



G. Douris, The Founder of Humanitarian Organization, To Get Athenagoran Award

New York City.— During their scheduled meeting in January, the National Council of the Order of Saint Andrew the Apostle, announced that the Eighth Annual Athenagoran Humanitarian award will be bestowed on George Douris, former journalist, public relations consultant and founder as well as retired Chairman of the Hellenic American Neighborhood Action Committee. The life-size bust of the late Ecumenical Patriarch which in the last seven years has been awarded to an individual or an organization actively involved in the Human Rights and Religious Freedom battle, will be presented during the Order's Annual Banquet on Saturday, March 6, 1993 beginning at 6:30 p.m. This year's Banquet, a highlight of the Greek community's social season will be held at the Marriott Marquis Hotel, Broadway and 45th Street.

Explaining the Order's selection for this year's recipient, National Commander Dr. Chris Philip said that "there has never been a more deserving individual than Mr. Douris. He has always been in the forefront of the crusade against social injustice and human rights violations and has upheld the principle of religious freedom through countless activities and protestations. He has undertaken many trips to Greece, Cyprus and Turkey for the sole purpose of seeking justice for the Patriarchate and the Hellenes of Constantinople, and he has delivered many a fiery speech condemning the Turkish atrocities in Cyprus.

A well known personal-

ity will assume the duties of the Master of Ceremonies. The Annual Banquet of the Order of Saint Andrew the Apostle is expected to surpass this year all records of attendance because of the anticipated patronage by HANAC officials and rank and file members.

Award's Eighth Recipient: Humanitarian About Town

He has endured through a host of administrations, through the closing of the newspaper for which he wrote for nearly 30 years, through times of prosperity and despair for New York City, and he has outlasted many a friend and foe.

He is George Douris, a politician with the city as his office, a public relations consultant with contacts at his fingertips, and a humanitarian with a heart of gold.

Just when most people are calling it a career and settling down in the autumns of their lives, George Douris set out to conquer new territory and scale new mountains.

The seminal role of George Douris in the founding of HANAC and its continuing success is characteristic of the dynamism and natural leadership ability he has brought to every activity he has ever undertaken.

It was in 1973 when this Astoria-based group of Greek Americans began to offer services to fellow immigrants in need. Almost 20 years later, HANAC has so broadened its scope of services, it now is firmly entrenched as a multi-faceted social service organization reaching out to all people regardless of ethnicity. HANAC provides services to senior citizens, crime victims, the unskilled and untrained, youths, substance abusers, families in need of counselling, and much more.

His qualities came to him early in life, instilled by his immigrant parents while growing up in Astoria. The glamour and excitement of the newspaper world drew him to the old Long Island Star-Journal where he worked as a sports assistant while still a student at Bryant High School. After a stint with the U.S. Army in Korea and attendance at Long Island University he became a reporter. He quickly rose from writing about fires, bank hold-ups, and restaurants to covering city government and national political figures.

His colleagues in the press at various times have chosen him to serve as president of the Newspaper Reporters Association, the New York Press Club, and the Inner Circle, an organization of leading political writers. After the Long Island Press closed in 1977 he took thirty years of newspaper experience and began expanding his own firm, Urban Public Relations, which represents many leading union, public, corporate, and hospital clients.

George Douris could have blended into the mainstream and enjoyed the success his efforts have brought him, but he has never forgotten his origins nor wavered in championing the cause of his fellow Hellenes. Thus it is not surprising that he was moved to action by the Turkish invasion of Cyprus and became a leader in the struggle for human rights and justice for the Cypriot people. He has long been active in the Order of AHEPA, twice serving as national convention chairman and Governor of Empire District #6. He has received numerous awards for his volunteer work and is a member of the Order with the title of Archon Hartophylax.

On a personal level George is a devoted husband and father to his lovely wife Evangeline and their children, Tom and Litsa.

His Eminence, Archbishop Iakovos of North and South America will head a roster of luminaries and celebrities at the dais, paying tribute to the Eighth recipient of the award. During the proceedings, the Order's Executive Officer, the Rev. Dr. Milton Efthimiou will introduce this year's Archon-candidates, who will be presented for investiture the next day, Sunday, March 7, 1993 during the colorful ceremony of the Icons immediately after the Hierarchical Liturgy at the Archdiocesan Cathedral.

