

ANNIVERSARY OR OUR DEPARTED FOR THIS SUNDAY

<u>DAY</u>	<u>NAME OF THE DEPARTED</u>	<u>ANNIVERSARY</u>
1	Leila Batchoun	8
1	Dorthoy Habib	35
1	Helen Ferris	62
2	Mary Ann Haddad	54
2	Kamel Bosada Ellis	47
2	Adele Mary Chamandy	36
4	Raja Joseph Dorkhom	9
4	Nassar Zeitouneh	8
4	Marcel Eid	12
5	Alexander Salhany	48
5	Najeeb Salem Abboud	64
7	Charles Nicholas Saba	28

- **40 Days memorial for Fayzeh Safadi offered by her children and their families. May her memory be eternal.**
- **Please**, pray for the health of the following parishioners: Ellen, Robert, Alex, Sam, Elias, Nassar, Valentine, George, Nina, Sonia, George, Elizabeth, Beshara, Samer, Irene and Toni. If you have any names of people who need prayers, email them to father.

ETERNAL LIGHT

- **Mar 7:** for the good health of **Samir Abdelnour and his family**
In loving memory of **Stella Samaan from Nabil Samaan.**
- **Mar 15:** In loving memory of **Yvonne Younes** from her family
- **Mar 21:** in loving memory of **Jeries and Nahil Irbib** from Nadim Irbib and family.
- **Mar 28:** for the good health of **Christina Ghneim Shehata** & family from her parents.
- **April 18:** in loving memory of **Yousef and Sumaya Musallam** from Nadim Irbib and family.

• **Ushers for March 7:** Regina Helou, Nancy Tannous, Majida Haddad, Violette Boutros and Colette El-Hajj

• **Ushers for March 14:** Katia AlHaddad, Amal Tahhan, Samar Shuhaibar and Colette El-Hajj

• **Soul Saturday:** Saturday March 6 Divine Liturgy at 10 AM.

• **SOYO meeting** Sunday March 7th 7 pm.

• **March is Ladies Month.** Our ladies will be ushering and reading the epistle (in Arabic and English) for the whole month of March. Please call Colette at 416-558-8665 if you are able to usher and/or read the epistle in either Arabic or English.

• **Young Adults meeting:** March 9th at 7 pm.

• **Engaged meeting** March 23 7:30 pm

- **Memorial:** if you are planning on doing a memorial for a loved one and you are expecting more than 15-20 people, please consider doing it on a Saturday in the evening. Thank you.
- **March is Antiochian Women month. The women will read the epistles and ushers. Please, see one of the women committee.**
- **PLEDGE FORM 2021:** Please fill your pledge form if you have not done so as to allow us to budget for this year. **Please see attached form.**
- **Kindly Submit your Contribution through the Following Methods: Connect to the Church Website www.stgeorgeto.org Click on Donate**
- **“e-transfer” info@stgeorgeantiochianchurch.org Account Name: St. George Church**
- **PayPal, or send your Cheque by Mail to: St. George Antiochian Church, 9116 Bayview Ave, Richmond Hill ON, L4B 3M9**
Good will come to those who are generous and lend freely, who conduct their affairs with justice. (Psalm 112:5)
- **If you are not receiving The Word magazine at your home address, please email your information to registrar@antiochian.org. You must be an Orthodox and a member of St. George Church.**
- **Bible study will resume on Thursday January 14th with a session on the Orthodox Faith from 7-8, and the Gospel of John from 8-9:30.**
- **House Blessing: Father is blessing homes. Please, don't email the office but Fr. George directly at frdahdough@sbcglobal.net or call Father.**
- **Bookstore: New icons have just arrived in our bookstore. The Bookstore is located in the church's basement. Icons are great gifts for newborn, new home, your car or your children, and Christmas gifts. Please see Colette El-Hajj or Odette Boutros to see these new icons.**
- **Please, don't forget to send your sacrificial giving to your church of St. George via e-transfer, or you can still bring your envelope with you and place it in the box by the candles. Your sacrificial giving (financial donation/support) will keep our doors open.**
- **Canned Food Drive:** please bring non-perishable canned food to donate to the needy and place them in the box outside in the Narthex.
- **Online Sunday School has begun and is in full swing. You may still register your children at any time. For further assistance contact Amanda Qaqish at orthodoxchristianeducation@gmail.com.**
- **MASKS ARE STILL MANDATORY INSIDE THE CHURCH. NO EXCEPTIONS.**
- **Please, sign up to attend the Liturgy on Sunday on Eventbrite. You don't have to sign up for services during the week.**

