

## Members of Archdiocese of America's Eparchial Synod to visit Constantinople next month



Members of the Eparchial Synod of the Archdiocese of America will visit Constantinople on April 5, at the invitation of the Ecumenical Patriarch, His All-Holiness Bartholomew I.

Chaired by the Archbishop of America, His Eminence Elpidophoros, members of the Holy Eparchial Synod convened in a regular session to examine various current issues, including the resignation of His Grace, Bishop Demetrios, which was unanimously approved.

The Eparchial Synod also kindly instructed church choirs at Greek Orthodox parishes around the United States not to chant the dismissal hymns, known by the Greek word Ἀπολυτίκια, in a western musical style during worship services.

According to an announcement, this practice often confuses the faithful, who are accustomed to the classical Byzantine versions of the hymns, and are unable to

follow along with the polyphonic western-style of music.