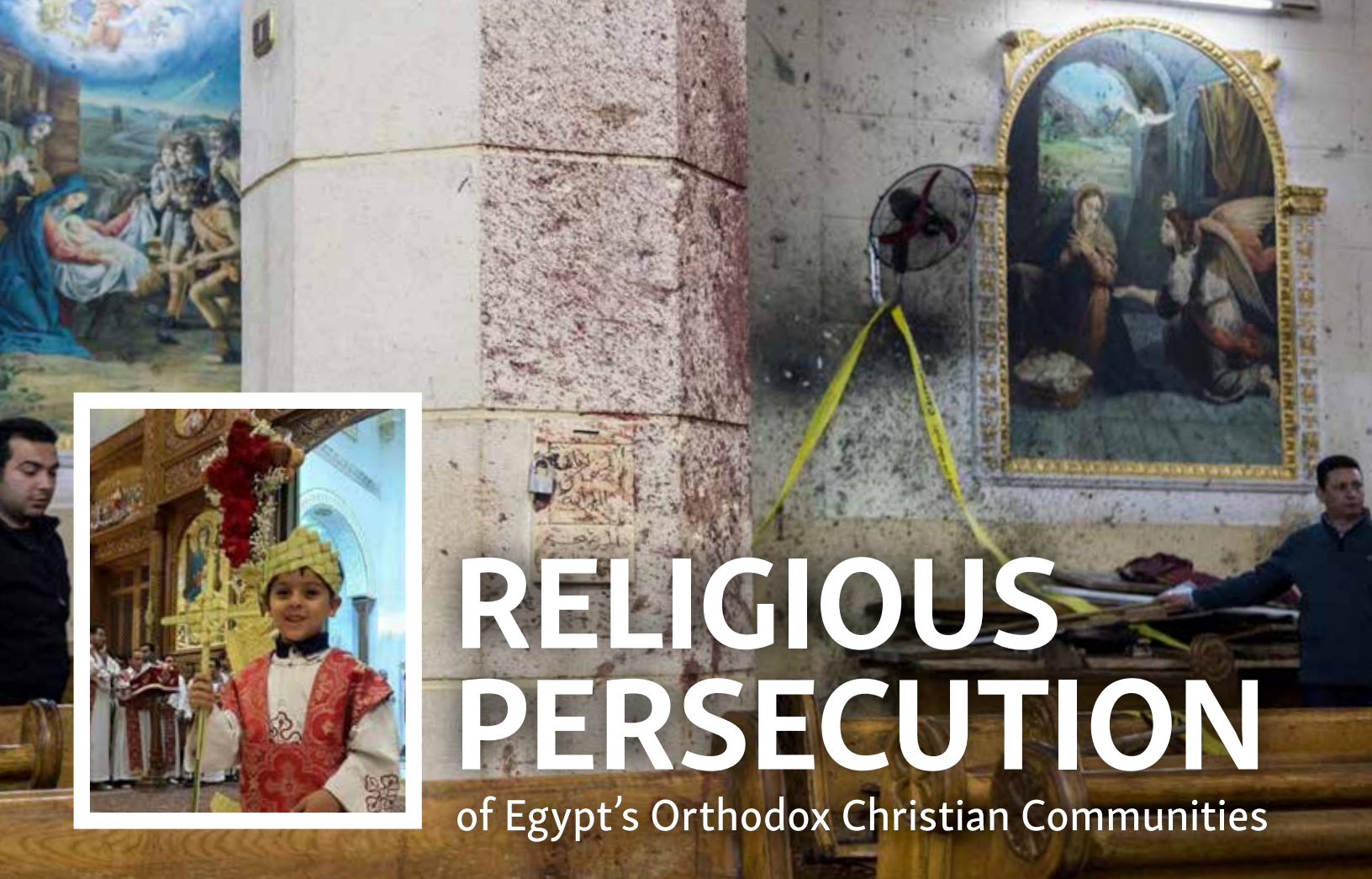
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The Order of Saint Andrew's fundamental mission is to promote the religious freedom, wellbeing and advancement of the Ecumenical Patriarchate—the spiritual center of the world's 300 million Orthodox Christians. The Ecumenical Patriarchate is headquartered in Istanbul, Turkey.

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RELIGIOUS PERSECUTION

of Egypt's Orthodox Christian Communities

His All-Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew sent a message of support to Pope Tawadros II, Patriarch of the Coptic Church in Egypt, after the two horrific terrorist attacks that occurred on Palm Sunday in Tanta and Alexandria. The text of the message is given below.

It was with a heavy heart that we learned of the terrorist attacks targeting your churches and faithful flock who, like us, gathered to pray and honor this most holy day of the ecclesiastical year marking the Lord's triumphant entry into Jerusalem. We witnessed in the media with great grief the destruction and mourning that these barbaric attacks have brought to your community, as well as to all of Christendom, and we hasten to convey our wholehearted condolences and the prayers of the Ecumenical Patriarchate. As a martyric Church, we also stand in solidarity with you and your people, who have prevailed courageously and faithfully for centuries over persecution and oppression.

The challenges posed to our present day and age by fundamentalism are great -- the

pain of those mourning equally so. Yet, we understand that our responsibility to the contemporary world is to remain resilient in times of terror and faithful in times of doubt and unnerving circumstances. We worship the One who responded to the godless and unrepentant spirit of humanity, by descending from His heavenly abode to embrace us. He, for "us and our salvation", became man in order that "men might be like God". It was through His humility, forbearance, simplicity, and unceasing and inexhaustible love that He not only conquered sin, but also won for us the ability to be victorious with Him over sin and death.

Our victory through Christ Jesus was promised to us, most especially when persecuted for righteousness and because of His name. At this very moment, we remember

Palm Sunday Massacre

A church pillar, soaked in blood, shows the aftermath from a suicide bombing at St. George Church, in the Nile Delta town of Tanta, Egypt, April 9. Bombs exploded at two Coptic churches in the northern Egyptian cities of Tanta and Alexandria as worshippers were celebrating Palm Sunday, killing over 40 people, including the young boy above, and wounding scores more in assaults claimed by the Islamic State group.

His words: "Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven..." (Matthew 5:11-12). May the promise of the Kingdom and the gift of grace be bestowed upon the victims of this tragedy and their families, and may our Lord grant peace and refreshment to all those suffering. May their memories be eternal and may He who accepted to ride upon a colt "as though riding upon the cherubim" grant us all unending faith, courage, and patience to endure and transform this "sinful and perverse generation".

Conveying to Your Holiness and the entire Coptic Church our sympathies once again, we embrace you with a "holy kiss" and remain with much love and fraternal honor. ✠



The
Edicule
of the **HOLY**
SEPULCHRE

“The monument that contains
the entire universe” –His All-Holiness



World Monuments Fund's Historic Collaboration at the Church of the Holy Sepulchre Launched with Lead Funding from WMF Trustee Mica Ertegun

The Greek Orthodox, Armenian, and Franciscan communities today unveiled the restoration of the Edicule surrounding the Tomb of Christ, inside the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. "This is a historic moment of collaboration between the major Christian communities, and others around the world, to ensure the preservation of the unique for Christianity, Holy Place of Anastasis," stated His Beatitude Theophilos III, Greek Orthodox Patriarch of Jerusalem.

Joshua David, President and CEO of World Monuments Fund, stated: "It is thanks to the great generosity and inspirational vision of WMF Trustee Mica Ertegun, and her catalytic leadership gift, that this extraordinary project has been realized. Mica's passion for the project inspired another Trustee, Jack Shear, to make a subsequent contribution for the project." Mrs. Ertegun commented: "I wanted people to come together to preserve this holy site which is so important to all religions. Its restoration is extraordinary."

The Church of the Holy Sepulchre is built on the site that was identified in the fourth century as the tomb where Jesus was laid following his crucifixion. The remains of the rock-cut tomb are encased in the Edicule, a small building that lies in the center of the main Rotunda of the church. The Edicule has been damaged or destroyed on several occasions since its construction. The current structure was built in 1809 by the architect Nikolaos Komnenos of Lesvos, following a fire. Over time, its structural stability was undermined due to groundwater and water that used to enter the church through an open oculus in the Rotunda. In addition, its cream and pink stone exterior was darkened by the burning of wax candles. The candles used to be systematically placed on a heavy steel shoring structure that was installed around it in 1947, at the time of the British Mandate for Palestine. →

The Holy Sepulchre



The stone slab covering the burial couch in the Tomb Chamber was temporarily removed in October 2016

The restoration was designed and carried out by an interdisciplinary team from the National Technical University of Athens, led by Prof. Antonia Moropoulou. Implementation of the work was accompanied by a continuous program of documentation, monitoring, and on-the-spot reassessment of materials and conditions. This served as a valuable input for the governance of the project by the Christian communities. Conservators and masons worked around the clock, most frequently at night. The careful design of the construction site allowed pilgrims to visit the interior of the Edicule and pray at the tomb of Christ without disruption. The project was completed on time, one year to the date of the signing of an agreement among the leaders of the three Christian communities on March 22, 2016. Completion will allow for the common celebration of Western and Orthodox Easter on April 16, 2017.