DIVINE LITURGY VARIABLES ON SUNDAY, MARCH 07, 2021

tone 6 / EOTHINON 6

SUNDAY OF THE LAST JUDGMENT (MEAT FARE)

THE HIEROMARTYRS OF CHERSON: BASIL, EPHRAIM, EUGENE, KAPITON, ELPIDIOS, AGATHODOROS AND AETHERIOS;
VENERABLE LAURENCE; VENERABLE PAUL THE SIMPLE, DISCIPLE OF ANTHONY THE GREAT

Deacon: For Metropolitan Paul, Archbishop John, and for their quick release from captivity and safe return, let us pray to the Lord.

الشماس: من أجل المِثروبوليت بولس والمِطران يوحنا وفك أسرهما وعودتهما سالمين، إلى الرب نطلب.

• During the Little Entrance, chant the Resurrectional Apolytikion. Then, the following:

THE EISODIKON (ENTRANCE HYMN) OF ORDINARY SUNDAYS

Come, let us worship and fall down before Christ. Save us, O Son of God, **Who art risen from the dead**; who sing to Thee. Alleluia.

هلموا لنسجد ونركع للمسيح، ملكنا وإلهنا. خلصنا يا ابن الله، يا من قام من بين الأموات، ليرتل لك. هلولويا.

RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION IN TONE SIX

When Mary stood at Thy grave, looking for Thy sacred body, angelic powers shone above Thy revered tomb; and the soldiers who were to keep guard became as dead men. Thou led Hades captive and wast not tempted thereby. Thou didst meet the Virgin and didst give life to the world, O Thou, Who art risen from the dead, O Lord, glory to Thee.

إن القوّات الملائكيّة ظهرُوا على قبرك الموقر، والحراس صاروا كالأموات، ومريم وقفت عند القبر طالبة جسدك الطاهر، فسبيت الجحيم ولم تجرب منها، وصادفت البتول مانحاً الحياة. فيا من قام من بين الأموات، يا رب المجد لك.

• Now sing the apolytikion of the patron saint or feast of the temple.

KONTAKION FOR SUNDAY OF LAST JUDGMENT IN TONE ONE

When Thou comest, O God, to earth with glory, and all creatures tremble before Thee, and the river of fire floweth before the Altar, and the books are opened and sins revealed, deliver me then from that unquenchable fire, and make me worthy to stand at Thy right hand, O righteous Judge.

إذا أتيت يا الله على الأرض بجد، فترتعد منك البرايا بأسرها، ونهر النار يجري أمام عرشك، والصحف تفتح، والخفايا تُشهر، فنجني حينئذ من النار التي لا تطفأ، وأهلني للوقوف عن يمينك، أيها الديان العادل.

THE EPISTLE (For Sunday of the Last Judgment)

The Lord is my strength and my song. With chastisement has the Lord chastened me!
The Reading from the First Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians. (8:8-9:2)

قوّتي وتَسبّحتي الرب.
أدباً أدبني الرب، وإلى الموت لم يسلمني.

