

Archbishop Elpidophoros visits Metropolitan Cathedral of St. John the Theologian in Tenafly, New Jersey



His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros of America presided over the Divine Liturgy on the First Sunday of Luke, September 27, 2026, at the Metropolitan Cathedral of St. John the Theologian in Tenafly, New Jersey. He was welcomed by the Cathedral Dean, Rev. Protopresbyter Panagiotis Lekkas, and the faithful of the community.

In his homily, Archbishop Elpidophoros expressed his joy at worshipping with the parish while serving as Patriarchal Vicar of the Metropolis of New Jersey. Reflecting on the Gospel account of the miraculous catch of fish, he focused on the example of Saint Peter and the transformative power of faith.

Using Peter's response to Christ's command to cast his nets once more despite a fruitless night of fishing, the Archbishop described faith as trusting in God's word even when circumstances suggest otherwise. He noted that Peter's willingness to act in faith ultimately led not only to a miraculous catch, but also to his calling as an Apostle.

The Archbishop emphasized that Christians are likewise called to move beyond

fear, guilt, and doubt, trusting in God's mercy and love. He explained that Christ's invitation to Peter to become a "fisher of men" was a call to bring others into the fullness of life found in Him.

Concluding his homily, Archbishop Elpidophoros encouraged the faithful to follow the example of Saints Peter, James, and John by leading lives worthy of Christ's calling and striving toward the Kingdom of Heaven.

Following the Divine Liturgy, His Eminence greeted the numerous groups of the Cathedral, including the Parish Council, Archons, Philoptochos, choir, altar servers, children and others.

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