



GREEK POST OFFICE
PHILATELIC SERVICE
ATHENS



STAMP ISSUED TO COMMEMORATE THE 19th BIENNIAL CONGRESS OF THE
GREEK ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE OF NORTH AND SOUTH AMERICA

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(Athens, July 20 — 27, 1968)

The Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of N. & S. America was established May 11, 1922 by the Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople, and has since that time been under its jurisdiction. It is governed under a Constitution issued on January 10th, 1931 by the Ecumenical Patriarch Photius II, during the Archbishopric of Athenagoras, now the Ecumenical Patriarch. The present Archbishop is Iakovos, enthroned April 1, 1959. The first Greek Orthodox Church in the Americas was the Holy Trinity Church in New Orleans, La., organized in 1865.

The Greek Archdiocese has 455 Parishes and Parish Centers, with Greek American Day Schools and afternoon Language Schools, as well as Sunday Schools. These Parishes are governed by the Archbishop through 10 Districts with 10 Auxiliary Bishops.

The Archdiocese established and supports the Greek Theological Seminary and the Hellenic College in Brookline, Mass., the Teachers Academy and Orphanage of St. Basil's in Garrison, N.Y., the Home for the Aged in Yonkers, N.Y., the Monastery of the Transfiguration in Uniontown, Pa., the St. Augustine Shrine in Florida and the Guadalupe Home for Boys in California.

TECHNICAL DETAILS

DEPICTION : The Archdiocese's emblem.

VALUE : Drachmae 6.—

QUANTITY : 700.000 pieces.

SIZE : 27 × 40 mm. in sheets of 50 pieces.

METHOD OF PRINTING : Multi-coloured offset.

PRINTED : By "Aspioti-Elka" Athens.

DESIGN : By painter Pan. Gravalos.

DATE OF RELEASE : The stamp will be released on July 11th, 1968, and will be on sale until July 11th, 1969, unless the supply is depleted earlier.

FIRST - DAY COVERS

The Philatelic Service will issue First-Day Covers, cancelled with a commemorative postmark. The illustration on the covers will feature St. Andrew who founded Byzantine Church and St. Paul who had been Apostle of the Nations and particularly of Greece.

Price of each envelope will be the face value of the stamp affixed on it, i.e. 6 drachmae.

RATE OF EXCHANGE : \$ 1 = 29,85 drachmae.