Brethren, food will not bring us closer to God; for neither if we eat, are we the better, nor if we do not eat, are we the worse. But take heed lest by any means this authority of yours become a stumbling block to those who are weak. For if any one sees you, as someone who has knowledge, reclining at a table in an idol's temple, will not the conscience of the one who is weak be emboldened to eat of the things sacrificed to idols, and through your knowledge the weak brother perishes, for whom Christ died? And thus, sinning against the brethren, and wounding their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. Therefore, if food causes my brother to stumble, I will not eat meat forever, lest I cause my brother to stumble. Am I not an apostle? Am I not free? Have I not seen Jesus Christ our Lord? Are not you my work in the Lord? If to others I am not an apostle, yet at least I am to you; for the seal of my apostleship are you in the Lord.

فَصَلِّ مِنْ رِسَالَةِ الْقَدِيسِ بُولْسِ الرَّسُولِ الْأُولَى إِلَى
أَهْلِ كورِنْثُوسِ.

يَا إِخْوَةَ، إِنَّ الطَّعَامَ لَا يُعَرِّبُنَا إِلَى اللَّهِ، لِأَنَّا إِنْ أَكَلْنَا لَا نَزِيدُ
وَإِنْ لَمْ نَأْكُلْ لَا نَنْقُصُ. وَلَكِنْ انظُرُوا أَنْ لَا يَكُونَ سُلْطَانُكُمْ
هَذَا مَعْتَرَةً لِلضَّعْفَاءِ. لِأَنَّهُ إِنْ رَأَى أَحَدٌ يَا مَنْ لَهُ الْعِلْمُ
مُتَكَبِّراً فِي بَيْتِ الْأَوْثَانِ، أَفَلَا يَتَّقَى ضَمِيرَهُ، وَهُوَ ضَعِيفٌ،
عَلَى أَكْلِ ذَبَائِحِ الْأَوْثَانِ. فَيَهْلِكُ بِسَبَبِ عِلْمِكَ الْأَخِ
الضَّعِيفِ الَّذِي مَاتَ الْمَسِيحُ لِأَجْلِهِ؟ وَهَكَذَا إِذْ تُخْطِئُونَ
إِلَى الْإِخْوَةِ وَتَجْرَحُونَ ضَمَائِرَهُمْ، وَهِيَ ضَعِيفَةٌ، إِنَّمَا
تُخْطِئُونَ إِلَى الْمَسِيحِ. فَلِذَلِكَ إِنْ كَانَ الطَّعَامُ يُشْكَكُ أَخِي،
فَلَا أَكُلْ لِحَمَاءٍ إِلَى الْأَبَدِ لئَلَّا أُشْكَكَ أَخِي. أَلَسْتُ أَنَا رَسُولاً؟
أَلَسْتُ أَنَا حُرّاً؟ أَمَا رَأَيْتُ يَسُوعَ الْمَسِيحَ رَبَّنَا؟ أَلَسْتُمْ أَنْتُمْ
عَمَلِي فِي الرَّبِّ؟ وَإِنْ لَمْ أَكُنْ رَسُولاً إِلَى آخَرِينَ، فَإِنِّي
رَسُولٌ إِلَيْكُمْ. لِأَنَّ خَاتَمَ رِسَالَتِي هُوَ أَنْتُمْ فِي الرَّبِّ.

THE GOSPEL (For Sunday of the Last Judgment)

The reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. (25:31-46)

The Lord said, "When the Son of man comes in His glory, and all the angels with Him, then He will sit on His glorious throne. Before Him will be gathered all the nations, and He will separate them one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and He will place the sheep at His right hand, but the goats at the left. Then the King will say to those at His right hand, 'Come, O blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave Me food, I was thirsty and you gave Me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed Me, I was naked and you clothed Me, I was sick and you visited Me, I was in prison and you came to Me.' Then the righteous will answer Him, 'Lord, when did we see Thee hungry and feed Thee, or thirsty and

فَصَلِّ شَرِيفٌ مِنْ بَشَارَةِ الْقَدِيسِ مَتَّى الْإِنْجِيلِيِّ الْبَشِيرِ،
التِّلْمِيزِ الطَّاهِرِ. (25:31-46)