The Primate of the Greek Orthodox Church in the Americas, Archbishop Iakovos was the first recipient of the much-coveted award in recognition of his inexorable and unrelenting battle to reverse violations committed against religious freedom and human rights. Former U.S. President Jimmy Carter was the second, followed by Nobel Prize winner Mother Teresa of Calcutta. Commander Emeritus Anthony G. Borden received the fourth Athenagoran award, while the fifth was given to former N.Y.U. President John Brademas. The sixth recipient was Andrew A. Athens and the seventh was awarded collectively to the National Philoptochos and presented for the benevolent organization's behalf to four of its former presidents.

M12PP0087

Patriarchal Liturgy Over St. Nicholas Tomb, A First In Pilgrimage Annals

By Rev. Dr. Milton B. Efthimiou

COUNCIL OF ARCHONS

ANTHONY G. BORDEN, M.D.
Commander Emeritus
Megas Aktouarios

CHRIS PHILIP, D.D.S.
National Commander
Aktouarios

KIMON A. DOUKAS, Ph.D.
1st Vice Commander
Megas Protekdikos

ANASTASIOS E. MANESSIS
Vice-Commander
Depoutatos

ANTHONY J. LIMBERAKIS, M.D.
Secretary
Aktouarios

STEVEN P. PAPADATOS
Treasurer
Ostiarios

JOHN M. MAVROUDIS
Legal Counselor
Notarios

PROF. DENO J. GEANAKOPLIS
Historian
Didaskalos Tou Genous

STEVE E. ALEXANDER
Depoutatos

ANDREW A. ATHENS
Maestor

THOMAS H. BARTZOS
Ekdikos

NICHOLAS J. BOURAS
Depoutatos

GREGORY DEMETRAKAS
Depoutatos

THEODORE D. DEMETRIOU
Exarchos

THEODORE P. DEMETRIOU
Ekdikos

JOHN HALECKY JR.
Ekdikos

KIRK P. KALEMKERIS, M.D.
Aktouarios

GEORGE KIRIAKOPOULOS, D.D.S.
Aktouarios

HARRY MAGAFAN
Depoutatos

JOHN PANAS
Depoutatos

JEAN P. PAPPS, M.D.
Aktouarios

STEPHEN S. SCOPAS
Hartouliarios

LAMBROS SIDERIDES, M.D.
Aktouarios

MIMIS TERRY
Depoutatos

HON. NICHOLAS TSOUCALAS
Hartouliarios

KONSTANTINE VELLIOS
Depoutatos

"We have once again gathered in Constantinople, in the Phanar, pilgrims from America and Canada, in order to pay our respects to our Ecumenical Patriarch. We come also to bear witness to the truth of a bishop of the early church, St. Nicholas of Myra. Bringing with us the greetings of His Eminence Archbishop Iakovos, we eagerly await to join Your Holiness in leading us to Myra and to the tomb of St. Nicholas."

With these words this writer who serves as coordinator to these pilgrimages for the past nine years addressed the Ecumenical Patriarch on behalf of the Archons, members of the Ladies Philoptochos Society, the Regional Commander of the Order of St. Andrew from Canada and a choir organized by the Regional Commander from the Diocese of Toronto, in setting the tone for this pilgrimage which would be led by His All Holiness Bartholomew I, Ecumenical Patriarch of Constantinople, spiritual leader of 250 million Orthodox throughout the world.

The pilgrimage began in Constantinople and ended in Myra (Demre) of Lycea on the tenth anniversary of the theological symposium held in Antalya, fifty kilometers from Myra with a Patriarchal liturgy held for the first time over the tomb of St. Nicholas and presided by the Ecumenical Patriarch himself along with the Metropolitan Archbishop of Ephesus Chrysostom who also is acting Metropolitan of Myra and titular successor of St. Nicholas.

