

His Eminence
The Most Reverend
Metropolitan JOSEPH

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 ~ the Glorious Resurrection of our Lord
May 2, 2021

Beloved Clergy and Faithful of the Midwest Diocese,

Christ is Risen! *Indeed He is Risen!*
المسيح قام! حقا قام!

For my reflection on the Resurrection this year, I want to contrast time and eternity. What Jesus planned on earth, He completed in heaven. We must not confuse our beginning with our end. Preparation begins here; fulfillment occurs there in eternity.

People always say, "There isn't enough time in the day." And that's true. There isn't enough time to do everything we have to do. There isn't enough time to spend with the kids. There isn't enough time to appreciate our wife or our husband. Even more so, we want the time to do those things.

There isn't enough time in this life. There isn't enough time to be with our loved ones. There isn't enough time to erase all the regrets we have with the unfinished relationships we formed. There isn't enough time to do everything we thought we were capable of doing with our talents. We wish we would have thought more about our lives. We hope to buy more time by watching our health, exercising regularly, having good habits. God knows we mean to do good things with our time. Because God is good, He made us good.

We need eternity in order to finish our work; in order to appreciate our purpose in life, we need life everlasting. Made in God's image, we need the eternity He has. I believe almost all of our depression and our forgetfulness and our procrastination in this life is because we are haunted by eternity. We are trying to fit in too much in the small space of our own personal life on earth.

Christ gives us His immortality and eternity in the Resurrection. This Resurrection is the down payment on our possibilities to become everything we were meant to be, and to have eternity stretching out before us, and giving us all the time we need.

May the Light of the Empty Tomb shine in our hearts forever!

Yours in Christ,

+ Bishop Anthony

+Bishop ANTHONY
Bishop of Toledo and the Midwest

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

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