قَالَ الرَّبُّ: مَتَى جَاءَ ابْنُ الْبَشَرِ فِي مَجْدِهِ وَجَمِيعُ الْمَلَائِكَةِ
الْقَدِيسِينَ مَعَهُ، فَحِينَئِذٍ يَجْلِسُ عَلَى عَرْشِ مَجْدِهِ. وَتُجْمَعُ
إِلَيْهِ كُلُّ الْأُمَمِ، فَيُمَيِّزُ بَعْضَهُمْ مِنْ بَعْضٍ، كَمَا يُمَيِّزُ الرَّاعِي
الْخِرَافَ مِنَ الْجِدَاءِ. وَيُقِيمُ الْخِرَافَ عَنْ يَمِينِهِ وَالْجِدَاءَ عَنْ
يَسَارِهِ. حِينَئِذٍ يَقُولُ الْمَلِكُ لِلَّذِينَ عَنْ يَمِينِهِ: تَعَالَوْا يَا
مُبَارَكِي أَبِي رَثْوَا الْمَلِكِ الْمَعْدَّ لَكُمْ مِنْذُ إِنْشَاءِ الْعَالَمِ. لِأَنِّي
جُعْتُ فَأَطْعَمْتُمُونِي، وَعَطِشْتُ فَسَقَيْتُمُونِي، وَكُنْتُ غَرِيباً
فَأَوْيَيْتُمُونِي. وَعُرِياناً فَكَسَوْتُمُونِي، وَمَرِيضاً فَعُدْتُمُونِي،
وَمَحْبُوساً فَأَتَيْتُمْ إِلَيَّ. حِينَئِذٍ يُجِيبُهُ الصِّدِّيقُونَ قَائِلِينَ: يَا
رَبُّ مَتَى رَأَيْنَاكَ جَائِعاً فَأَطْعَمْنَاكَ، أَوْ عَطْشَانَ فَسَقَيْنَاكَ؟

give Thee drink? And when did we see Thee a stranger and welcome Thee, or naked and clothe Thee? And when did we see Thee sick or in prison and visit Thee?’ And the King will answer them, ‘Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me.’ Then He will say to those at his left hand, ‘Depart from Me, you cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave Me no food, I was thirsty and you gave Me no drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome Me, naked and you did not clothe Me, sick and in prison and you did not visit Me.’ Then they also will answer, ‘Lord, when did we see Thee hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to Thee?’ Then He will answer them, ‘Truly, I say to you, as you did it not to one of the least of these, you did it not to Me.’ And they will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”