To restore the building and remove the unsightly shoring surrounding it, work began by dismantling exterior masonry around

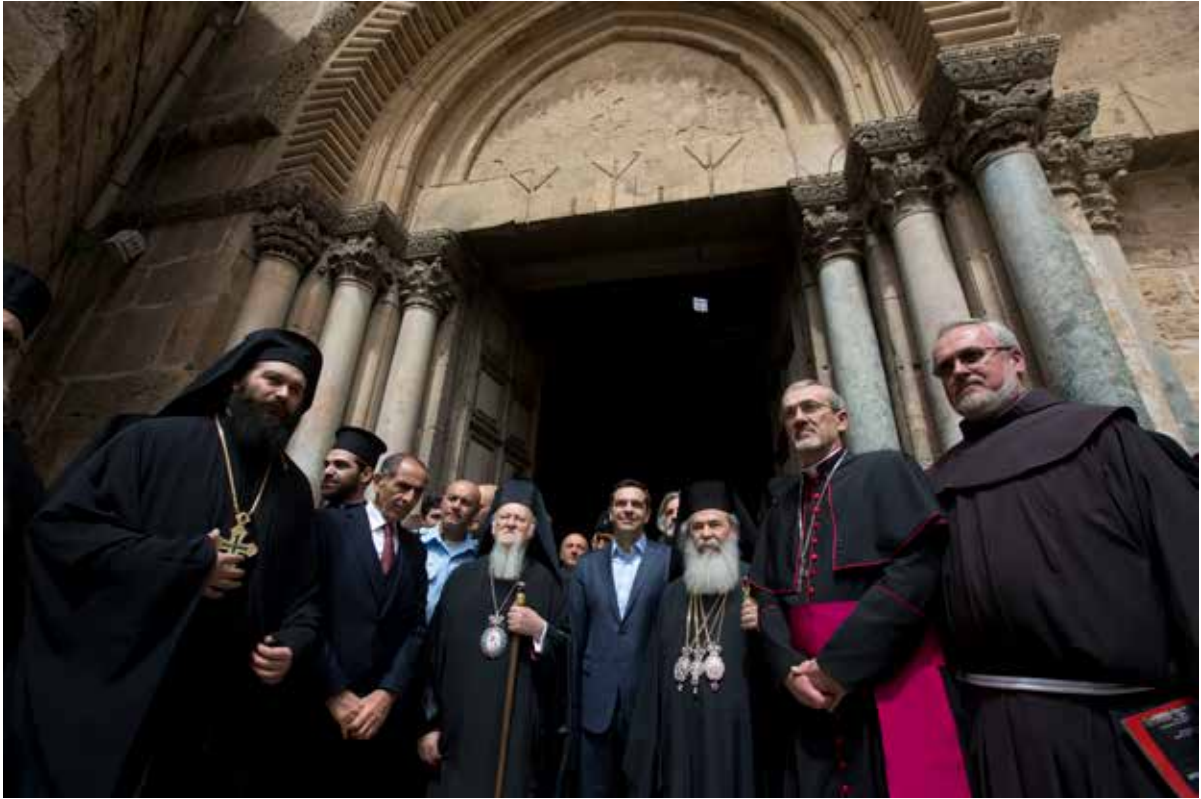


The Cross of the Holy Sepulchre

Father Alex Karloutsos, Archon Spiritual Advisor, together with Mica Ertegun, a parishioner of the Dormition of the Virgin Mary Greek Orthodox Church in Southampton, NY, were honored by Patriarch Theophilos with the Cross of the Holy Sepulchre.

three sides. The underlying masonry was repaired, displaced stone units were returned to their original position and secured using titanium anchors, and grout was injected to consolidate the structure. In the process of

grouting, the stone covering the burial couch inside the Edicule was lifted temporarily in October 2016, revealing a fragment of an earlier stone lying underneath. All exterior stones and many surfaces inside the Edicule



His All-Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew with Prime Minister of Greece Alexis Tsipras, center, Patriarch Theophilos, center right, and other Christian leaders pose for an image outside the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, March 22, 2017. The ceremony with the presence of representatives of the Christian denominations, marked the completion of the renovation.



were carefully cleaned, sometimes revealing previously obscured painted decoration.

Completion of this project will be followed by a second phase of work, encompassing interventions below the level of the Rotunda floor. The goal of these interventions will be to ensure the long-term structural stability of the Edicule and to prevent damage from moisture from recurring in the future. In addition to foundation repair and strengthening, the second phase will include the installation of new drainage and sewage channels through the Rotunda that currently pass near the Edicule as well as conservation of the Rotunda floor. This work, like the work just completed, will be carried out over the course of one year, while the site remains open to visitors. ✂

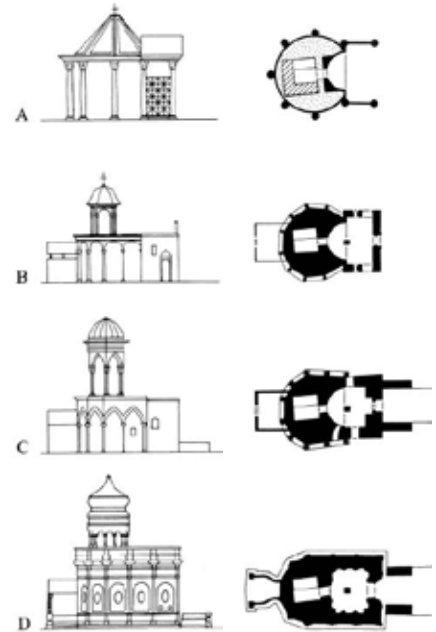
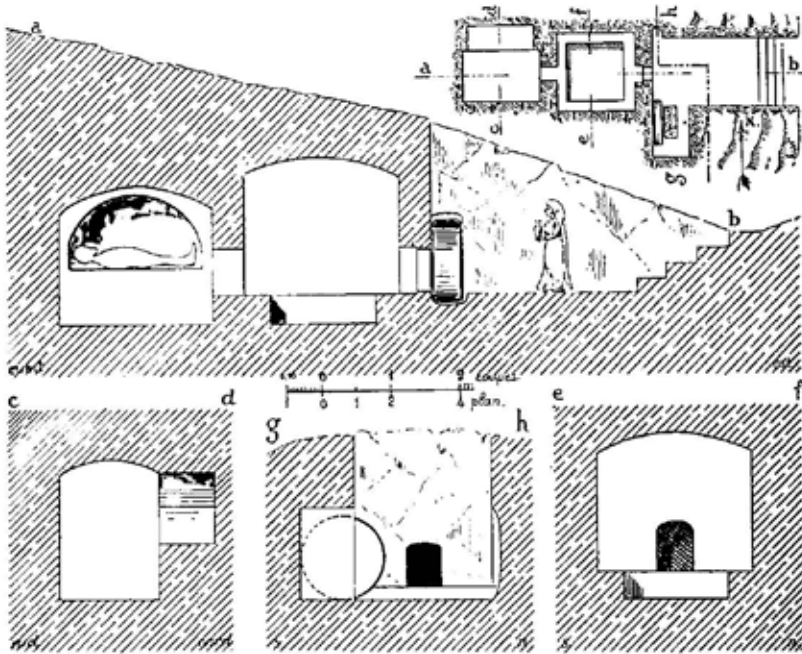
*“On and through this Tomb – this **“minuscule monument”** that is so vast as **“to contain the entire universe”** inasmuch as it is depicted on the Holy Altar of every Orthodox Church – life continues to this day and the ephemeral present becomes the eternal future. Therefore, on the unique occasion of the revelation of the Sacred Aedicule of the Holy Sepulcher, “let all mortal flesh be silent, standing with fear and trembling, without considering anything earthly at all” (Hymn of Holy Saturday).”*

-Greeting excerpt of His All-Holiness for Consecration of the Sacred Aedicule of the Holy Sepulcher

Studying the Edicule

The Original Tomb

A famous cross-section drawing by Father Louis-Hugues Vincent (1872-1960) illustrates the original configuration of the tomb cut into the rock.



