



**NATIONAL FORUM  
OF GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH MUSICIANS**  
*The musical arm of the Archdiocese that strengthens and perpetuates  
Greek Orthodox liturgical music in America*



**Position Statement Regarding**

**DEVELOPMENT OF AN ENGLISH TEXT**

The National Forum of Greek Orthodox Church Musicians supports the development of an English text for use in communities where there is a need or a desire to incorporate English into their worship services. The National Forum emphasizes, however, that the use of English should not be considered a substitute for understanding the services, but that in many cases, it can be an aid to that end.

The National Forum expresses great concern that there is a proliferation of translations being developed for the Greek text, often by well-meaning amateurs. The Forum calls for the cessation of such activity, and strongly urges that the Holy Synod move quickly to approve a standard authorized text for use in the Divine Liturgy to fill an expressed need in the Church.

With regard to the text of the hymns for the Divine Liturgy and other services, the National Forum urges that they be developed with the involvement of theologians, linguists, poets, and composers, so that the text will be inspirational, poetic, and musical. The officially authorized texts should be issued as soon as possible so that composers may use them in their work.

The National Forum of Church Musicians stands ready to assist the Holy Synod in its quest for acceptable English texts.

*(Adopted June 1985; Reviewed & Updated July 2014)*