

Antiochian Women
Diocese of Wichita and Mid-America



Most Reverend
Metropolitan PHILIP
Founder
358 Mountain Road
Englewood, New Jersey 07631

President's Message
2008 Parish Life Conference
Dallas, Texas

“Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; but store up for your selves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.” (Matthew 6:10-21)

Your Grace Bishop Basil, Reverend Fathers, Sisters in Christ,

We have arrived at the 4th Diocese of Wichita and Mid America Parish Life Conference. May God abundantly bless the members of Sts. Constantine and Helen for all of their work hosting this year's conference. God Grant them Many Years!

The verse above from the book of Matthew was read at the Antiochian Women's Mid-Winter Meeting at the Village in February. This past year we lost four women who exemplified the above verse in their lives of service to the Antiochian Women, Pauline Maloof of our Diocese who was the first President of the Antiochian Women of North America, Lillian Khouri, Elinor Bourjaily, and Kh. Joanne Abdalah. They surely have stored up their treasures in heaven. Memory Eternal! *Violet Farha*

We are entering our 35th year as Antiochian Women and I hope that we can be as exuberant as our predecessors as we carry on the traditions they have established in our mission of leadership, service, and fellowship. We also hope to continue to grow as an organization by enriching the foundation they have established for us.

With His Grace, Bishop Basil's blessing the Antiochian Women held our first Diocesan spiritual retreat, “A Great Cloud of Witnesses, A Prayer Journey: Embracing the Lady Theotokos, Saints, and Icons” in place of our Fall Business Meeting. The change in format was spiritually edifying and a blessing to all who attended. We thank Fr. Constantine Nasr and the women of St. Elijah, Oklahoma City for making this possible. This fall the entire Diocese will be making a pilgrimage to Kearney, Nebraska to honor Father Nicholas Yanney in lieu of the Fall Gathering.

Last July a check for \$146,376.53 was presented to His Eminence Metropolitan Phillip for the Retired Clergy Fund Project. A total of \$20,240.82 of that amount was donated by the hard working Antiochian Women of our Diocese. Through our efforts and those of others throughout the Archdiocese the monthly retired clergy payment has been increased from \$700.00 to \$800.00 per month. Thanks be to God!

Antiochian Orthodox Christian Women of North America
A Sisterhood Serving Christ Through Serving Others

Carol Comp, Public Relations Coordinator, has worked very hard this year to update our membership lists in order to ensure that your Chapter is receiving the information we send from the Diocese. Please be sure to advise Carol if the contact information for your Women's Organization changes, her e-mail is carolcomp@gmail.com. We will be passing around a contact list during our meeting, please be sure to let us know if any of your organizations information needs to be updated. Due to increasing costs we are sending the majority of correspondence by e-mail. We will also send hard copies upon request.

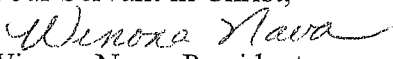
We continue to be blessed by the hard work of Sherry Abraham-Morrow raising funds for Camp St. Raphael. Sherry will be selling various items both in our meeting room and at a booth in the vendor display area during the conference. Please consider purchasing the items to sell in your bookstores at home.

It is important that we all convey to our Parishes and Deaneries that every woman who is a member of an Orthodox Church or Mission in our Diocese is an Antiochian Woman. We are trying to put together scrapbooks highlighting all of the wonderful work done by our women in order to share our ideas with each other and to encourage the formation of Antiochian Women's groups at all Parishes.

We often receive questions regarding the amount and timing of dues payments and project money. The Antiochian Women's fiscal year begins and ends with the Parish Life Conference. It is very helpful if your Parish holds their election of Officers in the Spring prior to the Parish Life Conference so that changes in leadership can be reported at the Parish Life Conference. Your dues money is due December 1 of each year and your project money is due April 15th of each year. Please send all funds to the Antiochian Women Diocesan Treasurer, Judy Stevens, 2206 So. St. Aubin St., Sioux City, IA 51106.

I want to thank you and the officers and coordinators of our Diocese for your hard work and support. You are what makes this organization special and allows us to meet and exceed the project goals set for us by his Eminence Metropolitan Phillip. I know that each and every one of you not only make a difference in your service to the Antiochian Women but also make a difference daily in each and every one of your Parishes! We are truly blessed to have such wonderful, hard working women in our Diocese. God Grant you Many Years!

