

The Ecumenical Patriarchate

The spiritual leader of 300 million Orthodox Christians in the United States and around the world, His All Holiness, Bartholomew, Archbishop of Constantinople, New Rome, and Ecumenical Patriarch, is the 270th successor of the 2,000 year-old local Christian Church founded by St. Andrew.

The Government of Turkey's actions regarding the Ecumenical Patriarchate continue to concern Representative Maloney. First, the Government of Turkey refuses to recognize the Ecumenical Patriarch's international status and has limited to Turkish nationals the candidates available to the Holy Synod for selection as the Ecumenical Patriarch. Second, Turkey has refused to recognize the property rights of the Ecumenical Patriarchate. Finally, Turkey refuses to reopen the Theological School at Halki, after thirty-four years of closure, thereby impeding training for the clergy.

Representative Maloney is working with her colleagues to address these serious issues.