وَمَتَى رَأَيْتَكَ غَرِيباً فَأَوْيْنَاكَ، أَوْ غُرِيَاناً فَكَسَوْنَاكَ. وَمَتَى رَأَيْتَكَ مَرِيضاً أَوْ مَحْبُوساً فَأَتَيْنَا إِلَيْكَ؟ فَيُجِيبُ الْمَلِكُ وَيَقُولُ لَهُمْ: الْحَقُّ أَقُولُ لَكُمْ، بِمَا أَنْتُمْ فَعَلْتُمْ ذَلِكَ بِأَحَدٍ إِخْوَتِي هَؤُلَاءِ الصِّغَارِ فَبِي فَعَلْتُمُوهُ. حِينَئِذٍ يَقُولُ أَيْضاً لِلَّذِينَ عَنْ يَسَارِهِ: اذْهَبُوا عَنِّي يَا مَلَاعِينُ إِلَى النَّارِ الْأَبَدِيَّةِ الْمُعَدَّةِ لِلْإِبْلِيسِ وَمَلَائِكَتِهِ. لِأَنِّي جُعْتُ فَلَمْ تُطْعِمُونِي، وَعَطِشْتُ فَلَمْ تَسْقُونِي. وَكُنْتُ غَرِيباً فَلَمْ تُؤْوُونِي، وَعُرِيَاناً فَلَمْ تَكْسُونِي، وَمَرِيضاً وَمَحْبُوساً فَلَمْ تَزُرُونِي. حِينَئِذٍ يُجِيبُونَهُ هُمْ أَيْضاً قَائِلِينَ: يَا رَبُّ، مَتَى رَأَيْتَكَ جَائِعاً أَوْ عَطْشَاناً أَوْ غَرِيباً أَوْ غُرِيَاناً أَوْ مَرِيضاً أَوْ مَحْبُوساً وَلَمْ نَخْدَمْكَ؟ حِينَئِذٍ يُجِيبُهُمْ قَائِلاً: الْحَقُّ أَقُولُ لَكُمْ، بِمَا أَنْتُمْ لَمْ تَفْعَلُوا ذَلِكَ بِأَحَدٍ هَؤُلَاءِ الصِّغَارِ، فَبِي لَمْ تَفْعَلُوهُ. فَيَذْهَبُ هَؤُلَاءِ إِلَى الْعَذَابِ الْأَبَدِيِّ، وَالصَّادِقُونَ إِلَى الْحَيَاةِ الْأَبَدِيَّةِ.

- *The Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom continues as usual.*

THE DISMISSAL

Priest: May He Who rose from the dead, Christ our true God, through the intercessions of His all-immaculate and all-blameless holy Mother; by the might of the Precious and Life-giving Cross; by the protection of the honorable Bodiless Powers of Heaven; at the supplication of the honorable, glorious Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist John; of the holy, glorious and all-laudable apostles; of our father among the saints, John Chrysostom, archbishop of Constantinople, whose Divine Liturgy we have now celebrated, of the holy, glorious and right-victorious Martyrs; of our venerable and God-bearing Fathers; *of Saint N., the patron and protector of this holy community*; of the holy and righteous ancestors of God, Joachim and Anna; of the Hieromartyrs of Cherson: Basil, Ephraim, Eugene, Kapiton, Elpidios, Agathodoros and Aetherios; Venerable Laurence; and Venerable Paul the Simple,

الكاهن: أَيُّهَا الْمَسِيحُ إِلَهُنَا الْحَقِيقِي، يَا مَنْ قَامَ مِنْ بَيْنِ الْأَمْوَاتِ لِأَجْلِ خَلَاصِنَا، بِشَفَاعَاتِ أُمِّكَ الْقَدِيسَةِ الْكَلْبِيَّةِ الطَّهَارَةِ وَالْبَرِيئَةِ مِنْ كُلِّ عَيْبٍ؛ وَبِقُدْرَةِ الصَّلِيبِ الْكَرِيمِ الْمُخْبِي؛ وَبِطَلْبَاتِ الْقُوَّاتِ السَّمَاوِيَّةِ الْمُكْرَمَةِ الْعَادِمَةِ الْأَجْسَادِ؛ وَالنَّبِيِّ الْكَرِيمِ السَّابِقِ الْمَجِيدِ يُوْحَنَّا الْمَعْمَدَانِ؛ وَالْقَدِيسِينَ الْمُشْرَفِينَ الرُّسُلِ الْجَدِيرِينَ بِكُلِّ مَدِيحٍ؛ وَأَبِينَا الْجَلِيلِ فِي الْقَدِيسِينَ يُوْحَنَّا الذَّهَبِيِّ الْقَمِ رَئِيسِ أَسَاقِفَةِ الْقِسْطَنْطِينِيَّةِ، كَاتِبِ هَذِهِ الْخِدْمَةِ الشَّرِيفَةِ؛ وَالْقَدِيسِينَ الْمَجِيدِينَ الشُّهَدَاءِ الْمُتَأَلِّقِينَ بِالظَّفَرِ؛ وَأَبَائِنَا الْأَبْرَارِ الْمُتَوَشَّحِينَ بِاللَّهِ؛ وَأَبَائِنَا الْأَبْرَارِ الْمُتَوَشَّحِينَ بِاللَّهِ؛ وَالْقَدِيسِ (ة) (فُلَان، فُلَانة) شَفِيعِ (ة) وَحَامِي (ة) هَذِهِ الرَّعِيَّةِ الْمُقَدَّسَةِ؛ وَالْقَدِيسِينَ الصَّادِقِينَ يُوَاكِمِ وَحَنَّةَ جَدِّي الْمَسِيحِ إِلَهُنَا؛ الشُّهَدَاءِ فِي الْكَهَنَةِ، أَسَاقِفَةِ شَرْصُونَةِ:

