

Archbishop of New York and Metropolitan of All North America

ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN ARCHDIOCESE OF NORTH AMERICA

2019 Sacred Music Institute

July 10-14, 2019

"Sing to the Lord a new song! Sing to the Lord, all the earth. Sing to the Lord, bless His name; proclaim the good news of His salvation from day to day." (Psalm 96:1-2)

Your Grace Bishop ANTHONY, Reverend Clergy, Honored Members of the Department of Sacred Music, Beloved Participants of the Sacred Music Institute:

Greetings and blessings to you in the Name of our Great God and Savior, Jesus Christ!

The Sacred Music Institute has become over the years a vital gathering of our choir directors, singers, and chanters to learn more about their holy calling to lead the faithful in worship through the offering of their voices in prayerful harmony. There is a rich program once again this year which will inspire you and equip you to continue growing in your sacred vocations in the life of our Archdiocese.

The psalmist invites us to "Sing to the Lord a new song!" Of course, we do not have new hymnology to sing, but we can chant with a new and refreshed spirit. We can learn new techniques to chant and direct. We can learn new and updated pieces of music that enhance our repertoires. Most importantly, we can sing with a new understanding of our tradition and a new sense of piety and prayerfulness.

I offer my gratitude to all of those who worked so diligently to put together this program and all those who will offer workshops. With prayers and best wishes for a beautiful time of fellowship and learning, I remain,

Yours in the service of Christ,

+JOSEPH

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