

His Eminence
The Most Reverend
Metropolitan SABA



Archbishop of New York
and Metropolitan of
All North America

ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN ARCHDIOCESE
OF NORTH AMERICA

Prot. no.: 022/2025

March 2025

Beloved Antiochian Women throughout our God-protected Archdiocese,

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ as we prepare to enter the Great and Holy Fast. I pray you and your families are well.

Throughout the archdiocese, March is dedicated to all of you, our faithful Antiochian Women. While I did not initiate this custom, it is no coincidence in my opinion that the month we set aside for our Antiochian Women also always includes the Great Fast. The main components of the fast include fasting (obviously), prayer, and almsgiving. I can't think of anyone who embodies these three components of a sound spiritual life, that brings us closer to God, than all of you. Prayer brings us closer to God. Who prays more than a mother for her children and family? Fasting teaches us discipline and sacrifice. Who sacrifices more than a woman for her family, friends, and church? Almsgiving puts our faith into action in a concrete way and teaches us that everything comes from God. You all, through your charitable efforts, set a wonderful example of that each year with your annual charity project. This year is no exception.

In 2025, we continue to dedicate the Archdiocesan AW-NAB Project to the widowed khouriehs (clergy wives) of our archdiocese. We have set a goal of one million dollars and, so far, we have raised over \$400,000. We have set the funds raised to date through your efforts into a special restricted account and, once we reach our goal, we will have the ability to help those great examples who often get overlooked during the winter years of their lives. Not only do our clergy wives sacrifice for their own families, but also for the larger parish family. Whether directly by their own participation in the activities and life of the parish or, indirectly, by caring for their own families while their husbands minister to the larger parish family, theirs is a sacrifice above and beyond what most people experience. As this multi-year campaign - which touches the very heart of our archdiocese - continues, we urge every local Antiochian Women chapter to give their full attention and effort to this project.

Praying for a blessed and spiritually rewarding Fast, I remain,

Your Father in Christ,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "T. Saba".

+SABA

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

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