disciple of Venerable Anthony the Great, whose memory we celebrate today, and of all the saints: have mercy on us and save us, forasmuch as He is good and loveth mankind.

بَاسِئِيلْيُوسَ، أَفْرَامَ، إِفْجَانِيُوسَ، كَبِيْثُوْنَ، اِلْبِيْذِيُوسَ، اَعْتُوْدُوْرُسَ،
وَإِثْرِيُوسَ؛ وَالْبَارَّ لُوْرَانَسَ، وَالْبَارَّ بُوْلَسَ الْبَسِيْطِ، تَلْمِيْذَ الْبَارَّ
اَنْطُوْنِيُوسَ الْكَبِيْرَ، الَّذِيْنَ نُقِيْمُ تَذْكَارَهُمْ الْيَوْمَ، وَجَمِيْعِ
قَدِيْسِيْكَ، اَرْحَمْنَا وَخَلِّصْنَا بِمَا اَنْتَكَ صَالِحٌ وَمُحِبُّ الْبَشَرِ.

Priest: Through the prayers of our Holy Fathers, Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy upon us and save us.

الْكَاهِنَ: بِصَلَوَاتِ اَبَائِنَا الْقَدِيْسِيْنَ، اَيُّهَا الرَّبُّ يَسُوْعُ
الْمَسِيْحُ اِلَهُنَا اَرْحَمْنَا وَخَلِّصْنَا.

Choir: Amen.

الْجُوْقُ: اَمِيْن.

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Join us every second Tuesday of the month for our popular online event: Q&A with Father. This event is hosted and moderated by St. George YAM where they carefully select a featured guest speaker to discuss topics stemming from their area of expertise.

Our next event is on Tuesday, March 9th 2021 from 7:00-8:00pm over zoom and is featuring Fr. Paul Tadros, on the topic of the marginalized, vulnerable, and Christ's Church.

All are welcome, feel free to share the invitation. RSVP through Eventbrite.
Eventbrite: <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/130697659217>

You can also connect with YAM on WhatsApp, Facebook, or their website.

WhatsApp: <https://chat.whatsapp.com/JLvtY6DgPXI8VlIxBzilF6>
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1638490759549749>



St. George Young Adults Ministry Hosts

Fr. Paul Tadros

St. Silouan Orthodox Church + Mission



"Give Me This Stranger"

7pm Tuesday Mar. 9

Zoom Mtg ID: 828 1100 0866

Passcode: yam

Contact: youngadultministryto@gmail.com

ANTIOCHIAN WOMEN

THE MOST REVEREND METROPOLITAN PHILIP -- FOUNDER
A SISTERHOOD SERVING CHRIST THROUGH SERVING OTHERS



THE MOST REVEREND
METROPOLITAN JOSEPH
358 MOUNTAIN ROAD
ENGLEWOOD, NEW JERSEY 07631

NORTH AMERICAN BOARD

❖ VICE PRESIDENT ❖



February 12, 2021

Your Eminence Metropolitan JOSEPH,
Venerable Hierarchs, Reverend Clergy and Sisters in Christ:

Christ is in our midst! He is and ever shall be!