A History of Edicules

The current structure is the fourth to have covered the tomb since the construction of the church by Emperor Constantine in the fourth century. Previous structures have included the fourth century edicule (A), which was destroyed in 1009 by the Fatimid Caliph al-Hakim; a Byzantine structure (B), dating from the rebuilding of the church in the eleventh century and later embellished by the Crusaders; and a Renaissance structure (C), built during the Ottoman Period in 1555 by the Franciscan Custos of the Holy Land, until it was heavily damaged in a fire in 1808 and replaced by the current structure.

Restoration Efforts



BEFORE



AFTER

Restoration Work

Progress was marked by the major milestone of removing the unsightly steel shoring structure that was needed to support the structure until now. The exterior walls have been cleaned, and now the Edicule covering the Tomb of Christ can stand proud and unencumbered in the center of the Rotunda for the first time since 1947. Above, the south wall of the Edicule depicts before and after cleaning and the removal of steel shoring.



Early Structure

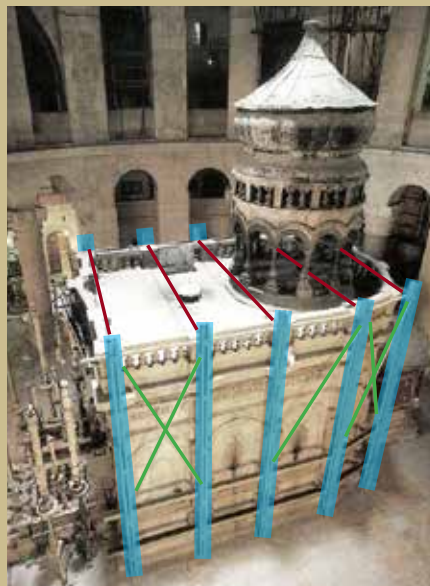
The history of these earlier structures and their forms has been studied extensively, using written and visual sources, such as this colored ink drawing made in 1487 by a German traveler.



Present Edicule

The present Edicule was built by a Greek architect, Nikolaos Komnenos (1770-1821) in 1808-10, following a fire. Komnenos was originally from the island of Lesvos and worked on the restoration of prominent churches in Istanbul. Under his supervision, a local workforce carried out extensive repairs of the damaged church and rebuilt the Edicule from its foundations. It is seen here in one of the earliest views, in a lithograph by Scottish painter David Roberts, dating from the 1840s.

For nearly 70 years, the structure was supported by heavy shoring (*highlighted areas*) that was installed in 1947, during the time of the British Mandate. The shoring was installed to address the detachment of marble cladding that was first detected in 1926.



A mason carries out repairs in the interior masonry cladding, in the opening between the Chapel of the Angel and the Tomb Chamber, 2016.



The stones that were removed from the exterior of the structure were cleaned in an on-site conservation laboratory, 2016.



The conserved stones of one bay of the structure lie in a cradle in preparation for reassembly, 2016



Chief Scientific Supervisor Antonia Moropoulou shows the exposed tomb to Nourhan Manougian and Franciscan Custos Fr. Francesco Patton, representatives of the Armenian Patriarch, and Patriarch Theophilos of Jerusalem.

*“All this is the evidence that this rededication of the Sacred Edicule has an ecumenical significance for the whole human family, for this is a place that brings together peoples of all nations, all ethnicities, and all cultures, and it is an eloquent testimony that we share a common humanity and a common destiny. This restoration of the Sacred Edicule is not only **a gift** to our Holy Land, but **to the whole world.**”*

–Patriarch Theophilos of Jerusalem

Revelations & Discoveries



Another Stone, Mosaic Fragments and a Silver Cross

When the stone that covers the burial couch was temporarily removed in October 2016, another stone was found underneath (left). The bottom stone was broken along its length and only the northern fragment of it survives. The top stone likely matches the description of an anonymous pilgrim who visited the site in 1345, and wrote that the tomb was “decorated with a porphyry slab, that had lips on the sides, and in the middle of the slab there was cut a streak.” (quoted in Martin Biddle, *The Tomb of Christ*, 1999, p. 87-88). Hence the underlying stone can be said to predate the 14th century. The two stones were separated with fill material that was removed and stored. The fragment of the bottom stone was bonded to rock lying underneath with strong mortar. During the same operation, mosaic fragments with black tesserae were discovered (middle). A silver cross bearing the architect Komnenos’ name and 1809 date was discovered inside a stone located at the southeast corner of the structure (right). It is a moving symbol of the piety of the 19th-century architect who rebuilt the Edicule after a devastating fire.

Preserving the Past



Paintings Conserved

In the interior, the masonry dome above the Tomb Chamber was cleaned. The masonry was darkened due to the 43 oil lamps that are suspended above the tomb. Likewise, eight wall paintings below the level of the dome were cleaned and conserved.



The Cupola

Cleaning tests around the exterior of the dome revealed beautiful painted decoration, which was fully revealed and conserved. Painting was also discovered in the inner surface of the onion dome, and it was also cleaned and conserved.



Restoration Efforts

An engineer uses ground-penetrating radar to detect the walls of the original tomb behind its marble facade.

*“Something amazing and unexpected happened when they were analyzing the rock. **The tools measuring electromagnetivity, etc. completely stopped working when they measured the part of the stone where Christs body had been laid.** The scientists checked every possible thing that could have gone wrong. They concluded that something energetic had happened to this part of the rock that is unexplainable. Over the other areas the tools all worked and measured normally, but over specifically where his body was laid, nothing could be read or measured, as if they stopped working. The patriarch recalled St. John Chrysostom who said that when the body of Jesus was laid on the rock, fire came out of the rock. It's telling. They are amazed by it and said its never happened before, anywhere.”*

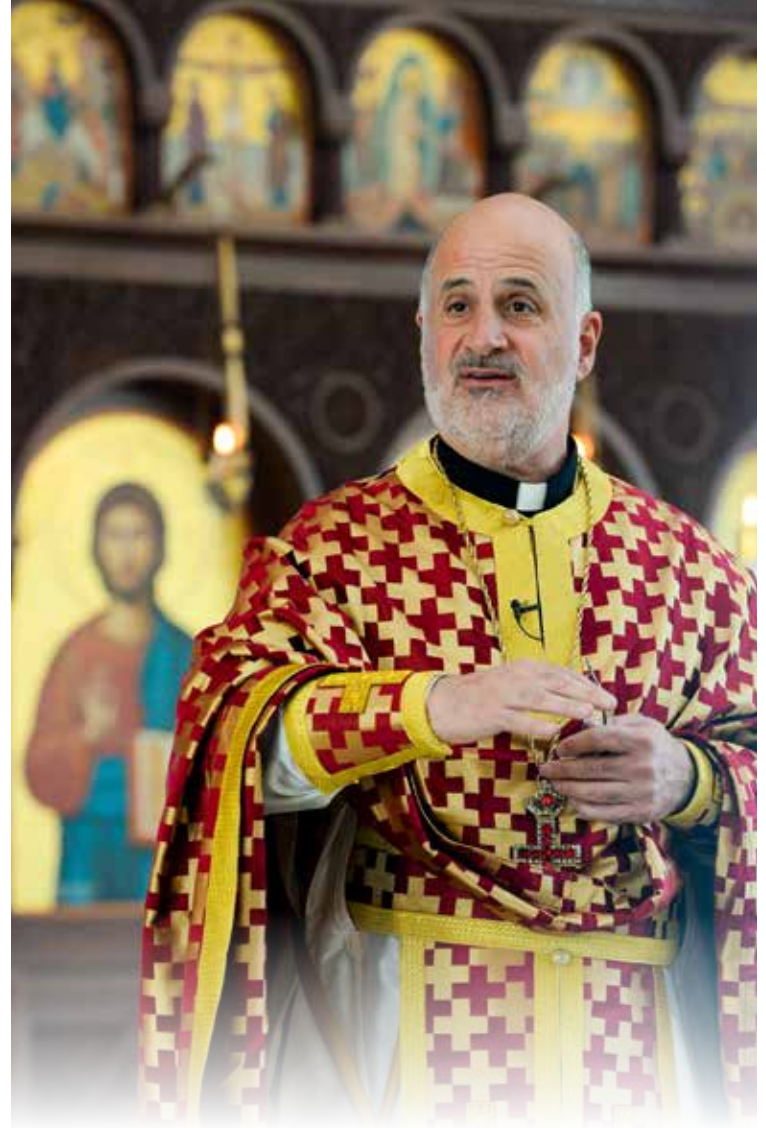


THREE THINGS ARE NEEDED

PRAYER, VIRTUE AND HUMILITY

"Many rich and powerful men would pay dearly to see the Lord or His Most Pure Mother, but God does not appear in riches, but in the humble heart... Every one of the poorest men can be humble and come to know God. It needs neither money nor reputation to come to know God, but only humility."

