

His Eminence  
The Most Reverend  
Metropolitan JOSEPH

The Right Reverend  
Bishop THOMAS



Archbishop of New York and  
Metropolitan of  
All North America

Diocese of Oakland, Charleston,  
and the Mid-Atlantic

**ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN ARCHDIOCESE  
OF NORTH AMERICA**

March 27, 2020

Kh. Dolly Crowe and Family  
[REDACTED]

Dear Kh. Dolly and Family and Faithful of SS Peter and Paul,

Christ is Risen!

On behalf of the clergy and faithful of the Diocese of Oakland, Charleston and the Mid-Atlantic, I offer my condolences and prayers on the falling asleep in the Lord, of our beloved Father Isaac. St Paul in his first letter to the Thessalonians (4:13) writes "*But we would not have you ignorant, brethren, concerning those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope.*" We are fortunate that we know the promise of God that through His Son's Death and Resurrection we have hope in our own resurrection unto eternal life. Father Isaac clear knew this and lived his life in such a way. We find ourselves in interesting times where our attention seems to be isolated on this worldwide pandemic that we lose sight of our individual lives and our personal relationship with our Lord Jesus Christ. Father Isaac, as I have heard, was just the opposite. He placed all of his hope in God and recognized that He is the one in control. He was and still is an example to all of us on how we ought to live our lives in faith today and everyday.

While his physical absence will leave a void in our lives, we should keep in mind the man and priest that Father Isaac was so that we may draw inspiration for our own lives. He was a very faithful, pious and humble man who placed his parishioners at the top of his list. He remembered others in prayer and bore his illness with grace and holiness. There was a gentleness of spirit that set aside Father Isaac from most men which manifested in his ability to be a kind and loving priest.

Please know that we will keep Father Isaac and all of you in prayer and ask that in the midst of your grief God will bless you and keep you in His tender loving care.

May his memory be eternal and may he rest among the Saints!

Yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bishop Thomas".

Rt. Rev. Bishop THOMAS (Joseph)  
Auxiliary Bishop, Diocese of Oakland, Charleston, and the Mid-Atlantic

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

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