At the symposium and at the liturgy there were about fifteen hundred delegates and pilgrims from Switzerland, Austria, America, Canada, Rhodes, Athens and Salonika, as well as other parts of the world. Accompanying the Ecumenical Patriarch was the Metropolitan of Ephesus Chry-

sostom, who was also President of the Organizing Committee which had prepared for the ninth time this gathering and which included this writer as a member of the original committee. Also in the Patriarchal party were the Metropolitan of Kolonias Gabriel and Perge Evangelos as well as the great Archdeacon Chrysostom, the V. Rev. Meletios Sakoulides, Economos of the Ecumenical Throne, as well as Metropolitan of Peristeriou (Athens) Chrysostom, the Metropolitan Archbishops of Rhodes and Patmos with many of the congregants from these and other islands of Greece. Assisting in chanting the Byzantine hymns was the choir from Toronto, Canada as well as the Patriarchal choir led by the great Protopsalti of the Great Church of Christ L. Asteris, one of the leading Byzantine chanters of the world. Among the many speakers and theologians at the symposium was the representative of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of North and South America, from the University of Maryland, Prof. Aristidis Papadakis, Professor of History of the University of Maryland who spoke on the contemporary historical scholarship on the Fraternal Rivalry and Resulting schism between medieval Eastern and Western Christendom.

The pilgrimage began with attending the Patriarchal liturgy at the Phanar Church of St. George on the Feastday of St. Andrew the Apostle (November 30), who is considered the Founder of the Early Church of Constantinople. The pilgrims visited the various ancient ecclesiastical sights of Constantinople such as the great Church of Aghia Sophia, the Monastery of Chora with its magnificent early Byzantine mosaics, and some of the early churches and centers of Byzantium.

(Continued on Page 4)



Viewing the ruins of Patara, the birthplace of St. Nicholas with Patriarch Bartholomew (center) are, Metropolitan Chrysostom of Peristerion (Athens) Sevasteias and Perge (Patriarchate), and the Rev. Dr. Milton B. Efthimiou (Archdiocese).

M12 PP0088

New Heights Attained: Gala Concert Raises \$75,000 For Phanar's institutions & needy.

When Rev. Dr. Milton Efthimiou, Executive Director of the Order of Saint Andrew The Apostle left New York bound for the Phanar, he was carrying a precious gift with him. It was in the form of a \$75,000 check, part of the proceeds from one of the greatest undertakings of the Order, the Gala Benefit Concert and Dinner at Lincoln Center. He made the presentation to the Patriarch following the services for Saint Andrew the Apostle, patron Saint of Byzantium, during a private audience for the group from the Americas, held in the Patriarchal reception hall. In addressing the Patriarch, Rev. Dr. Efthimiou told His All-Holiness that the check represented the proceeds from the auspicious event

Patriarchate and its institutions such as schools and hospitals, all of which comprise the center of World Orthodoxy.

In attendance was His Eminence Archbishop Iakovos under whose auspices the highly visible affair was held. Also attending were His Grace, Bishop Philotheos of Meloa, the Order's executive Director Rev. Dr. Efthimiou, and Rev. Dr. Stephanopoulos, Dean of the Archdiocesan Cathedral, the Commander Emeritus of the Order, Dr. Anthony G. Borden, the National Commander Dr. Chris Philip and Theodore Prounis, President of the Archdiocesan Cathedral and many others from throughout the United States.

The Chairman of the N.Y. Philharmonic,

the National Council, after Archbishop Iakovos challenged the Archons to increase their commitment to the Patriarchate."

"By assembling here," Dr. Limberakis continued, "each of us has made a sacrificial commitment to the Church of Christ in support of the Ecumenical Patriarchate and of the Archdiocese of North and South America." He went on to pledge that, "with hands clasped in unity, we pronounce to the Greek Orthodox Faithful throughout the world, that the Order of St. Andrew the Apostle serves the Mother Church wherever and whenever it is called upon."

He then proceeded to acknowledge the chairman of the Sponsorship Committee, Nicholas J. Bouras and the Chairman of



FROM THE GALA CONCERT AT LINCOLN CENTER

Left—From left to right: The Order's Executive Director, Rev. Dr. Milton Efthimiou, Arrangements Committee Chairperson, Ted D. Demetriou, Bishop Philotheos of Meloa, General Concert Committee Chairperson, Anthony J. Limberakis, N.Y. Philharmonic Chairman, Stephen Stamas, His Eminence, Archbishop Iakovos, Mrs. Chris Philip and the Order's National Commander, Dr. Chris Philip. Below—Andre Previn takes a bow with the Philharmonic following a stunning performance at Lincoln Center.



which was also given in honor of His enthronement. The Patriarch in turn thanked the Archons and the Order of Saint Andrew, as well as the constituency arriving from the Americas for the St. Nicholas Symposium. The Archons of America, he said, have, through the years been among the staunchest supporters of the Patriarchate and its institutions, and are truly the "Defenders of the Faith" in deed as well as in practice. At the same time, His Holiness acknowledged the Choir from the Diocese of Toronto, led by Archon Constantine Mithios, Regional Commander of Canada which chanted at services throughout the pilgrimage and gave concerts.

