



GREEK ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE OF AMERICA

March 25, 2021

His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros of America
Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America
8 East 79 Street
New York, NY 10075

Your Eminence:

Please accept my sincerest gratitude for honoring me and my ministry by making me the Vicar General of the Archdiocese of America. I will forever value the thoughtful gesture and treasure our long-standing friendship and the privilege of working closely with you to address the many concerns of our National Church.

You were very gracious to not accept my retirement request last year when I turned 75 years of age. However, I feel more than ever that I must retire when I turn 76 on April 5, and would like, hopefully, my retirement from active ministry to take effect on May 3, 2021.

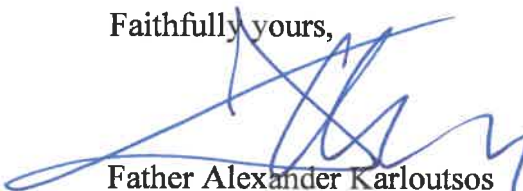
As I stated to you directly and to His All Holiness, I will retire, but not retreat. With Your Eminence's blessings, I would like to fulfill our mutual promise to His All Holiness to establish The Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew Foundation by continuing, for a brief period, my role as spiritual advisor with the Order of Saint Andrew. Likewise, I would like to continue serving as the spiritual advisor to the Friends of Saint Nicholas so that I can help you complete this most important and historic project.

Also, I will work very closely with Your Eminence to help organize, implement and underwrite His All Holiness's Patriarchal Visitation to the US in celebration of his 30th Anniversary as Ecumenical Patriarch.

Presbytera Xanthi and I have done our best to serve the National and International Church over the past 51 years. We both feel it is the right time to do our best for our local Church in the Hamptons and have more precious time with our children and grandchildren.

With love, respect and gratitude, I remain

Faithfully yours,



Father Alexander Karloutsos
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