



**GREEK ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE OF AMERICA
ARCHEPISCOPAL ENCYCLICAL**

Prot. No. 88/2025

Archiepiscopal Encyclical on Greek Independence Day

March 25, 2025

Unto the Most Reverend and Right Reverend Hierarchs, Pious Priests and Deacons, the Monks and Nuns, Presidents and Members of Parish Councils, Honorable Archons of the Ecumenical Patriarchate, Members of Leadership 100, the Day and Afternoon Schools, Philoptochos Societies, the Youth, Greek Orthodox Organizations, and the entirety of the Christ-named Plenitude of the Holy Archdiocese of America:

**The New Creation revealed the Creator by showing Himself to us whom He created
(Akathist Hymn, Third Stasis, N)**

Beloved Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The “New Creation” that we celebrate every March 25th is both a spiritual and a political reality for Orthodox Christians of Greek descent, for Philhellenes around the world, and indeed for every human being. What occurred within the Ever-Virgin’s womb is nothing less than the re-creation of the human race and, through us as God’s chosen stewards, the entirety of the created cosmos. And what occurred in 1821 within the hearts and minds of Greek patriots, is nothing less than the re-creation of a Nation, to which we – as stewards – owe a debt of responsibility and fidelity.

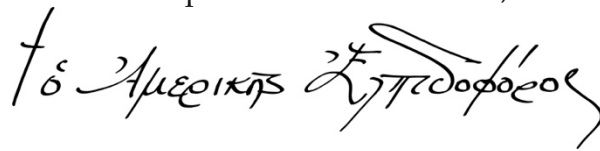
The Annunciation of the Theotokos was perfected by the exercise of her freedom on behalf of every man, woman, and child who would ever live. And the Revolution of 1821, an astonishing exercise of liberty, led to the independence and ultimate rebirth of Hellas. The former was a Divine Act enabled by a human being; the latter, a human endeavor empowered

by a Divine Hand. In both, there was the grace of a Virgin Full-of-Grace, a young girl who incarnated the best of our aspirations to freedom, and was the Vessel of the Incarnation of God.

Let us never forget our Virgin Champion who manifests what it means to be truly free in God. And let us never forget the Immortal Heroes of 1821, whose sacrifices showed the world what it means to fight and overcome tyranny, and to protect, defend, and prosper the People of Greece. Let us always choose to be that New Creation in Christ.

Long live 1821! Long live Democracy! Long live Greece!

With paternal love in Christ,

A handwritten signature in Greek script, reading "Ὁ Ἀμερικὴς Ἐπισκοπὸς", which translates to "The Archbishop of America". The signature is written in a fluid, cursive style with a large initial 'Ὁ'.

† ELPIDOPHOROS
Archbishop of America