All who attended the concert agreed the concert was very impressive and appropriate to memorialize the late Ecumenical Patriarch Dimitrios I, and simultaneously celebrated the enthronement of His successor, Bartholomew I. The check itself was earmarked to benefit eight hundred indigent youngsters who attend Greek schools in Constantinople, with the remaining funds going to various Patriarchal institutions. It also commemorated the Centennial of the Holy Trinity Archdiocesan Cathedral in Manhattan.

The event itself was designed to draw the attention of the American public to the

Stephen Stamas, was also in attendance along with his wife, and during brief remarks, he expressed his delight at the Archons undertaking such an event, and affirmed that he will do everything in his power to facilitate such events in the future.

Preceding the concert which was conducted by Andre Previn on the Philharmonic's 150th Anniversary, guests were ushered into the Grand Promenade for the pre-concert black-tie Dinner, which followed welcoming remarks by Concert Committee Chairman Dr. Anthony J. Limberakis, and responses by the Archbishop, the National Commander and others.

Delivering his welcoming remarks, Dr. Limberakis told the audience that the event they were attending was "the culmination of a year and a half of planning by

the Arrangements Committee Theodore D. Demetriou, "who both meticulously, systematically and with selfless devotion to our mission, helped make this evening the success that it is." He also acknowledged the efforts of Professor Deno Geanakoplos, Anastasios Manessis, Konstantine Vellios, Dr. Kirk Kalemkeris, Christos Daphnides, and Athena Condos. "Father Milton and Commander Philip are deserving of great commendation." He also thanked Stephen Stamas for his invaluable assistance and encouragement and publicly expressed his gratitude to his wife, Maria, and their three children for all the understanding they extended him while the event was being planned. Dr. Limberakis then introduced the National Commander, Dr. Chris Philip who also spoke briefly during the pre-Concert Dinner.

M12 PPO089

Bartholomew I Sends Message Of Peace, Is Read At U.N. Meeting

During a December 23rd meeting at the United Nations, attended by world Church leaders as well as diplomats from across the world, the Rev. Dr. Milton B. Efthimiou delivered a message of peace from the leader of World Orthodoxy, His Holiness, the Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew. The meeting was part of the scheduled events associated with the theme of the day, declared as World Day of Prayer, and focusing on the hostilities currently taking place between factions in the former Yugoslavia.

The Order's Executive Director brought the minutes of the meeting in Zurich, Switzerland of the religious leaders of the breakaway republics in the former Yugoslavia to Bartholomew I at the Phanar, after which His Holiness

issued a plea for peace to all Orthodox throughout the world. Fr. Efthimiou carried the Patriarchal message to New York, and read it at the world body meeting. The message, appealing to all factions for peace and calm and making reference of passages from the Psalms, continues by admonishing those involved to stop the bloodshed.

"We raise anew today our voice of agony and extreme pain," the message goes on, "in view of the approaching sacred anniversary of the Birth of Christ the God-Man who is revered and exalted not only by the Christians who revere him as the Son of God of the living and the Prince of Peace par excellence, but also by our Muslim brethren who regard him as a Great Prophet who has pleased God."

