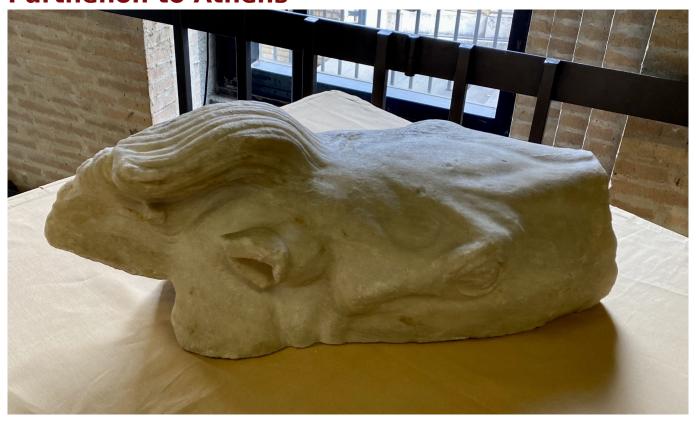
Vatican returns three significant fragments of Parthenon to Athens



Three marble depictions sliced off from atop the Parthenon in the early 19th century, which subsequently ended up in Vatican's Museums, were returned to Greece as a gift this week, with a reception ceremony held at the Acropolis Museum.

The gift is a personal decision by the Pope of Rome Francis to Archbishop leronymos of Athens and All Greece.

The three marble fragments comprise the head of a youth, one of the horses pulling the goddess Athena's chariot, and a male figure with a beard that belongs to a southern metope.

