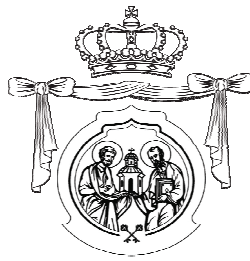


His Eminence
The Most Reverend
Metropolitan JOSEPH



Archbishop of New York and
Metropolitan of
All North America

**ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN ARCHDIOCESE
OF NORTH AMERICA**

Palm Sunday 2018

To Be Read from the Pulpit and Printed in the Bulletin

Beloved in the Lord:

A blessed feast of our Lord's triumphant entry into Jerusalem to you and your families. I pray you all completed a spiritually rewarding Fast and are now ready to enter into Passion Week which culminates with our Lord's glorious resurrection from the dead next Sunday as we celebrate Great and Holy Pascha.

Today, as we rejoice in this feast, we also pause to take time to remember our beloved Mother Church headed by our Patriarch, His Beatitude JOHN X. We were blessed to have him make a short visit to us last fall to bring the message of peace and love to our government leaders in the United States. We pray that our Lord will bless him and all the people of that area of the world that continues to endure suffering and pain on a daily basis.

Each year on this special day, we ask you, the faithful of our God-protected Archdiocese for an offering of love to send to His Beatitude from his spiritual children here in North America. His Beatitude faces an enormous challenge as he tries to alleviate the pain and suffering of those affected by the war in Syria and the effects of the same war on his flock in Lebanon, Iraq and other areas. With hundreds of thousands of displaced people as a result of the civil war, the needs and demands on our Patriarchate are great. Churches have been destroyed and vandalized by terrorists and families have been driven from their homes and are in desperate need of our help. With that in mind, we hope you will be as generous as possible.

Wishing you a prayerful Holy Week and a most joyous Pascha, I remain,

Your Father in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Metropolitan Joseph". The signature is written in a cursive style and is underlined.

+JOSEPH

Archbishop of New York and Metropolitan of all North America

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

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