Patriarchal Liturgy over St. Nicholas Tomb

(Continued from Page 2)

In the holy church of Aghia Sophia, we all silently chanted "Ti Ypermacho" knowing that this was against the law, yet reminiscent of Justinian's words, "Glory to God. Who has found me worthy to achieve such a work! O Solomon, I have surpassed thee." We stood in awe and admiration of the greatest church of Christendom having just come from and witnessing the Patriarchal liturgy at St. George officiated, at the Phanar, by His All Holiness Bartholomew I and members of the Holy Synod. We stood in the middle of the Great Church built in 532 A.D., six years into Justinian's reign, and standing in the center and looking up at the great dome, we contemplated this great achievement which for nearly 1450 years survived sieges, sacks and at least thirty earthquakes. We were now ready to embark on our pilgrimage from Constantinople, through Smyrna to Ephesus, where with the choir, we sang a vespers over the tomb of St. John the Theologian in the great basilica which still survives, though in ruins, at Ephesus, not far from the great ancient city so well preserved a few miles away.

VISITS TO ANCIENT SITES

Ephesus - The visit to Ephesus included a visit to the Church and tomb of St.

John the Theologian, the alleged House of the Virgin Mary, a shrine for both the Christian world as well as the Moslem world which reveres Mary, a walk through the ruins of the Church of the Virgin Mary where the Third Ecumenical Council was held in 431 A.D. which proclaimed the Mother of God as Theotokos rather than Christotokos in opposition to the then Patriarch Nestorios whose teachings were denounced by this Council at this site. There is much history connected with Ephesus, which became the largest metropolis in the Capitol of the Eastern Provinces of the Roman Empire. The population was about 250,000 for more than two centuries. During the first century A.D., it was the center of Christianity, especially because St. Paul, St. John, and allegedly the Virgin Mary who lived in this city. (The blessed Virgin Mary, of course, fell asleep in Jerusalem). This writer stood at the very spot, as he has done in the last nine years, where St. Paul addressed the crowd in the ancient amphitheater and read the details which are found in the Acts of the Apostles where St. Paul denounces the idolatry of the people of Ephesus.

Hierapolis (Pamukkale) — Visiting Hierapolis, the group also visited Laodicea and Colossae, which was famous for the letter that St. Paul addressed to the Colossians, one of the Books of the New Testament. This area became a center of settlement because of the famous and legendary thermal baths emanating from the mineral springs. The Christian Basilica is situated on the Main Street behind the baths and dates back to the second century, not far from the Martyrdom of St. Philip the Apostle, who lived here with his family. Excavations show that St. Philip and his sons constituted the first Christian population of Hierapolis, which was to include the great bishop Papias, one of the great early Christian bishops and writers. After



The President of the Archdiocesan Cathedral, Theodore Prounis introduces the Order's Commander Emeritus, Anthony G. Borden to Lou Nicozisis.

REGIONAL AND STATE COMMANDERS

ARCHDIOCESE 1st DISTRICT

ALEXANDER ANAGNOS
NIKITAS DRAKOTOS**
PROF. DENO J. GEANAKOPOLOS
T. PETER LIMBER
JOHN PANAS
GEORGE POSSAS
THEODORE O. PROUNIS
DR. LAMBROS SIDERIS
DR. ANTHONY VASILAS
KONSTANTINE VELLIOS

DIOCESE OF NEW JERSEY

NICHOLAS J. BOURAS
EVAN A. CHRISS
GEORGE P. GABRIEL
COSMOS S. GEORGILAKIS
JOHN HALECKY JR.
DR. KIRK P. KALEMKERIS**
DR. GEORGE KIRIAKOPOULOS
JOHN E. KUSTURISS
HARRY MAGAFAN**
JOHN M. MAVROUDIS
IKE PAPPAS
CONSTANTINE V. POLITIS
JOHN RAKKOU
CONSTANTINE S. SOSANGELIS
DEMETRIOS TSINTOLAS

DIOCESE OF BOSTON

GREGORY DEMETRAKAS**
JOHN GIKAS
STEPHEN E. PAPPAS
ERNEST A. VILLAS

DIOCESE OF ATLANTA

STEVE E. ALEXANDER**
HON. MICHAEL BILIRAKIS
MICHAEL G. CANTONIS
JAMES T. CAVALARIS
DR. GEORGE S. CROFFEAD
THEODORE P. DEMETRIOU
DR. KIMON A. DOUKAS
JERRY O. LORANT
HARRY MOSKOS
JOHN PLUMIDES