Your Servant in Christ,


Winona Nava, President

Antiochian Women
Diocese of Wichita and Mid-America



Most Reverend
Metropolitan PHILIP
Founder
358 Mountain Road
Englewood, New Jersey 07631

June 19, 2008

Dear Sisters in Christ,

It has been a pleasure to serve as Public Relations Coordinator for the Diocese this past year. All issues of the Diakonia have been mailed, either by e-mail or by postal service. Obtaining current e-mail and postal addresses for our contacts remains to be the largest challenge for this office. I thank those of you who have provided me with updated contact information.

There have been no requests from Diocese Chapters to distribute information regarding retreats, fundraisers, etc. I would like to do a single mailing in September for your fund raising projects. If you will send me a one-page advertisement of your project by September 5th, I will put together a booklet that can be mailed to our contacts in time for the Christmas season. Hopefully, this may help all of us reach our fund raising goals for our Antiochian Women Projects.

Scrapbook and Memorial Book: I received two submissions for the scrapbook this year. I have received no memorial pages. The group needs to if they want to continue this project.

My husband and I are to be grandparents for the first time in the very near future. I hope that you will forgive my absence this year. I will miss seeing all of you.

Sincerely,

Carol

Carol L. Comp
Antiochian Women Public Relations Coordinator
Diocese of Wichita & Mid-America
9805 Silver Lake Drive
Oklahoma City, OK 73162
(405) 720 9326
carolcomp@gmail.com

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My Sisters in Christ:

It has been my privilege to serve as your Membership and Missions coordinator this past year. It has been a learning year for me and I have been able to communicate with many of you and hopefully will be able to meet many more this coming year.

After attending the fall conference in Oklahoma City, I was able to obtain several new missions and ones that had not had a contact. With this information I was able to copy and send handbooks to the following: Bertha McMurry, St. James Mission in Stillwater, OK.; Madeline Teague, St. Antony Church, Tulsa, OK; Tanya Haddad, Garden Ridge, TX; and April Holt, Tyler, TX.

I was also able to send "The Bread of Life" DVD to these ladies. I hope all was helpful.

In March, I contacted these ladies with a letter as a guide for Women's Month and information on dues and their project.

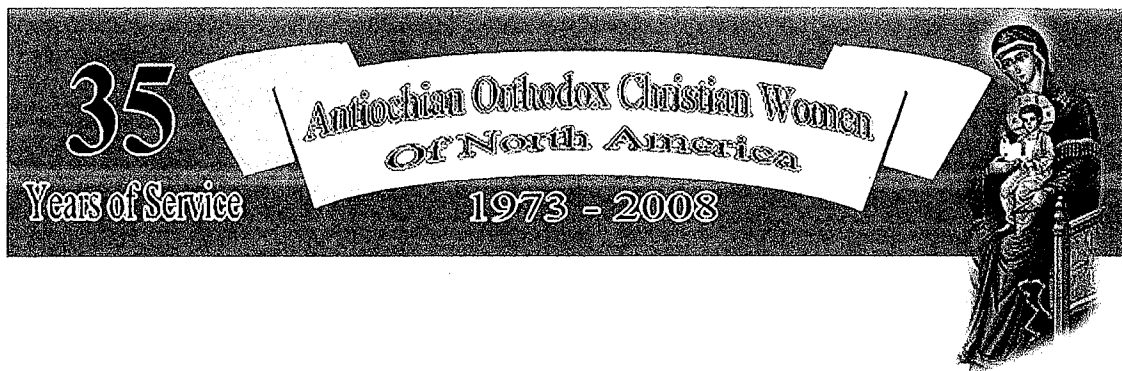
I am looking forward to the new year and if anyone has information on new missions or chapters that would like some guidance or any help I might give them, please let me know.

Your Sister in Christ,

Carol M^cCabe

Carol McCabe
Membership Coordinator
229 Johnson Drive
Castle Rock, CO 80104
303-663-0422
Email: carolmccab9@aol.com

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2008 Parish Life Conference
Website Coordinator Report

Dear Spiritual Fathers and Sisters in Christ,

I am sorry that I cannot be with you at this year's Parish Life Conference. I pray that your time together will nurture your relationships with one another as you meet and work together to serve Christ through serving others.

