

COPY

GREEK ARCHDIOCESE OF NORTH AND SOUTH AMERICA.

Incorporated.

273 Elm St, Astoria L.I. Phone Astoria 8-1653
New York.

Sept. 15, 1933.

Master Institute
of Roerich Museum
310 Riverside Drive
New York City.

Gentlemen:

I am exceedingly pleased and grateful for your kind letter of September 8th, announcing that the Institute, in the present school year, will include in its curriculum a Department of Byzantine Music, for the first time in the history of America, and that you have chosen Professor Christos Vrionides to head this department.

May I add that you are very fortunate in securing the services of Mr. Vrionides as he is undoubtedly the man highly qualified to lead in this field. For Mr. Vrionides is the Choir Master of the Greek Cathedral and otherwise he has made valuable contribution in the cultivation and interpretation of the little known, in this country, Byzantine art, by his various concerts, productions and publications, and especially by his latest work "The Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom", which is edited under the auspices of our Archdiocese.

I, therefore, congratulate you most heartily for your undertaking, for which I am also greatly grateful to you. You have my blessing and all hearted approval. I believe indeed that the Roerich Museum will become a factor in making known to the American public the sacred music of the Greek Orthodox Church.

Please notify me of the time of the opening, because I will be glad to come, if I can.

Very sincerely yours,

(Signed) Archbishop Athengoras
Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of North and South America.