



GREEK ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE OF AMERICA
ΙΕΡΑ ΑΡΧΙΕΠΙΣΚΟΠΗ ΑΜΕΡΙΚΗΣ

OFFICE OF THE ARCHBISHOP
Ο ΑΡΧΙΕΠΙΣΚΟΠΟΣ

April 27, 2022

The Rev. Joseph M. McShane, SJ
President of Fordham University
Bronx, New York

Dear Father McShane,

I greet you warmly in the peace and grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. It is a joy to address this letter to you, adding my voice to the many others in honoring your legacy and contribution to Fordham University in celebration of your extraordinary tenure as President.

From our first meeting, your inherent leadership abilities and charismatic personality were readily apparent. This first encounter, at the very beginning of my new ministry as Archbishop of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America, marked the starting point of a true ecumenical friendship and fraternal collaboration. I am particularly grateful to you for supporting the creation and growth of the Orthodox Christian Studies Center, in harmonious synergy with Dr. Aristotle Papanikolaou and Dr. George Demacopoulos. A transformational mentor and agent of change, you truly understand what ecumenical collaboration means; both in spirit and in action. I should mention here the successful visit of His All-Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew to Fordham University in 2009 – a historic milestone in our Orthodox-Catholic relations.

My dear Father McShane, you are a visionary spirit with a gift of innovative thinking and the tenacious patience required to successfully lead meaningful reform. You have positively impacted and shaped the lives of so many people during your tenure at Fordham. As you know, Fordham University has also been an educational sanctuary for many Orthodox Christians. In fact, at the headquarters of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America, we have several graduates of Fordham University, who, following your leadership, put into practice the lessons of ecumenical and interfaith cooperation.

Your commitment and integrity will forever be entwined with the prestige of Fordham University. May your legacy be celebrated for years to come.

Prayerfully yours,

† ELPIDOPHOROS
Archbishop of America