With the help of Winona Nava, our President, I have located the contact with whom I will work with to update the Diocese of Wichita and Mid-America Antiochian Women's web page. I am pleased to tell you that I am in the process of working with Douglas Cramer, Department of Internet Ministry Chairman, and Winona, to update the DOWAMA web page.

Our goal is to provide the following items on our web page:

- List of Officers and Coordinators (name and parish affiliation only)
- News from the DOWAMA President
- Meetings
- Member Chapters
- Chapter Report Guidelines

I'd like to encourage you to take the time to check out the website at www.antiochian.org and click on departments and organizations. And please take the time to browse the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America website while you are there. I am sure that each and every one of you will be surprised what you can find and learn from on this website! If you have any ideas for me, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Respectfully submitted,

Your sister in Christ,

Linda Steinbrink

Website Coordinator

St. Mary Antiochian Orthodox Christian Church

10303 Boyd Street, Omaha, NE 68134

(402) 658-0414 ljsbrink@cox.net

Antiochian Orthodox Christian Women of North America

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Diocese of Wichita and Mid-America



Most Reverend
Metropolitan PHILIP

DOWAMA PLC June 18-20, 2008

Founder

358 Mountain Road
Englewood, New Jersey 07631

Dear Sisters in Christ,

During this past year I mailed three letters to each of our DOWAMA Antiochian Women chapter presidents. These were mailed to your church address to make sure we have the correct addresses. Very few were undelivered and I tried to re-forward them to your home address. I hope you received all of them.

Samia Habib and I, as **NAB** and **DOWAMA Humanitarian Coordinator** respectively, tried to give varied suggestions to help you in your humanitarian activities at all levels: local, regional, national and global. We encouraged you to adapt as many of those suggestions to your church resources and capabilities.

In the November letter, which was a bit late due to my trip to Lebanon, we focused on activities relevant to Halloween, Veterans Day, and Thanksgiving. Although none are Christian holidays, **your involvement is a genuine expression of love and service through works of charity and mercy.**

In the December letter, besides enjoying the festivities that abound during Christmas-New Year-Epiphany, and Valentine Day, we suggested activities that require firm commitments on your part to make a difference in your life or the life of someone else. A simple act of kindness to others will deeply enrich and bless our lives. Again, **your involvement is a genuine expression of love and service through works of charity and mercy.**

In the February letter, we looked at March as the Antiochian Women Month. Activities that, not only require us to raise funds for our projects (Retired Clergy Fund), but also to educate our parishioners on the ministry of the Antiochian Women of North America. And best of all, we wanted everyone to prepare for Great Lent and the road to the Cross and the Resurrection. Again, **your involvement is a genuine expression of love and service through works of charity and mercy.**

I have enjoyed working with our antiochian women board members and look forward to another exciting year. Please share with us your favorite/successful activities during the past year and let us work together to keep us motivated for the coming year. God bless you all.

Yvonne Khouri's

Yvonne Khouri, Humanitarian Coordinator

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June 15, 2008

Holy Trinity Orthodox Church
Fr. John Bethancourt, Arch-Priest
Winona Nava, President, Holy Trinity Antiochian Women
231 E. Cordova Road
Santa Fe, NM 87501

Officers for 2008-2009:

President Elect, Paula Price, pprice412@earthlink.net, 505-699-1759

14 Browncastle Ranch Road #22

Santa Fe, NM 87508

Vice-President- Acacia McCombs

Treasurer- Nancy Boyes

Secretary- Molly Wright

Religious Coordinator- Juliana McDonald

Dear Sisters in Christ,

The Holy Trinity Chapter of the Antiochian Women of the Diocese of Wichita and Mid-America is pleased to report another successful year. Our main fundraiser was an International Food Festival held in February. This year the fundraiser was expanded to a church wide event with a portion of the funds used to assist the homeless in Santa Fe. We were truly blessed to be able to help the needy of our community through this effort.

The meetings of our Chapter continue to be held on Sunday following liturgy. We have around 40 adult women in our Parish and more than half of them attend each meeting. Our meetings consist of a reading of the life of a female saint, planning our various fundraising and feast day activities and our annual women's retreat.

Last fall we held our annual Women's Retreat with Fr. John from St. Michael's Skete in Canones, New Mexico as our guest speaker. It was a wonderful day of spiritual enlightenment and fellowship held at the home of one of our members. We are currently planning our 2008 Retreat.

Your Sister in Christ,

Winona Nava
Winona Nava, President

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