—St. Silouan the Athonite



Fr. Chris Metropulos, President of HCHC, leads Annual Archon Lenten Retreat



With the blessings of His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios Geron of America, the 14th Annual Archon Lenten Retreat took place at the Dormition of the Virgin Mary Greek Orthodox Church in Southampton, NY, March 31-April 1, 2017.

Fr. Christopher T. Metropulos, president of Hellenic College Holy Cross served as retreat master, focusing on the topic, "Three Things Are Needed: Prayer, Virtue And Humility". The retreat was organized under the chairmanship of Archon Peter J. Skeadas and co-chairman Archon Michael G. Psaros. ✠

PHOTOS: JOHN MINDALA



Over 100 Participants

Archon Lenten Retreat participants join together inside the Dormition of the Virgin Mary Church in Southampton.



Peter Skeadas



Michael Psaros



John Metaxas



Andrew Manatos



Honoring Nicholas J. Bouras

A special monument was erected and blessed in honor of Nicholas J. and Anna Bouras in the memorial garden of the Dormition of the Virgin Mary Church.

Pictured are National Commander Dr. Anthony J. Limberakis, Paul Maus, designer of the monument, National Secretary Judge B. Theodore and Helen Bozonelis.



Robert Spencer

Robert Spencer, the Director of Jihad Watch, a program of the David Horowitz Freedom Center, was a guest speaker during the Archon Lenten Retreat. He is the author of sixteen books, including the *New York Times* bestsellers *The Politically Incorrect Guide to Islam (and the Crusades)* and *The Truth About Muhammad*. His latest book is *The Complete Infidel's Guide to Iran*. Coming in 2017 is *The Complete Infidel's Guide to Free Speech (and Its Enemies)*.

Spencer has led seminars on Islam and jihad for the FBI, the United States Central Command, United States Army Command, amongst many other organizations.

Robert is a baptized Greek Orthodox Christian and a faithful member of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America.

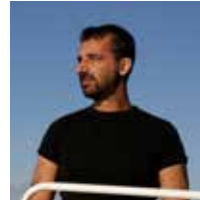
A Grandmother and a Fisherman from the Greek Island of Lesbos Chosen as Recipients of Athenagoras Human Rights Award, Oct. 21

WHITE HOUSE CHIEF OF STAFF ARCHON REINCE PRIEBUS TO BE KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Emilia Kamvisi, an 86-year-old grandmother, and Efstratios Valiamos, a fisherman, both from Mytilene on the Greek island of Lesbos, will receive this year's Athenagoras Human Rights Award presented by the Order of Saint Andrew, Archons of the Ecumenical Patriarchate, at the organization's annual banquet Saturday, Oct. 21, 2017 at the New York Hilton Hotel. The evening's keynote address will be offered from a "son of Mytilene," White House Chief of Staff Archon Reince Priebus, whose mother's family hailed from the Greek port city.

The women and men of Lesbos, along with their compatriots on other islands in Greece, have been selfless in taking on the role of rescuers and receivers for the flood of refugees who have arrived on their shores after escaping conflicts in the Middle East. Kamvisi and Valiamos were chosen for the award because of their own efforts and to represent all volunteers who have helped refugees in this time of crisis.

Kamvisi had been among three people nominated for a Nobel Peace Prize after a photograph was taken as she and two friends, ages 89 and 85, bottle-fed a Syrian baby who had survived the dangerous boat journey from Turkey. The photograph went viral on the internet. Valiamos was also nominated for the Nobel prize for his role using his fishing boat in saving



Nobel Peace Prize Nominees Emilia Kamvisi and Stratis Valamios

Greek islanders from the village of Skala Sikaminias are nominees for the Nobel Peace Prize for their rescue efforts to save hundreds of refugees and other migrants crossing from Turkey to the Greek islands in flimsy craft that often sank, with great loss of life.

dozens of refugees from drowning.

"The world has looked on at the courage and compassion of these rescuers who have risked their own lives and livelihoods trying to save children, women and men from overloaded smuggling boats in the frigid waters of the Aegean sea, and aiding and comforting those refugees fortunate enough to wash ashore," said Dr. Anthony J. Limberakis, National Commander of the Archons, in announcing the award decision.

Both recipients remain humble despite the praise they have received for their courage and dignity. "People say 'You're a hero,' but this isn't heroism, it's the normal thing

to do," Valiamos has been quoted as saying. "When you're fishing and a boat is sinking next to you and they're screaming for help, you can't pretend to not hear them."

"What did I do? I didn't do anything," Kamvisi was quoted as saying after she was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize.

The Award will be presented by His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios Geron of America along with National Commander Limberakis.

Past recipients of the Award have included Presidents Jimmy Carter and George H. W. Bush, Mother Teresa, Elie Wiesel, Mikhail Gorbachev, Admiral James Stavridis, Vice President Joe Biden and last year's recipient, New York Governor Andrew M. Cuomo.

The Award is named in memory of Ecumenical Patriarch Athenagoras, who served in that capacity from 1948 until his death in 1972. Prior to his selection as Ecumenical Patriarch, Athenagoras served as Archbishop of North and South America.

Established in 1986, the Athenagoras Human Rights Award is presented annually at the Order of Saint Andrew's grand banquet to a person or organization that has consistently exemplified by action, purpose and dedication concern for the basic rights and religious freedom of all people. ✕

archons.org/AthenagorasAward



Rescue Efforts

A refugee boat with about 35 refugees were rescued by the fisherman of Greece on the Mediterranean Sea between Turkey and the Greek island Lesbos near Mytilene, Greece, March 2016.

John A. Catsimatidis named recipient of Nicholas J. Bouras Award for Extraordinary Archon Stewardship, Oct. 20

The Order of Saint Andrew the Apostle is pleased to announce that Archon John A. Catsimatidis, Archon Notarios and chairman of the Order's Religious Freedom Initiative, has been nominated as the recipient of this year's Nicholas J. Bouras Award for Extraordinary Archon Stewardship. Archon Catsimatidis has been a member of the Order's governing body, the National Council, for many years. A special tribute dinner dance will be held at the New York Hilton Hotel, Friday evening, Oct. 20, as part of the Order's annual three-day assembly, Oct. 20-22.

Archon George Safiol, Award Committee chairman, said, "Archon Catsimatidis has exemplified tremendous stewardship of time, talent and resources in support of the Mother Church of Constantinople, the Orthodox Christian Church throughout the United States, and to the mission of the Order of Saint Andrew in which all Christians should be granted reli-

gious freedom rights. Our committee deemed it appropriate to recognize his efforts and name him as the recipient of this prestigious Award in recognition of the extraordinary service exemplified by National Vice Commander Bouras of blessed memory."

The National Council of the Order of Saint Andrew unanimously voted in 2010 to establish the Nicholas J. Bouras Award. The Award is presented annually to an individual who has demonstrated extraordinary and incomparable stewardship to the Order, enabling Archons to vigorously pursue securing religious freedom for the Mother Church of Constantinople.

The Award is named after the late National Vice Commander Nicholas J. Bouras, Archon Depoutatos, who demonstrated remarkable leadership as a faithful son of the Ecumenical Patriarchate and exemplary steward of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America. ✕



Indiana State Senate passes resolution in support of religious freedom for the Ecumenical Patriarchate

The Indiana State Senate has recently adopted SR2, a religious freedom resolution in support of the Ecumenical Patriarchate.

55 such resolutions have been adopted by 45 states. Until now, Indiana had yet to join this group, in part because the state was divided between the jurisdictions of the Metropolis of Chicago and Metropolis of Detroit. Their Eminences Metropolitan Iakovos of Chicago and Metropolitan Nicholas of Detroit have been working together to see Indiana become the 45th state to pass this important resolution.

The resolution calls on the Turkish government to respect the religious freedoms and rights of the minority Greek Orthodox Church in the predominantly Muslim nation following decades of legal disputes, confiscation of properties, and the closing of the only seminary serving Orthodox Christians in Turkey in 1971.

Under the guidance of His Grace Bishop Demetrios of Mokissos, chancellor of the Metropolis of Chicago and Fr. Dean Houn-

talas, chancellor of the Metropolis of Detroit, Archon Regional Commanders Gus M. Pablecas, John G. Manos, and Lazaros Kircos joined numerous Greek Orthodox clergy and parishioners in testifying before the Indiana State Senate Judiciary Committee. These members included Archon Chris Rongos, along with Fr. Hountalas, Fr. William Bartz, Fr. Lucas Christensen, Fr. Andrew Walsh, and John Ackerman.

