

His Eminence
The Most Reverend
Metropolitan JOSEPH



Archbishop of New York and
Metropolitan of
All North America

**ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN ARCHDIOCESE
OF NORTH AMERICA**

TO BE READ FROM THE PULPIT

October, 2020

Beloved Clergy and Faithful of our Archdiocese:

Greetings in the Name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. We pray that you all enjoyed a peaceful and relaxing summer and are working hard as we begin a new, but very different ecclesiastical year. 2020 marks the 125th anniversary of the arrival of St. Raphael of Brooklyn and the establishment of our Antiochian presence on this continent. The seeds he planted have grown, thanks in large part to the educated clergy that serve our God-protected archdiocese.

With that in mind, we bring to your attention that October in the Antiochian Archdiocese is “Youth Month and Seminary Month”. This year we have 19 seminarians, and most, if not all, will serve this Archdiocese as priests. They will baptize the catechumens, raise up the youth in the Faith, educate the faithful, comfort the sorrowful, visit the sick, restore the penitent, and heal the broken-hearted. Supporting our future clergy and the institutions that are providing their education and formation is vital to the spiritual health of the parishes and ministries of our Church.

During this time of the pandemic and the related issues that surround it, it is vital that we continue to support our seminaries and theological institutions. Many of them have been burdened financially due to the constraints they are now under. While many of our own families are also under such difficulties, we hope that each one of you can spare just a little to support the institutions that prepare our future clergymen and lay leaders.

May the Lord continue to bless all your efforts and keep you safe during these trying times.

Your Father in Christ,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Metropolitan Joseph". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

+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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