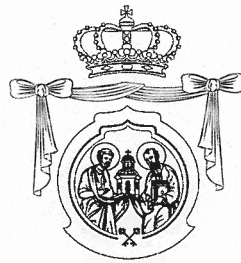


His Eminence  
The Most Reverend  
Metropolitan Saba

The Right Reverend  
Bishop ALEXANDER



Archbishop of New York and  
Metropolitan of  
All North America

Diocese of Ottawa,  
Eastern Canada & Upstate NY

**ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN ARCHDIOCESE**  
OF NORTH AMERICA

**Diocese of Ottawa, Eastern Canada & Upstate New York**

**NATIVITY OF CHRIST**

**2025**

Beloved Clergy and Faithful of our Diocese of Ottawa, Eastern Canada and upstate New York:

Greetings in this blessed season of the Nativity of Christ! I share with you an excerpt from *St. Peter Chrysologus, Bishop of Ravenna*:

"Heaven feels awe of God, angels tremble at Him, the creature sustains Him not; nature sufficeth not; and yet one maiden so takes, receives, entertains Him, as a guest within her breast, that, for the very hire of her home, and as the price of her womb, she asks, she obtains peace for the earth, glory for the heavens, salvation for the lost, life for the dead, a heavenly parentage for the earthly, the union of God Himself with human flesh."

As my twenty years in the episcopate have come to an end and I begin my twenty first year, I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to all of you for your good wishes, the testimonies on the video and the gifts. May God continue to shower you with His blessings.

On this great joyous occasion of the Feast of the Nativity, I wholeheartedly wish you and all your loved ones a Blessed Nativity and a healthy and spiritually enriching New Year!

**MERRY CHRISTMAS!**

**BISHOP ALEXANDER**

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

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