The legislative effort was led by Indiana State Senator Lonnie Randolph and State Representative Bob Morris, who also committed to moving the resolution through the Indiana House of Representatives soon.

In 2006, the National Council of the Order of Saint Andrew initiated the Religious Freedom Resolution project. The goal of this



Indiana Support

Archons and Clergy at the Indiana State Senate in support of Religious Freedom for the Mother Church of Constantinople.

project, which represents one component of the overall, multi-faceted Religious Freedom Initiative, is the adoption of Religious Freedom Resolutions in support of the Ecumenical Patriarchate in each individual state within the United States. The project has been overseen nationally by Archon Stephen Georgeson.

The five other States which have not passed a Religious Freedom Resolution include: Montana, Minnesota, New Hampshire, Maryland and Hawaii. ✕



The Archon

WASHINGTON Initiative

Impressive results occur when Archon Congressman Gus Bilirakis leads the Washington, D.C. presence for the Order, assisted by the Manatos team and Archon John A. Catsimatidis, chair of our Religious Freedom Committee

Up Close and Personal

Archbishop Demetrios and Father Alex Karloutsos, Archon Spiritual Advisor, join politicians and dignitaries as Donald Trump makes his way to the podium for the Inauguration.



PHOTOS: AP, WHITE HOUSE; BENJAMIN D. APPELBAUM

Invited by the Presidential Inauguration Committee, Archbishop Demetrios of America, Exarch of the Ecumenical Patriarchate, represented the Greek Orthodox Church in America at a special Inauguration Day Prayer Service at St. John's Episcopal Church in Washington's Lafayette Square. President Donald J. Trump and Vice President Mike Pence, together with their families and a select group of guests were in attendance.

The Archbishop was accompanied by Fr. Alexander Karloutsos, Archon Spiritual Advisor, and were seated at the prominent dignitaries platform at the U.S. Capitol from where they attended the Presidential Inauguration and the swearing in of the 45th President of the United States Donald J. Trump.

ARCHONS HONORED

The previous evening, the Archbishop bestowed the Medal of Saint Paul, the highest honor of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America, to Archon Reince Priebus, the new White House Chief of Staff, to Archon Congressman Gus Bilirakis and to Archon George Gigicos, Deputy Assistant to the President and Director of Advance. All three Archons were honored during a Greek-American inaugural reception on January 20, held at the St. Regis Hotel and sponsored by the Hellenic Initiative. →

Meeting the President

President Donald Trump meets with the Archbishop and Father Alex, above, prior to Greek Independence Day Celebrations in the Diplomatic Reception Room of the White House, March 24.



Archons with His Eminence at the National Prayer Service at the Washington National Cathedral.



Archons Bilirakis and Priebus.



Archon Gigicos, far left, and Archon Manatos, 3rd from right



Archon Priebus with Archon John and Margo Catsimatidis.

Upon receiving the Award, both Archon Priebus and Archon Bilirakis spoke about their deep connection with their Orthodox Christian faith and Hellenic heritage. Archon Gigicos, was unable to make the event, due to his involvement in inauguration preparations being held the next day. His parents Fr. Dean Gigicos and Presvytera Elaine received the medal on his behalf.

GREEK INDEPENDENCE DAY

On March 23, Archon Chief of Staff Priebus hosted a reception and dinner for about 70 invited guests at Blair House, on the occasion of Greek Independence Day and in honor of His Eminence. Vice President Mike Pence, made a surprise appearance shortly after the

beginning of the dinner. The Vice President praised the Greek American Community in the United States and reminisced of his visit last year with Archbishop Demetrios at the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese in New York.

Archon Andrew Manatos offered the initial toast and welcomed the guests on behalf of the Chief of Staff.

Archon Priebus spoke of his faith, the family values he was raised by and his Greek Orthodox roots. He said that the Greek Community always stood by his side in difficult times. He also praised the other Greek American White House staff members of Greek Orthodox descent, George Gigicos, George Sifakis, and Alex Angleson. He said "we have something special here as a Greek community".

Archon Priebus, responding to another question and speaking about religious freedom said that it is one of his personal goals to get the President involved in the religious freedom of the Orthodox Church in Constantinople, the Ecumenical Patriarchate.

NATIONAL PRAYER SERVICE

His Eminence also participated in the National Prayer Service for the new President at Washington's National Cathedral. National Commander Dr. Anthony J. Limberakis, National Secretary Judge B. Theodore Bozonelis and Regional Commanders of Chicago Gus Pablecas and John Manos were also in attendance. ✝

Forum on Modern Slavery Held at the Phanar

"Lord, free the captives. Remember those in mines, in exile, in harsh labor, and in every kind of affliction, necessity, or distress . . . For You, Lord, are the helper of the helpless, the hope of the hopeless, and the savior of the afflicted."

—From the Liturgy of St. Basil

Under the auspices of His All-Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew, a Forum on Modern Slavery, co-sponsored by the Ecumenical Patriarchate and the Church of England took place in Istanbul from February 6-7, 2017. The Forum grew out of a conversation between His All-Holiness and His Grace Archbishop Justin of Canterbury during the formal Patriarchal visit to Lambeth Palace from November 2-4, 2015, which was in response to Archbishop Justin's first visit to the Phanar from January 13-14, 2014.

The aim of this gathering was to bring together distinguished scholars, practitioners,

and policymakers from around the world to discuss modern slavery and emphasize the protection of human dignity and freedom as of vital importance for the Church as well as worldwide religious and human-rights communities. This priority was clearly articulated at the Holy and Great Council of the Orthodox Church in Crete (June 2016), where the Orthodox Primates and Hierarchs declared in their final Encyclical: "The Church lives not for herself. She offers herself for the whole of humanity in order to raise up and renew the world into new heavens and a new earth."

In his keynote address, His All-Holiness

observed: "The Orthodox Church is often accused of neglecting the world for the sake of liturgical worship and spiritual life, turning primarily toward the Kingdom of God to come, disregarding challenges of the present. In fact, however, whatever the Church says, whatever the Church does, is done in the Name of God and for the sake of human dignity and the eternal destiny of the human being. It is impossible for the Church to close its eyes to evil, to be indifferent to the cry of the needy, oppressed and exploited. True Faith is a source of permanent struggle against the powers of inhumanity."

His All-Holiness and Archbishop Justin Welby signed a Joint Declaration, "condemning all forms of human enslavement as the most heinous of sins inasmuch as it violates the free will and the integrity of every human being created in the image of God." They also "encouraged state leaders to find appropriate and effective ways of prosecuting those involved in human trafficking, preventing all forms of modern-day slavery, and protecting its victims in our communities and promoting hope wherever people are exploited."

Finally, the Ecumenical Patriarch and the Archbishop of Canterbury established a joint taskforce on modern slavery. ✕

SINS

Before Our Eyes



A Forum On MODERN SLAVERY

Istanbul | Feb 2017

Forum Participants in Istanbul

His All-Holiness, Archbishop Justin of Canterbury and distinguished scholars, practitioners, and policymakers from around the world.



Archons continue their martyria (witness) and diakonia (service) as 'Defenders of the Faith' in their local communities throughout the United States

Over the last several weeks throughout the Archdiocese of America, Archons of the Order of Saint Andrew have demonstrated their role as 'Defenders of the Faith' and organized several symposiums and presentations advocating for basic human rights and religious freedom for the Mother Church of Constantinople. ✝



San Diego, CA

On February 19-21, 2017, the Faith, Dance, Fellowship, (FDF) was held in San Diego, CA attended by His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios, Geron of America and nearly 4,000 dancers and family members. National Commander Anthony J. Limberakis delivered a religious freedom presentation to the Archons of the Metropolis of San Francisco and was welcomed by His Eminence Metropolitan Gerasimos of San Francisco and Regional Commander Theofanis V. Economidis.



Washington, D.C.

On March 26, Archon Mike Manatos spoke to the community of Saint Sophia Greek Orthodox Cathedral in Washington, DC about "Our Church in Crisis: The Future Survival of the Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople." The event was organized by Saint Sophia's Young Adult League (YAL) and was attended by over 90 YAL members and cathedral parishioners. From left to right, Father Dimitrios Lee, John Pappas, Archon Mike Manatos, Stephanie Zevitas, John Zevitas, Father Steven Zorzos, Parish Council President Ted Planzos.



