

## **Archbishop Makarios of Australia from the Acropolis Museum: “We are proud, because everything here is ours, it is not stolen”**



On Tuesday, 6 May 2025, His Eminence Archbishop Makarios of Australia, welcomed to Athens, Their Graces, Bishop Elpidios of Perth, Bishop Silouan of Adelaide and Bishop Kyriakos of Melbourne, as well as a group of laypeople from Australia, who are participating in the 14-day Pilgrimage organised by the Holy Archdiocese of Australia, with destinations in the Greek Capital, Constantinople, and Tbilisi, Georgia.

On the same day, the pilgrims, led by the Archbishop, visited the Acropolis Museum, where they were welcomed on behalf of the Minister of Culture, Ms. Lina Mendoni, by Ms. Sofia Stavropoulou, Head of Events, and were subsequently given a tour of its premises by Archaeologist Ms. Katerina Diamantidou.

His Eminence Archbishop Makarios wholeheartedly thanked the Museum staff for the warm welcome and the thorough tour, while expressing his admiration for the architecture and philosophy of the Museum, as well as for the exhibits that adorn its collections. He emphasised the uniqueness of the exhibits, this uniqueness, as he characteristically stated, is also due to the fact that they all come from our homeland and none of them are stolen. He characteristically said: “We are proud, because everything that is here is ours and is not stolen.”

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