

His Eminence
The Most Reverend
Metropolitan SABA



Archbishop of New York
and Metropolitan of
All North America

**ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN ARCHDIOCESE
OF NORTH AMERICA**

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May 18, 2025

Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it.
+(Proverbs 22:6)

Beloved Brother Hierarchs, Reverend Clergy, and Christ-Loving Faithful,

Beginning this year, our Archdiocese sets aside the third Sunday of May to remember, honor, and pray for our Sunday church school teachers and directors. With steadfastness and love, they faithfully serve God by caring for our most precious youth. With God's grace and mercy, our Sunday church school teachers help our children learn and grow in the faith. And we offer our heartfelt thanks and prayers in turn.

On the Sunday of Teacher Appreciation, we extend heartfelt thanks to our Christian Education Ministry, including its director, diocesan coordinators, and curriculum writers, who help to prepare resources and materials for this important ministry. The work they do is felt across our beloved Archdiocese.

We most especially extend thanks to the countless Sunday church school directors and teachers who labor and serve within their parishes. These men and women embrace the responsibility of educating our youth in the faith, often with little or no compensation. They tirelessly prepare programs, events, classrooms, and lessons. They cultivate communities of learning, joy, respect, and care. With warm smiles, they lovingly welcome our children into our parishes; with faithful teaching, they gently usher our children into the Life of the Church. Through both instruction and modelling, they impress upon our children's hearts the love of God and love of neighbor. Their impact in the lives of our children continues across generations and reminds us all that the "Kingdom of God belongs to such as these" (Luke 18:16).

It is a privilege to remember and honor all those who serve in our Sunday church school programs. We thank them for carrying this sacred responsibility of educating our youth, and we offer our continued prayers for them and their ministries.

Wishing you God's every blessing, I remain,

Yours in the Service of Christ,

+SABA

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

358 Mountain Road, P.O. Box 5238, Englewood, NJ 07631-5238
(201) 871-1355 T Archdiocese@antiochian.org (201) 871-7954 F