Orange, CT

A lecture and dialogue was held at Saint Barbara Greek Orthodox Church, Orange, CT, on February 15, focusing on twenty-five years of leadership, accomplishments and environmental activism of His All-Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew. The lecture was presented by the Historian of the Order, Archon Prof. George E. Demacopoulos, right. Regional Commander Nikiforos Mathews, left, offered an overview on the facets of the denials of religious freedom under which the Ecumenical Patriarchate labors while Archon Gregory Stamos, middle, past Supreme Counselor for the Order of AHEPA, served as moderator.



New York, NY

On February 15, seminarians of Holy Cross/Hellenic College gathered at the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America where they had the opportunity to become further educated on the work of the Order of Saint Andrew. National Vice Commander John Halecky, Archon Alexander Pritsos, Sergeant at Arms and Archon Theo Nicolakis offered presentations on the work of the Order and the religious freedom issues effecting the Ecumenical Patriarchate.

Defenders of the Faith



Saint Augustine, FL

Archons joined in celebrating the 35th anniversary of the dedication of the St. Photios Greek Orthodox National Shrine Day during a special banquet held on February 5 at the Casa Monica Hotel in St. Augustine, FL. The event was attended by His Grace Bishop Gregory of Nyssa of the American Carpatho-Russian Orthodox Diocese who was the keynote speaker. His Grace Bishop Dimitrios of Xanthos and Regional Commander Dr. Manuel N. Tissura bestowed the Saint Photios Medal to Archon Ted P. Pappas and to Archon Christo Daphnides for their 40-plus years of commitment to the St. Photios National Shrine. Archon Daphnides had previously served as the historian of the Order and as a member of the National Council.

Archon Nicholas Furriss, who served as Master of Ceremonies at the banquet was also joined by fellow Archons Harry Cavalaris, John Scurtis, George Donkar, John Grossomanides, George Parandes, Dr. Steve Poulos and Philip Yamalis.



New Port Richey, FL

With the blessings of His Eminence Metropolitan Alexios of Atlanta a symposium was held at St. George Greek Orthodox Church in New Port Richey, FL on February 7, which focused on the plight of the Ecumenical Patriarchate and religious freedom issues affecting minorities in the Middle East. The theme of the symposium was "The Sacredness of Childhood" which invited everyone to recognize and respect the rights and integrity of children, based on the appeal of His All-Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew in his 2016 Christmas Proclamation.

The symposium was organized by Archon Elias Damianakis who worked in cooperation with the Order of Saint Andrew the Apostle. Featured speakers included Fr. Matthew Morgan of the Coptic Orthodox Church, Fr. John Kouki of the Syriac Orthodox Church, Fr. Harry Linsinbigler of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church along with representatives of the Palestinian and Jordanian communities.



Denver, CO

With the blessings of His Eminence Metropolitan Isaiah of Denver, a symposium was held at the Assumption of the Theotokos Cathedral, Denver, CO, on Saturday, January 28 attended by over 85 people, which included 14 Archons. The symposium focused on the historical, canonical and ecclesiastical significance of the Holy and Great Council of the Orthodox Church, which concluded in June 2016, including a review of the previous seven Ecumenical Councils.



Valparaiso, IN

A presentation covering the issues of concern facing the Ecumenical Patriarchate was held at St. Iakovos Greek Orthodox Church in Valparaiso, IN, following the Divine Liturgy on Sunday, February 26. Archon Regional Commanders Gus Pablecas and John Manos delivered the presentation and also focused on Indiana Senate Resolution 2, a simplistic resolution currently making its way through the Indiana State Senate which declares support for the Ecumenical Patriarchate and calls on the Turkish Government to ensure its religious freedom. Several Indiana State Senators and Representatives were invited to the special presentation which was attended by over 100 parishioners.



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\$50,000 Challenge Grant fulfilled for new Archons sponsoring one day

Archon John A. Catsimatidis, Religious Freedom Chairman, fulfilled a \$50,000 matching grant encouraging all newly-elected Archons to sponsor at least a one-day pledge of \$3,000 for the Exarch's Appeal. There was nearly a 100% response by the new Archons. This resulted in a \$50,000 contribution from Archon Catsimatidis.

Newly invested Archons, along with all Archons, are encouraged to pledge their support towards the vital religious freedom initiatives of the Order of Saint Andrew the Apostle by sponsoring one or more days. ✨

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another fight
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John Halecky, Jr. • Summit, NJ • 7/20/82
Michael Halikias • Burr Ridge, IL • 3/7/93
Dn. Stephen E. Hall • Millsboro, DE • 2/28/99
Ron J. Harb • Little Rock, AR • 3/10/02
Stavros Haviaras • Muttontown, NY • 10/20/13
John A. Hilaris • Elmhurst, IL • 10/16/16
Spiro C. Hondros • Charlotte, NC • 10/23/05
Larry Hotzoglou • Bayside, NY • 10/26/08
John C. Hrapchak • Columbia, MD • 2/28/99
Dr. William N. Hunter • Bethesda, MD • 10/15/95
Stratos E. Inglesis • Potomac, MD • 11/8/98
Timothy J. Joannides • Cheyenne, WY • 10/23/05
Michael S. Johnson • Denver, CO • 1/1/80
Ted Johnson • Jacksonville, FL • 3/8/87
Thomas G. Jordan • Grosse Pointe, MI • 10/31/10
Constantine Kaganis • Bronx, NY • 10/16/11

Peter Kakoyiannis • Yardley, PA • 3/8/98
John A. Kalinoglou • Atlanta, GA • 3/10/02
Stephen S. Kalivas, R. Ph. • Peabody, MA • 10/21/12
Dr. James G. Kallins • Downey, CA • 3/3/96
John Kalucis, M.D. • Middleburg Heights, OH • 10/20/13
Dean C. Kamaras • Allison Park, PA • 3/9/03
Nicholas A. Karacostas • Bayside, NY • 11/1/09
Demitri P. Karagias • Deal, NJ • 3/5/00
George L. Karagias • West Allenhurst, NJ • 3/16/97
Chris Karamanos • Toms River, NJ • 10/16/11
Nicholas Karamatsoukas • Gladwyne, PA • 10/23/05
Prof. Peter Karavites • Quincy, MA • 3/5/00
Michael Karloutsos • Penn Valley, PA • 10/31/10
Peter Karmanos, Jr. • Orchard Lake, MI • 5/6/15
Dr. Stamatios Kartalopoulos • Annandale, NJ • 2/28/99
Nick H. Katapodis • Atlanta, GA • 11/1/09



John V. Kassimatis • Garden City, NY • 3/9/03
Prof. Constantine N. Katsoris • Scarsdale, NY • 3/12/95
† Nick H. Katapodis • Atlanta, GA • 11/1/09
Emanuel G. Katsoulis • Manhasset, NY • 10/31/10
Michael Kavourias • Manhasset, NY • 10/16/16
Theodore G. Kays • Coral Gables, FL • 3/9/03
Konstantinos Kazakos • Clemmons, NC • 10/22/06
Lazaros Kircos • Grosse Pointe, MI • 10/10/04
Sam N. Kleto • Charlotte, NC • 10/23/05
Theodore P. Klingos • New York, NY • 11/1/09
Theodore X. Koinis • PearLand, TX • 10/21/12
George Kokkinakis • Ramsey, NJ • 3/8/87
George M. Kondos • Scarsdale, NY • 3/10/02
Nicholas D. Konides • N.Wildwood, NJ • 3/12/95
Andreas C. Konnari • New York, NY • 10/23/05
Theodore D. Konopisos • Newport Beach, CA • 10/18/15
George J. Kontogiannis • Columbus, OH • 10/10/04

