



GREEK ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE OF AMERICA

ΓΕΡΑ ΑΡΧΙΕΠΙΣΚΟΠΗ ΑΜΕΡΙΚΗΣ

OFFICE OF THE ARCHBISHOP
Ο ΑΡΧΙΕΠΙΣΚΟΠΟΣ

December 23, 2021

Dr. Robert Allison, President
Esteemed Board of Directors of the Mount Athos Foundation of America

Beloved in Christ,

I write to you in order to convey my highest commendation and blessing, as Exarch of the Ecumenical Patriarchate here in the United States, for the noble purposes and undertakings of the Mount Athos Foundation of America. I was so pleased to learn of your activities and engagement on behalf of the Holy Mountain of Athos, which is the Garden of the Theotokos and the millennial legacy of Byzantium. As the spiritual domain of the Holy Mother Church of Constantinople, I have a special love and affinity for this sacred enclave of noetic worship and ceaseless prayer of the Church (1 Thess. 5:17).

The Mount Athos Foundation of America will serve the high calling to not only sustain the monastic endeavor lived out on the Holy Mountain, but also to inform the American society-at-large about the mystical, aesthetic and societal virtues of this thousand-year-old bastion of the Holy Orthodox Christian Faith. The monastery is the place that the Lord speaks of when He said: “in My Father’s house are many mansions.” (John 14:2) Indeed, such mansions on earth are found on Mount Athos, which are an image of the eternal mansions yet to come.

Therefore, I wholeheartedly commend and congratulate the Mount Athos Foundation of America, and I pray that through the intercessions of the Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary, you and all of your faithful supporters will find much success and fulfillment in your blessed mission to aid the holy fathers of Athos.

With paternal love in Christ,

+ ELPIDOPHOROS
Archbishop of America