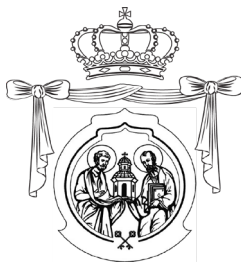


His Eminence
The Most Reverend
Metropolitan Saba

The Right Reverend
Bishop ANTHONY



Archbishop of New York and
Metropolitan of
All North America

Diocese of Toledo and
The Midwest

**ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN ARCHDIOCESE
OF NORTH AMERICA**

Great and Holy Pascha 2023: the Glorious Resurrection of our Lord

Beloved Clergy and Faithful of the Midwest Diocese,

Christ is Risen! *Indeed He is Risen!*

المسيح قام! حقاً فلى!

This is the Day of Resurrection, be illumined, people; Pascha, the Lord's Pascha! From death unto life, from the earth to Heaven, hath Christ our God led us; singing the song of victory!

From the 1st Ode of the Paschal Canon

Today the clouds of darkness in this world, the booming thunder of tank canons cease, and the scream of jet engines looming of the lands move on. The brilliance of the never-ending day of Christ's Kingdom pours out of Heaven because Christ Himself, with raised hands at the crucifixion and then in His raised resurrected body, shines brighter than the sun.

Perhaps, as we enter the church flooded with Paschal Light, those flaming candles and burning chandeliers on walls and ceilings which reveal the Kingdom to us, cannot endure the full Glory of His Love. But even if we cannot take in the whole *New Day*, even if we cannot stay out in the sunshine at high-noon, even if in the frailty of our humanity, we need to put sunglasses on ~ still we are bathed in the brightness and the beauty of the resurrected world. And our faces glow with a robust tan of a never-fading youth.

May the Light of His Empty Tomb always shine in our minds and hearts.

Yours in the Risen Christ,

+ Bishop Anthony

+Bishop ANTHONY
Bishop of Toledo
Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America

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

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