



**ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN ARCHDIOCESE  
OF NORTH AMERICA**

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PARISHIONERS**

Beloved Hierarchs, Reverend Clergy, Archdiocesan Trustees, Department Heads, Organization Presidents, Parish Councils and Faithful of this God-protected Archdiocese:

We pray this letter finds you well as we send you this official Call to the 57<sup>th</sup> Biennial Archdiocesan Convention. We would like to direct your attention to the following matters:

- The Fifty-Seventh Convention of this Archdiocese will be held at the Hyatt Regency O'Hare, Rosemont, Illinois from July 20 – 27, 2025. The host parish of St. George Church, Cicero, IL is working diligently to welcome us all to Chicago. All information about the convention can be accessed through the official convention website: <https://www.ac2025chicago.org> and through the enclosed flyer which includes important information as well. You are required to send delegates from your parish and Parish Council to attend the departmental meetings and to vote on your behalf at the General Assembly.
- All Reverend Clergy must be in Chicago no later than Monday evening July 21, 2025. The General Assembly of the Order of St. Ignatius of Antioch will be held in the morning on Tuesday, July 22<sup>nd</sup> and all members of the Order are encouraged to attend. The Department Heads and members of each department must be in Chicago by Wednesday, July 23<sup>rd</sup>, unless you have scheduled a meeting for your department and need to arrive earlier.
- The Archdiocesan Constitution specifies that each parish and mission is entitled to one voting delegate for every one hundred (100) baptized souls or fraction of one hundred which exceeds fifty (50). In addition, each fulltime pastor, and fulltime assistant pastor is eligible to one vote. You will receive, after Pascha, the proxy form and Delegate List electronically from the Department of Statistics and Credentials by email, which requests that you identify your delegates by name, and submit the form electronically no later than July 1, 2025. The voting Forms will be distributed to pastors on Tuesday, July 22<sup>nd</sup> at 10:00am in the same room as the clergy meeting. Clergy who are not present during the meeting or who “forget” to pick up the voting form will **not have the possibility** to do so **later on.**

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

- Your financial obligation to the Archdiocese under the Proportional Giving System for 2025 has already been established based on the forms and worksheets that you have submitted. In addition, every parish is expected to contribute according to the minimum requirements for the three special trays, which are collected throughout the year. All parishes are strongly encouraged to make sure that your payments are up to date so that your delegation may be properly seated and allowed to vote at the General Assembly which begins on Thursday morning, July 24<sup>th</sup>. Parishes who did not submit census numbers will not be able to vote.
- It is the sacred duty of all clergy and parish councils to attend the convention. It is also the sacred duty of every parish to pay their pastor's expenses so that he may attend both the diocesan Parish Life Conference, and the Archdiocese Convention. For missions who may not be able to afford these expenses, the Order of St. Ignatius can accept an application which requests some financial assistance for the pastor to attend these events.
- It is the policy of this Archdiocese that no resolutions may be accepted from the floor of the General Assembly. If you would like to introduce a resolution, please submit the written resolution to the Archdiocese Office in Englewood, NJ no later than June 10, 2025
- A very important part of every convention is the Convention Journal, which depends heavily on support from every community in the Archdiocese. We strongly encourage you to contribute to this journal by purchasing an ad, and that this be done without any further delay.
- The theme of this year's convention is "***Behold the maidservant of the Lord! Let it be to me according to your word***". Homilies at the divine services will be based on this theme and we urge everyone to be in Chicago to hear these inspirational words and to prepare to work together for a very bright future.

Looking forward to seeing you in Chicago, we remain,

Yours in the Service of Christ,



**+SABA**

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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