George H. Kossaras • Carefree, AZ • 3/10/02
John Kost • Freeland, PA • 2/17/01
Dr. Harry N. Kotsis • Grosse Pointe Farms, MI • 10/22/06
Notis Kotsolios • Westfield, NJ • 10/10/04
John S. Koudounis • Chicago, IL • 10/16/16
George Koukounaris • Nahant, MA • 3/9/03
Mihail D. Koulakis • Porter Ranch, CA • 11/1/09
Dr. George Koulianos • Mobile, AL • 10/28/07
John A. Koumoulides, Ph.D. • Muncie, IN • 1980
Christ G. Kraras • Wyomissing, PA • 3/12/95
Gust C. Kraras • Reading, PA • 3/4/90
Michael Kusturiss, Jr. • Eighty Four, PA • 10/21/12
Pavlos Kymissis, M.D. • Manhasset Hills, NY • 10/16/11
Thomas C. Kyrus • Virginia Beach, VA • 1/1/78
Georgios C. Kyvernitis • King of Prussia, PA • 3/10/02
Arthur Labros • Brookfield, WI • 10/31/10
Steven M. Laduzinsky • Chicago, IL • 11/1/09
Markos Lagos • Dunedin, FL • 10/19/14
Frank Lagouros • Peoria, IL • 10/20/13
Theodore Laliotis • Los Altos, CA • 10/21/12
Elias Lambiris • New York, NY • 10/18/15
Nicholas R. Larigakis • Alexandria, VA • 3/9/03
Nick Latousakis • Weirton, WV • 10/16/16
Nicholas L. Lekas • Hudson, OH • 10/20/13
William G. Lianos • Grosse Pointe, MI • 10/16/16
Hon. Paul Lillios • Northbrook, IL • 2/18/01
Dr. Anthony J. Limberakis • Rydal, PA • 3/8/87
Anthony C. Limberakis • Philadelphia, PA •
Dr. Cary J. Limberakis • Ambler, PA • 10/10/04
Demetrios Limberakis • Peabody, MA • 10/31/10
Dr. John Lingas • Portland, OR • 1/1/85
Dimitrios Logothetis • Riverwoods, IL • 10/10/04
Arthur Loridas • Needham, MA • 10/22/06
Costas T. Los • Harrison, NY • 3/4/90
Dr. Nicholas G. Loutsion • Canonsburg, PA • 3/9/03
Steven Lukac • Hubbard, OH • 10/16/11
Spiro J. Macris • Wrightsville Beach, NC • 3/3/96
Keith Maib • Leawood, KS • 10/19/14
Eleftherios Maggos • Leo, IN • 10/21/12
George G. Makris • Alpine, NJ • 10/23/05
John D. Malatras • Charlotte, NC • 2/28/99
Chris C. Maletis • Portland, OR • 10/26/08
Louis G. Malevitis • Oak Brook, IL • 3/3/96
Andrew E. Manatos • Bethesda, MD • 2/24/91
Mike A. Manatos • Bethesda, MD • 10/22/06 →

All Exarch's Appeal Participants (continued)

Christopher D. Mandaleris • Greensboro, NC • 10/16/11
 Nikitas Manias • Palm Harbor, FL • 10/18/15
 Theodore P. Maniatakos • Los Angeles, CA • 10/18/15
 Franklin Manios • Warren, OH • 3/18/05
 John G. Manos • Bloomingdale, IL • 3/1/13
 George M. Marcus • Palo Alto, CA • 2/24/91
 William B. Marianes • Tucker, GA • 2/18/01
 Peter J. G. Maris, M.D. • Garden City, NY • 3/7/93
 Nikiforos Mathews • Stamford, CT • 11/1/09
 Richard K. McGee • Houston, TX • 10/16/16
 John A. Mehos • Jersey City, NJ • 2/18/01
 Peter Mesologites • Kings Point, NY • 10/16/16
 John C. Metaxas • Katonah, NY • 10/20/13
 C. Dean Metropoulos • Greenwich, CT • 10/23/05
 Louis J. Michaelos, MD • Largo, FL • 2/24/91
 Emmanuel Mihailides • East Greenwich, RI • 10/23/05
 Nick Mihalios • Malba, NY • 3/4/90
 Frank Mihalopoulos • Dallas, TX • 10/31/10
 George D. Mihaltzes, Esq. • Bayside, NY • 11/1/09
 Christos G. Miliotes • Maitland, FL • 3/16/97
 Michael H. Missios, Ph. D. • Huntsville, AL • 10/19/14
 William Mitchell • Wildwood, NJ • 10/28/07
 Nicholas C. Moraitakis • Atlanta, GA • 3/20/94
 Theodoros Moschokarfis • Beechhurst, NY • 3/12/95
 Demitrios M. Moschos • Worcester, MA • 3/19/89
 James H. Moshovitis • Washington, DC • 2/28/88
 Harry Moskos • Knoxville, TN • 2/24/80
 Basil Mossaidis • Washington, DC • 10/31/10
 Ted Moudis • Manhasset, NY • 10/16/16
 Dr. Nick M. Moustoukas • Metairie, LA • 10/22/06
 Chris J. Moutos • Asheville, NC • 3/7/93
 Andrew S. Natsios • College Station, TX • 10/23/05
 James S. Nicholas • Grand Rapids, MI • 3/10/02
 Anthony A. Nichols • Skokie, IL • 2/24/91
 Louis Nicozisis • Manalapan, FL • 3/15/92
 Tom Nixon • Charlotte, NC • 10/16/16
 George J. Omiros • Uniontown, PA • 2/18/01
 Gus M. Pablecas • South Barrington, IL • 10/22/06
 Steve C. Padis • Danville, CA • 10/20/13
 Anthony Palmieri • Newtown Square, PA • 10/21/12
 George N. Panas • Montvale, NJ • 3/7/82
 Christos T. Panopoulos • East Grand Rapids, MI • 2/18/01

James Pantelidis • New York, NY • 10/21/12
 George Pantelidis • New York, NY • 10/19/14
 Hon. Nicholas P. Papadakos • McKeesport, PA • 2/28/99
 Peter Clyde N. Papadakos, Esq. • McKeesport, PA • 10/22/06
 Dr. Gregory Papadeas • Greenwood Village, CO • 11/1/09
 Stavros Papadopoulos • Potomac, MD • 10/15/95
 Aristotle Papanikolaou, Ph.D. • Bradford, MA • 10/31/10
 Christopher J. Pappas • Houston, TX • 10/26/08
 Harris J. Pappas • Houston, TX • 10/26/08
 Harry J. Pappas • Reno, NV • 3/12/95
 Dr. James P. Pappas • Norman, OK • 10/26/08
 Peter G. Pappas • Centerville, MD • 3/23/86
 John Pappajohn • Des Moines, IA • 2/18/01
 Stephen G. Pappas, MD • Somersworth, NH • 3/12/95
 Nicholas L. Papson • Washington Township, NJ • 3/10/02



Lt. Col. George Parandes Ret., USAF • Jacksonville, FL • 3/15/92
 Pete Parthenis, Sr. • Inverness, IL • 10/28/07
 John G. Patronis • Atlanta, GA • 3/19/89
 Prof. Lewis J. Patsavos • Cambridge, MA • 11/1/09
 Solon P. Patterson • Atlanta, GA • 3/9/03
 Dr. Michael J. Patzakis • San Marino, CA • 10/22/06
 Paul Pavlides • Manhasset, NY • 3/5/00
 James & Theodore Pedas Family Foundation • Washington, DC • 10/31/10
 Harold A. Peponis • Chicago, IL • 3/7/93
 Gus G. Perdikakis • Maineville, OH • 3/7/82
 Paun Peters • Fort Worth, TX • 10/19/14
 Dr. Marinos A. Petratos • New York, NY • 3/8/87
 John G. Poles • Scarsdale, NY • 3/16/97
 Dean Poll • Upper Brookville, NY • 10/22/06
 Demetrios Polos • Highland Park, NJ • 10/19/14
 Arthur Poly • Boca Raton, FL • 10/26/08

Theodore J. Poplos • Memphis, TN • 10/19/14
 George Possas • E Northport, NY • 3/23/86
 H. Steven Poulos • Canton, OH • 11/1/09
 Peter E. Preovolos • La Mesa, CA • 7/4/82
 Reince R. Priebus • Kenosha, WI • 10/16/11
 Alexander Pritsos • Bayside, NY • 3/15/1992
 Michael G. Psaros • Purchase, NY • 10/19/14
 George P. Psihogios • Lake Oswego, OR • 10/26/08
 Dino A. Ralis • Bayside, NY • 10/28/07
 Gerry Ranglas • Rancho Santa Fe • 3/10/02
 Harry Raptakis • Mineola, NY • 3/15/92
 George Reganis • Bloomfield, MI • 10/28/07
 Michael Ristvey, Jr. • Hermitage, PA • 3/15/92
 George Rockas • Lynnfield, MA • 10/22/06
 James Rockas • Lynnfield, MA •
 Dr. John C. Rouman • Durham, NH 03824 • 10/16/11
 George E. Safiol • Weston, MA • 3/16/97
 George Sakellaris • Milton, MA • 10/28/07
 Costas Sarantopoulos, M.D. • Youngstown, OH • 1975
 Hon. Paul S. Sarbanes • Baltimore, MD • 3/7/82
 Anthony T. Saris • Mill Valley, CA • 3/10/02
 Prof. John C. Sarkioglou • Meadowbrook, PA • 3/7/93
 Nicholas C. Sarris • Tyngsboro, MA • 3/10/02
 William Scaljon • Atlanta, GA • 3/3/96
 Dr. Peter Scamagas • Fresno, CA • 10/28/07
 James S. Scofield • St. Petersburg, FL • 8/10/68
 Byron Scordelis • Saratoga, CA • 10/16/16
 John C. Scurtis • Miami, FL • 10/28/07
 John H. Secaras • Kenilworth, IL • 3/3/85
 Theodore Sepsis • Elmhurst, IL • 10/23/05
 Demetrios Seremetis • Canton, MA • 11/1/09
 Michael Serko, Jr. • Endwell, NY • 3/5/00
 Robert J. Serko • Endwell, NY • 3/5/00
 Harry G. Sifaris • Los Angeles, CA • 3/3/96
 Constantine Sideridis • Salem, MA • 10/18/15
 Louis S. Sinopoulos • Deerfield Beach, FL • 1/1/68
 Franklin Sisson • Paradise Valley, AZ • 10/16/16
 Peter J. Skeadas • Greenwich, CT • 10/10/04
 Emil Skocypec • Quenn Creek, AZ • 10/31/10
 George Skoufis • Atlanta, GA • 3/5/00
 Hon. Michael Sotirhos • Pompano Beach, FL • 1/1/74
 Alex Spanos • Stockton, CA • 1/14/72
 Dean Spanos • San Diego, CA • 6/6/04
 Michael Spanos • Stockton, CA • 6/6/04
 Harry W. Spell • Edina, MN • 10/16/11 →

