

# ANTIOCHIAN WOMEN

THE MOST REVEREND METROPOLITAN PHILIP -- FOUNDER

"A SISTERHOOD SERVING CHRIST THROUGH SERVING OTHERS"



THE MOST REVEREND  
METROPOLITAN SABA  
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ENGLEWOOD, NEW JERSEY 07631

## ANTIOCHIAN WOMEN NORTH AMERICAN BOARD



*"Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world.." (James 1:27)*

Bishop JOHN, Reverend Clergy, & Sisters in Christ,

Christ is in our midst!

I am humbled to be your NAB Humanitarian Coordinator once again for this new term. It is with great pleasure and excitement to announce our 2023-2024 NAB "Act of Mercy". We will be supporting the **Project Mexico & St. Innocent Infant Orphanage**. This is a new mission of the Orphanage and is the only Orthodox Orphanage in all of North America. Currently, St. Innocent houses boys/young men only. It is now expanding to welcome and care for infants. Construction is underway! The Orphanage plans to house and care for 12 infants the first year. The infants, like the boys, will be given Orthodox teachings and raised with an Orthodox spiritual life. They will be provided with an education, basic necessities, activities, emotional and physical enrichment, and most of all the love of God.

In speaking with the Board Chairman of Project Mexico & St. Innocent Orphanage, Dennis Awad, below are the goals and ways we can support this new Orphanage:

- Infant Orphanage start-up needs for 1 year. Educational costs are approximately \$100,000. The Orphanage plans on hiring at least two missionary interns to help with the newborn babies the first year. The orphanage is seeking \$50,000 in a scholarship fund for the 2 individuals for 1 year.
- Mr. Awad also spoke with Metropolitan Saba and his assistant Monk Paul about the new infant Orphanage and they are supportive of their efforts to develop the new infant Orphanage. Monk Paul said that he had some blankets for infants that were being made at a monastery that he wanted to provide to the Orphanage. This could be followed through by many of our talented women across the Archdiocese. It is suggested to have a blanket (maybe with the child's name on it) with a separate, small Antiochian Orthodox Cross as the plan is to baptize all children who are received at the Orphanage.

The direct donation link is as follows: <https://projectmexico.org/AW>. Included here is also a link to the Orphanages Amazon Wish List, which will send needed items directly to the organization (<https://www.amazon.com/baby-reg/project-mexico-september-2023-sandiego/1KUXBC1SJZGVZ>)! Additionally, if chapters have a collection of gently used baby clothes or items and would like to donate, please contact Noelle [noelle@projectmexico.org](mailto:noelle@projectmexico.org).

I am excited as this is a blessing to so many and caring for Christ's youngest flock. As always, please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns. Thank you for your continued hard work and compassionate acts of mercy to those in need.

In Christ,

/s/ Lauren Ferris

Lauren Ferris

2023-2025 NAB Humanitarian Coordinator