

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.: 147/2026

Palm Sunday, April 5, 2026

Beloved hierarchs, reverend clergy, esteemed faithful in Christ,

Christ is in our midst! As we enter the solemn and life-giving days of Holy Week, our hearts turn with love and filial devotion to our Mother Church of Antioch and to our Father in Christ, His Beatitude Patriarch JOHN X. Each Palm Sunday, the Archdiocese takes up a special collection to support the Patriarchate in its sacred witness. This year, more than ever, your generosity is indispensable.

Our Mother Church continues to endure profound hardship. The ongoing war and strife throughout the Middle East have inflicted deep wounds upon the faithful, the clergy, and the parishes that have stood for centuries as living testimonies of the Gospel. Violence and economic instability have placed unbearable weight on families already struggling to survive. Many of our brothers and sisters face daily uncertainty, and entire communities that once flourished are now diminished.

Yet, the Patriarchate remains steadfast in its mission. With limited means, it tirelessly provides food, housing assistance, medical care, education, pastoral support, and the simple but essential reassurance that the Church has not abandoned her children. His Beatitude and those who labor beside him do all they can to help the faithful who remain, so that their lives may be stable, dignified, and rooted in hope and so that our Christian presence and witness remain steadfast.

For this reason, I ask each of you to give generously to the Palm Sunday collection in your churches for the Patriarchate. Your offering — no matter its size — becomes an act of solidarity, a gesture of compassion, and a tangible expression of love toward those who endure suffering with remarkable faith. Together, we help sustain our brothers and sisters and strengthen the apostolic mission entrusted to the Church of Antioch.

May the Lord Who entered Jerusalem in humility and love, grant you a solemn Holy Week and a joyous and grace-filled Feast of the Resurrection.

With paternal love in Christ,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'T. Saba', is placed below the text 'With paternal love in Christ,'.

+SABA

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

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