All Exarch's Appeal Participants (continued)

William Spell • Edina, MN • 10/18/15
James D. Speros • Wellesley, MA • 3/10/02
Spiridon Spireas, Ph.D. • New Hope, PA • 10/31/10
Arthur G. Spirou • Ft. Wayne, IN • 3/4/90
Christos Spyropoulos • Old Brookville, NY • 11/1/09
George Stamboulidis • Rockville Centre, NY • 10/16/16
Gregory J. Stamos • Woodbridge, CT • 10/16/11
Angelo A. Stamoulis • Holliston, MA • 3/23/86
Demetrios Stathopoulos • Victor, NY • 10/19/14
Panos Stavrianiadis • Somerset, NJ • 2/18/01
George Stefanidakis, Ph.D. • Houston, TX • 10/20/13
Michael Stefanoudakis • Denver, CO • 10/18/15
Athena Stephanopoulos • Lenexa, KS •
Wesley A. Stinich • Westchester, IL • 10/22/06
Christopher Stratakis • New York, NY • 3/8/98
John C. Stratakis • Manhasset, NY • 10/26/08
Nick M. Stratas • Mobile, AL • 3/20/94
Thomas M. Suehs • Austin, TX • 10/16/11
William G. Sutzko • Saint Clair, PA • 10/10/04
George Svokos • Franklin Lakes, NJ • 10/16/16
John Tangelos • Shelby Township, MI • 10/31/10
Tim Tassopoulos • Atlanta, GA • 10/28/07
William J. Tenet, M.D. • Manhasset, NY • 2/28/99
Nicholas E. Terezis • Pittsburgh, PA • 10/18/15
Theodore J. Theophilos • Hinsdale, IL • 10/23/05
Dr. Gregory A. Thomas • Highland, IN • 3/12/95
James G. Thomas • Highland, IN • 3/3/96
James Thomas • Highland, IN • 3/12/95
Anthony Thomopoulos • Westlake Village, CA • 10/31/10
Manuel N. Tissura, D.D.S. • Roswell, GA • 3/19/89
Andreas Touzos • Virginia Beach, VA • 2/18/01
Costas N. Trataros • Boca Raton, FL • 3/20/94
Constantine Triantafilou • Lutherville, MD • 10/22/06
Kyriakos Tsakopoulos • Sacramento, CA • 10/22/06
George Tsandikos • New York, NY • 3/20/94
Elias Tsekerides • Brewster, NY • 10/19/14
Hon. Nicholas Tsoucalas • Rego Park, NY • 3/8/87
George A. Tsougarakis • Englewood, NJ • 10/16/11
Manuel Tzagournis, M.D. • Columbus, OH • 3/9/03
Andreas G. Tzakis, M.D. • Miami, FL • 10/10/04
George A. Tzikas • Sacramento, CA • 3/5/00
Dr. Sotirios J. Vahaviolos • Princeton, NJ • 10/10/04
Argyris Vassiliou • Stamford, CT • 10/16/11

Emmanuel E. Velivasakis • Scarsdale, NY • 3/10/02
Kostas Vellios • Brooklyn, NY • 1969
George Venizelos • Sparta, NJ • 10/20/13
Stefanos Vertopoulos • Vancouver, WA • 10/28/07
Theodore Veru • Fort Lee, NJ • 10/28/07
George M. Ververides • Princeton, NJ • 3/15/81
Peter A. Vlachos • New York, NY • 2/18/01
Theodore D. Vlahos • La Grange Park, IL • 11/1/09
Dr. Theodore Vlahos • Safety Harbor, FL • 10/22/06
Thomas Vlahos • Bronx, NY • 2/18/01
John P. Volandes • Brooklyn, NY • 3/12/95
Bill J. Vranas • Skokie, IL • 3/20/94
Gus Vratsinas • Little Rock, AR • 3/10/02
Constantine N. Vrettos • Charlotte, NC • 10/23/05
Gary M. Vronion • Danville, CA • 10/23/05
Nicholas Yakubik • Cary, NC • 10/28/07
Stephen J. Yallourakis, M.D., D.D.S. • Kingsport, TN • 10/23/05
Philip G. Yamalis • Pittsburgh, PA • 10/21/12
G.Thomas Yearout • Birmingham, AL • 3/8/98
Stephen G. Yeonas • McLean, VA • 3/3/96
Andrew Zachariades • Brick, NJ • 10/16/16
James B. Zafiros • White Plains, NY • 10/31/10
George P. Zaharas • Cheyenne, WY • 10/16/11
Theodore K. Zampetis • Bloomfield Hills, MI • 10/28/07
Leonard Zangas • Manhasset, NY • 10/31/10
Theodore Zaravinos, MD • Fort Lauderdale • 3/3/96
John Zavitsanos • Houston, TX • 10/10/04
Marina Zazanis • Vero Beach, FL •
Steve Zervoudis • Englewood, NJ • 10/16/16
George P. Zimmar, Ph.D. • Briarcliff Manor, NY • 10/23/05
Constantinos M. Zografopoulos • Chicago, IL • 11/1/09
Demetrius C. Zonars • Dayton, OH • 3/9/03
AHEPA Omega Chapter 371, Inc. • Harrison Township, MI
The Nicholas J. & Anna K. Bouras Foundation, Inc. • Summit, NJ
Georgi Georgiev • Orpington, UK
John C. Kulis Charitable Foundation • Chicago, IL
In Memory of George Kleris • Atlanta, GA
Air Force Chaplain Corps • JBSA Randolph, TX ✕



Departed Archons

Nikolas Agathis, Exarchos
Springfield, NJ
Departed on 3/9/2017

Chris W. Caras, Sr., Hartoularios
Palos Verdes Estates, CA
Departed on 4/1/2017

Andreas Costea, Depoutatos
Oceanside, NY
Departed on 3/10/2017

Gregory G. Demetrakas, Depoutatos
Cranston, RI
Departed on 4/9/2017

Louis A. Gaitanis, Nomophylax
St. Augustine, FL
Departed on 1/7/2017

Nick H. Katapodis, Hartophylax
Atlanta, GA
Departed on 2/28/2017

Dr. George S. Kleris, Proto Notarios
Atlanta, GA
Departed on 1/1/2017

George J. Miller, Nomophylax
Charlotte, NC
Departed on 1/28/2017

William J. Oldham, Laosynaktis
Windber, PA
Departed on 1/31/2017

Basil Skelos, Eftaxias
Rockville Centre, NY
Departed on 3/16/2017

George A. Smisko, Maestor
Perth Amboy, NJ
Departed on 2/5/2017

Dr. Anthony Vasilas, Aktouarios
Manhasset, NY
Departed on 4/7/2017

Louis D. Zakas, Referendarios
Atlanta, GA
Departed on 3/6/2017

May their memory be eternal!

Photo Briefs



Saint Nicholas at the World Trade Center

On January 26, Archon Jerry Dimitriou offers construction updates to Archbishop Demetrios on the Saint Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church and National Shrine.



Heartfelt Acknowledgment

Regional Commander Theofanis V. Economidis of San Francisco presents an icon of Saint Anthony the Great to the National Commander following his religious freedom presentation at Faith. Dance. Fellowship. (FDF) held in San Diego.



Unveiling a Digital Masterpiece

On February 28, Archon Theo Nicolakis presented the newly redesigned Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America website to Archbishop Demetrios.

PHOTOS: JOHN MINDALA

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