DIOCESE OF PITTSBURGH

THOMAS L. CHASE
GEORGE CHIMPLES
DINO A. KRISTAKIS**
DR. COSTAS SARANTOPOULOS

DIOCESE OF DENVER

ANTHONY G. ANDRIKOPOULOS
DR. GEORGE P. BITHOS**
MICHAEL S. JOHNSON**
HON. CHRIS V. SEMOS

DIOCESE OF DETROIT

THOMAS D. DEMERY
BASIL C. FOUSSIANES
NICHOLAS SMYRNISS**
GUS STAVROPOULOS

DIOCESE OF SAN FRANCISCO

DR. JAMES S. COUNELIS
GEORGE KOKALIS**
PAUL MANOLIS**
ALEXANDER P. PHILLIPS

DIOCESE OF CHICAGO

ANDRWW A. ATHENS**
JOHN W. GALANIS
DR. FRANK F. LITSAS
SAM NAKIS

DIOCESE OF TORONTO

GERALD DAOUSSIS
COSTAS MISTHIOS**

DIOCESE OF BUENOS AIRES, S.A.

DIOGENIS DUZOGLOU**
HON. KONSTANTIN VAZEOS**

**Regional Commanders

(Continued on Page 5)

M12PP0090

Collection of Icons donated to Howard U.

The Dean of the School of Divinity of Howard University and a professor of political science at the same institution both flew to New York in late November to receive from acclaimed Byzantine iconographer Constantine Theodosios Youssis his donation to their school. Dr. Clarence Newsome, Dean, and Dr. Nicholas A. Stavrou, College of Arts and Science, were accepting from Youssis an art collection of 22 paintings, valued upward of a quarter of a million dollars.

The valuable religious collection which includes an icon of St. John Damascene, the last of the great Eastern Theologians, was formally presented to the School of Divinity during a ceremony on December 9, 1992. The University is using the collection as the centerpiece of its Ecumenical program and the catalyst for a future chair of Orthodox studies.

A recent New York Times article on Youssis praises him as "shaper of icons in the best Orthodox tradition." The New York-based artist was born in Chlomo of Northern Epirus, now part of Albania, in 1916. His father and grandfather were both iconographers, so it was natural for young Constantine to follow the tradition of two generations. He began his artistic journey

at age 10, and in 1945 he was forced to flee the take-over of his region by a Communist regime. He spent the next decade working in Greece where his frescoes adorn a number of churches.

Youssis arrived in the United States ten years later, in 1955, continuing an illustrious career that started halfway around the world. He has ever since been sought after for his art by parishes across the country, for which he became a great source of inspiration.

The late Ecumenical Patriarch Dimitrios I in 1987 bestowed on Youssis the most distinguished honor of the Church, when he was invested as Archon Depoutatos of the Order of Saint Andrew by His Eminence, Archbishop Iakovos. This investiture recognized the stature of Mr. Youssis as one of the outstanding Byzantine artists, as well as the contribution his art has wrought to the spirituality of those who view it. It is, by the way, an art represented in churches of various denominations of the faith, which attests to the ecumenical appeal of his skills.

The celebrated artist is a resident of New York City and a long-time parish member of St. Spyridon Church where he has executed extensive iconography.



**Dr. A. Limberakis
award recipient
from Duke Univ.**

The Order's Secretary, Dr. Anthony J. Limberakis, was recently honored by Duke University for his outstanding voluntary service to that school. The untiring Dr. Limberakis who is also a Trustee at Hellenic College/Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology, accepted from Duke University the coveted Charles J. Dukes Award in appreciation of his efforts.

Patriarchal Liturgy over St. Nicholas Tomb

(Continued from Page 4)

Christianity became the official religion, the Martyrdom of St. Philip became a center for pilgrimages from all over the world. It also includes one of the most famous necropolis areas in all of Asia Minor because here are situated many Roman, Byzantine and Hellenistic sarcophagi graves and mausoleums in one area. There are more than one thousand graves here that date back to the earliest times.

Antalya — The symposium was held here and today is one of the most beautiful cities in all of Turkey. St. Paul visited Antalya (Attaleia) in 46 A.D. It was an important trade center in the second century A.D. and Emperor Hadrian visited the city many times and directed monuments in 130 A.D. From the sixth century until the Arab invasions, it predominated as a religious center of Byzantium and there is a second century A.D. church in the Greek section which is visited by the pilgrims each year and which was destroyed by Arab raids in the seventh century and con-

verted into a mosque during the Seljuk.

