



The Self-Ruled Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese
OF NORTH AMERICA

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April 22, 2005

Esteemed Hierarchs, Pastors, and Members of the Board of Trustees of this
God-protected Archdiocese:

I greet you as we stand on the threshold of Our Lord's Triumphant Entry
into Jerusalem!

Recently you may have received a letter from Bishop LUKA Khoury dated
April 15th, 2005 which was addressed to "Dear Graces, Priests, and our
members of the Antiochian Archdiocese of North America." Attached to
this letter was the correspondence from His Beatitude Patriarch IGNATIUS
IV that was dated "February---, 2006", which in reality was dated February
3, 2005. On February 11, 2005, I sent a letter in Arabic to His Beatitude,
but my response was not included in the transmission from Bishop LUKA. I
have attached an English translation of my response in order that you may
all have a balanced view of the communications that have taken place.

Assuring you of my prayers that you will celebrate a joyous Pascha, I
remain

Yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Metropolitan Philip".

Metropolitan PHILIP
Archbishop of New York and Metropolitan of All North America