MARCH IS ANTIOCHIAN WOMEN'S MONTH.

Throughout March all parishes are asked to highlight the ministry of the women in their churches. Women play a vital role in parish ministry, serving on parish councils, staffing church schools, leading or singing in choirs, fundraising, ministering to those in need both within and outside of their parish walls. In the past, during March parishes were encouraged to have women participate in church services by ushering, reading the Epistle, and speaking to the parish about their activities and ministries. However, some of this may not be possible yet this year. We encourage you to do what you can to focus on the ministry of women in your churches. We also encourage parishes to remember the Antiochian Women in their parishes who have departed this life during services this month.

This mailing contains items to be shared with everyone in your parishes pertaining to the ministry of the Antiochian Women along with a letter from Metropolitan JOSEPH encouraging us in our spiritual journey through Lent and in our fundraising for the 2021 NAB Project. You will also find the contact information for Diocesan Treasurers. NAB Project funds are due by May 1, 2021 to your Diocesan Treasurers.

The items in this mailing will also be posted to the Archdiocese website:

1. **Antiochian Women's Month MESSAGE (to be read in your parishes during March)**
2. **2021 Antiochian Women's Scholarship/Grant Application (due on June 1, 2021) along with letter from Dianne O'Regan regarding the 2021 Scholarship/Grant (enclosed with this mailing)**
3. **Letter from His Eminence Metropolitan JOSEPH (enclosed with this mailing)**
4. **2021 NAB Project Flyer (mailed to parishes in December 2020)**
5. **NAB Diocesan Treasurer's contact information (this will not be posted to the website)**

*If you have questions, please do not hesitate to call or email me
(my contact information is in the footer of this letter)*

Yours in our Lord Jesus Christ,
Sincerely,

Sheryl VanderWagen

Encl:

Metropolitan JOSEPH letter

Note with Diocesan Treasurers

2021 Message

2021 Scholarship Info

SHERYL VANDERWAGEN ❖ VICE PRESIDENT OF THE NORTH AMERICAN BOARD

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❖ ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN WOMEN OF NORTH AMERICA ❖

His Eminence
The Most Reverend
Metropolitan JOSEPH



Archbishop of New York and
Metropolitan of
All North America

ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN ARCHDIOCESE
OF NORTH AMERICA

March, 2021

Beloved Antiochian Woman of our God-Protected Archdiocese:

Greetings to you and your families as we both give thanks to God for all that He bestows and continues to bestow upon us and, at the same time, beseech Him for a speedy end to the ongoing pandemic that has plagued our world and our continent for more than a year. When I wrote to you last year at this time, you were undoubtedly preparing for Women's Month, thinking in your local parishes who would be reading the Epistles, doing the collections, planning your annual charity dinners or fundraisers for the national project of "Fulfilling the Vision," etc. Suddenly, just as Women's month was underway, our lives came to a crashing halt and we had to temporarily stop people from coming to the churches save a priest and chanter, stop our social functions and enter what has been a dark winter that has already lasted a year and is still not over. While we now have a vaccine that will hopefully help us get back to "normal", the question remains: What will this new "normal" be and how has your ministry changed and adapted during this time? Just last month I wrote the following to the Antiochian Women of the Diocese of the West for their newsletter:

"From time to time in the history of the Church, for various reasons like persecutions or the emigration of people from one place to another where no church exists, we have been compelled to be separated from the church community and the sacraments. Some of these reasons have even included previous pandemics. Thanks be to God you have endured this period with love and patience, doing what you can to keep the Antiochian Women connected to the churches and to each other. At other times in history, people did not have the means of communication that we have today which makes it easier to stay connected to be sure. As I wrote earlier, however, this can never replace that face-to-face contact that we hope to be able to restore before we are too far into 2021. While we are once again able to attend the services in a safe and limited way in most places, many of the older members or vulnerable members of our Antiochian Women groups are still understandably afraid, and we encourage you to continue to reach out to them and do your best to bring the Church to them during

"The disciples were first called Christians in Antioch" (Acts 11: 26)

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this time, in a safe way. This is your new ministry for this time, before we “get back to normal”, as we often hear.”