Perge — Patriarch Bartholomew led the group to this area which according to Strabo, and explained to us by the Metropolitan Bishops of Perge, Evangelos, the city was founded after the Trojan War and excavations in 1953 confirmed that Achaeans entered this region of Pamphylia toward the end of the second century B.C. In 334 B.C. Perge surrendered to Alexander the Great who fortified the city, and the remains which still can be found today. In 46 A.D. the Acts of the Apostles tell us that St. Paul journeyed from Cyprus to this area and from here continued on to Antioch and Pisidia, and then returned to Perge where he stayed for a period of time. In the second and third centuries A.D. Perge was considered one of the most beautiful cities in all of Asia Minor. The Patriarch and group traversed the whole ancient city by way of the columned road which still exists surrounded by the shops which are still paved with colored mosaics.

Aspendos & Side — The Patriarch led us into the great amphitheater, which is the greatest Greco/Roman theater in the world seating up to 35,000 spectators. The choir gave a concert here for the Patriarch and the pilgrims. The acoustics are among the greatest in the world. A great battle was fought here in the fifth century B.C. between the Athenian commander Cimon,

(Continued on Page 6)

Order Pledges funds towards video project

GOTelecom's Yanni Simonides was a guest at the December 2, 1992 meeting of the National Council of the Order and presented to the Archons a segment of his production of HISTORY OF ORTHODOX CHRISTIANITY, a video available to the general public through his office at the Archdiocese. The showing drew raves from the conferees, who were pleased because of the Order's own video, IN WISDOM LET US ATTEND.

Simonides also asked the National Council to consider a donation by the Order in the amount of \$50,000 towards the defraying of the expenses involved in this, his latest project associated with our Christian Orthodox heritage, which has the blessing of His Eminence, Archbishop Iakovos.

Later on at the meeting, Archon Ostiaros and Treasurer Steven Papadatos made a motion that the Order pledges that sum of money towards this noteworthy project, a motion which was seconded by Archon Depoutatos Steven Alexander. After a vote, the motion was passed unanimously with one member of the National Council abstaining.

GOTelecom's director returned during the January 14 meeting of the General Council, during which visit he was told that the Order was going to make the funds available for his venture to the extent of the \$50,000 pledge.

THE ARCHON

Publication of the Order of St. Andrew of the Ecumenical Patriarchate of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of North and South America. Published quarterly as a chronicle of events, news and announcements by the National Council of the Order. Editorial staff: Rev. Dr. Milton M.B. Efthimiou, Executive Officer, Bob Nicolaides, Editor. Mail Address: The Archons/ 8 East 79th Street, New York, NY 10021.

M12 PP0091

Archon Pilgrimage '93 off to great start as inquiries keep pouring in

After a number of revisions to the original Pilgrimage/Symposium itinerary, the Archons Pilgrimage '93 to the Phanar, the Holy Land and Greece is off to a flying start. With the blessing of His Eminence, the pilgrims on this pioneering trip undertaken by the Order will depart from New York's JFK September 7th, embarking on a thirteen day journey across three nations and sites of religious and historical significance.

Rates per person (two per hotel room) are \$2,380.00 with \$465 for a single supplement and an additional \$43.00 airport taxes, security and customs, all subject to change.

These rates are based on a group of 40 or more. They include all flights, sightseeing by private air-conditioned coach, entrance fees and English speaking guides. Additionally it includes transfers for all arrivals and departures between airports and hotels. Also included are Deluxe hotels in Athens and Istanbul, and Superior in Israel. In Athens, continental breakfast is included in the hotel bill, while in Istanbul two lunches are included. The Israeli hotels offer breakfast and dinner.

The Pilgrimage/Symposium will depart N.Y. on Sept. 7th and arrive in Athens the following day. That same day the party will leave Athens for Jerusalem where the next five days will be spent tracing the steps of Our Lord as He taught, performed miracles,

and suffered untold pain, died and was resurrected. Places of religious interest will be visited such as the Mount of Olives, Gethsemany, the Garden of Our Lord's Agony, the Praetorium, and the famous Odos tou Martyriou.