I admonish you all to persevere in your prayer lives and fast with earnest this year, even if you cannot attend the divine services of this holy season the same way you normally would. I pray that you will use this time where you cannot see family and friends as usual to “meet” your extended family and friends, that is, the holy saints, the angels and the Mother of God through your prayers and contemplation, always keeping in mind that we are “surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses.” (Heb 12:1) Let us take this difficult time and use it for something good.

Finally, with regard to our ongoing project, I encourage you to do your best to come up with new and creative ways to support our project. The Antiochian Village needs us now more than ever. After being closed for the past year, and for likely several more months, we need to try even harder to keep this vision alive and well and give them the support they need. Therefore, do what you can, think outside the box as they say, use this time to find inspiration for new and innovative ways to raise funds. Turn a negative situation into a positive one. Let us together continue to dream dreams and realize this vision!

I pray that you all have a holy and blessed Great Fast and, despite the difficult times in which we find ourselves, I pray that, by the time I write this letter in 2022, we will speak of this pandemic in the past tense. At the same time, I pray that while shedding the bad memories of associated with the past year, we will nevertheless give glory to God for all of the hidden blessings that we keep from this time and carry forward together as strong, revitalized army of Antiochian Women!

Your Father in Christ,



+JOSEPH

Archbishop of New York and Metropolitan of all North America

“The disciples were first called Christians in Antioch” (Acts 11: 26)

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ANTIOCHIAN WOMEN MONTH
“MESSAGE”
(March 2021)



Good morning!

Christ is in our midst!

I am glad that I can speak to all of you today on behalf of our (*name of parish*) chapter of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Women of North America. I would like to take this opportunity to briefly tell you about the important work we have been given by His Eminence Metropolitan JOSEPH for our 2021 PROJECT, “Fulfilling the Vision.”

“We must build on the past and build the present and the future.” His Eminence Metropolitan JOSEPH gave this charge to the Antiochian Women at their luncheon at the 2019 Archdiocese Convention as he prepared to outline the 2020 NAB PROJECT. Last March, just as scheduled fundraisers were underway, we faced the serious COVID-19 closures of our parishes. The PROJECT was put on hold and we all began limiting our activities, social distancing and more to protect ourselves and our families and to prevent the spread of this dread virus. In 2021, we resume the challenge that Metropolitan JOSEPH placed before us last year.

Since giving the charge to begin raising funds to build a new cathedral at the Antiochian Village in the 2019 NAB PROJECT, His Eminence has more fully developed his own vision for the Antiochian Village building on the foundation

laid by Metropolitan PHILIP of thrice blessed memory and others who laid the foundation for what we have there today.

In addition to the new cathedral, which is the first phase of the building project, two additional phases have been outlined by His Eminence. The second phase will include building a residence for our bishops, so they will have a place to stay when they come to the Village for conferences, etc., and as a place to live after they retire from active diocesan oversight. Visiting hierarchs will also have quarters in this structure so their spiritual discipline will not be hindered as they journey to the Village for conferences and symposia.

The third phase is to bring a monastic presence to the Antiochian Village in a women's monastery. A monastic presence is necessary for the growth of the Church in North America. It is the way that we will grow the church; by the holy prayers of a monastic community.

This year, we commemorate the 20th anniversary of the falling asleep of Fr. John Namie, the Village's first director. Let us continue our efforts toward "fulfilling the vision" – the vision of an Archdiocesan facility of worship, camping and fellowship first conceived a half century ago Metropolitan PHILIP and Fr. John.

Finally, I would ask for your prayers for our Antiochian Women. We thank all of you for your generous support. May God bless this parish, and the work of the Antiochian Women. Amen. ❖