Additional sights in Jerusalem are Mount Zion, the Room of the Last Supper, and the Patriarchate's Seminary. A side trip to Tiberias will afford a visit to Galilee, Haifa and Mount Carmel. Then Nazareth and the Church of the Annunciation, and Cana. There will be a stop at the River Jordan for Baptismal and Agiasmo. Scheduled is a boat ride on the Sea of Galilee, a visit to Capernaum and Tagba, Bethlehem and the Nativity. A day of leisure and shopping in Jerusalem before departure on Sept. 14th for Istanbul by Turkish Airlines.

The three-day stay in Constantinople will afford travelers a full day of sightseeing of religious monuments such as Aghia Sophia Cathedral, the Church of Pammakaristos, and Therapia, to venerate at the Shrine of Aghia Paraskevi. Next day visit Topkapi Palace, the Blue Mosque and the Covered Bazaar. Friday, Sept. 17 is departure for Athens, and the materialization of the long-awaited Symposium.

More information can be obtained from the organizing firm, Cloud Tours Inc, 645 5th Avenue, New York, NY 10022, or by calling George Birbilis at 212-753-6104.

Patriarchal Liturgy over St. Nicholas Tomb

(Continued from Page 5)

son of Miltiades, and the Persian navy which was annihilated by Cimon. Alexander the Great also conquered Aspendos and made it the center of commerce. Side was Pamphylia's largest port from the earliest times. It served as the seat of the bishop of Pamphylia until the Arab raids when it was transformed into a war zone for many years. It includes a famous amphitheater with a seating capacity of 20,000 people.

Myra & Patara — The Patriarch led us to Patara first where recent excavations found four churches of the earliest period, and which give testimony to the birthplace of St. Nicholas. Nicholas, as a young man, also grew up in these parts, and these newly excavated churches, just in the past few years, will reveal much information relative to the obscured early life of Nicholas. The Patriarch took the pilgrims around

the great amphitheater there, as well as to the necropolis, and standing on a hill, we looked out to the several square miles of ancient ruins here and there, recently excavated, which surrounded what was once the great harbor of Patara, long since filled in by sand and ground which now left the beachfront about two miles from its original site.

Myra, as everyone knows, is the city of St. Nicholas where he served as bishop and where the numerous legends abound regarding his great feats as bishop and humanitarian. It was from this very area that the legend of Sinter Klaus emanated into Western Europe, and from there, the legend of Santa Claus in the Far North which eventually came even to the Americas. In the second century, Myra received the title of Metropolis, and in 60 A.D. St. Paul stopped here and changed boats on

his way to Rome. In the reign of Theodosius II (402-450 A.D.) it was the capital of Lycia, but following the Arab invasions in the seventh century, Myra became an obscure city. Myra is known for its monuments, its great amphitheater, and its sarcophagi or rock tombs in the mountains. The pilgrims visited these rock mountain tombs and stood in awe of their architecture in that they were built right in the mountain.

The highlight of the whole pilgrimage which began in America and Canada is the visit to the 6th century basilica church of St. Nicholas built over the tomb which held the remains of this great saint of the early church. In 1087, merchants from Bari, Italy, discovered the saint's tomb and carried off his remains to Italy. Some relics remain in Myra and are now on exhibit at the Antalya Museum. Patriarch Bartholomew officiated at the great hierarchical liturgy over the tomb of St. Nicholas along with the chanting of the Canadian choir and the Patriarchal choir. It was one of the moving experiences of this year's pilgrimage.

The visit to Lycia, between the Bay of Antalya and the city of Fethiye, in Southwest Asia Minor, is a visit to the past. One of the highlights, never before allowed by the Turkish authorities, was a visit, with the Patriarch, to the ancient Hellenic city of Livissios (Kayakoy). It is known as the "ghost" city in that ever since the holocaust catastrophe of Asia Minor, when the Greeks left this city, the local Turks never occupied it, and so when one visits this city, he sees the churches, the homes, the stores, the agora, the shops, all intact, very old, with the Greek names still on the houses and on the street corners.



At the tomb and altar of St. Nicholas' Sixth Century Basilica with Patriarch Bartholomew and Rev. Dr. Milton B. Efthimiou are the Choir from Toronto, Canada and Archon C. Mithios. The Toronto Choir represented the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of North and South America during the Pilgrimage.

m12 PPO092