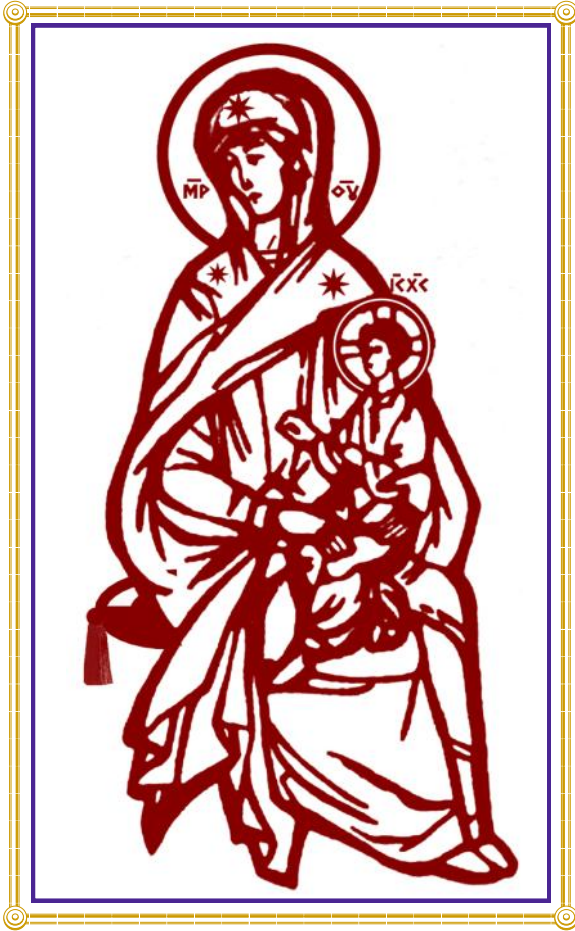




# ANTIOCHIAN WOMEN



MEMBERSHIP HANDBOOK



# ANTIOCHIAN WOMEN

◆ NORTH AMERICAN BOARD ◆

THE MOST REVEREND  
METROPOLITAN PHILIP (SALIBA)  
FOUNDER  
358 Mountain Road  
Englewood, New Jersey 07631



PRESIDENT



July 10, 2010

Dear Sisters in Christ,

Since the founding of the Antiochian Women in 1973, our parishes and missions have increased in numbers tremendously. With this growth in parishes, the number of Antiochian Women chapters also increases and our women seek guidance and information as to how they can participate and carry out the mission of the Antiochian Women.

Part of the job of the Membership Coordinator is to pass along information that will help guide these newly formed organizations, and support those chapters that may need revitalizing. The materials that have been published were meant to encourage women to participate in the Antiochian Women chapters in their parish, their diocese, and on the NAB level. They were also meant to explain what the Antiochian Women organization is all about. These materials need to be constantly updated to have the desired effect.

This publication, produced by Khourieh Suzanne Murphy and her husband, Fr. Gregory Murphy, is a wonderful booklet that consists of many works from past membership coordinators, with some new additions that they felt would be helpful to our Antiochian Women groups. It is attractive, easy to read, and has valuable information that will surely aid our chapters in the growth of their ministry as Antiochian Women. Our hope is that you will use it and pass it along to your successors over the next years, remembering that we are always here for one another.

On behalf of the NAB and all Antiochian Women I extend sincerest and heartfelt thanks to Kh. Suzanne and Fr. Gregory for the labor of love they put into this richly informative handbook.

In Christ,

Cindy Nimey

Cindy Nimey

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Mrs. Cindy Nimey ◆ PRESIDENT of the North American Board  
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ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN WOMEN OF NORTH AMERICA

◆ A SISTERHOOD SERVING CHRIST THROUGH SERVING OTHERS ◆



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THE MOST REVEREND  
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358 Mountain Road  
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MEMBERSHIP COORDINATOR



July 23, 2010

Dearly Beloved Hierarchs, Reverend Clergy and Sisters in Christ:

Christ is in our midst! He is and ever shall be!

I pray that everyone is having a healthy and enjoyable summer! It is wonderful to be here at the Antiochian Village once again, and to experience Christ's love-in-action with my sisters in Christ! I am thankful for the privilege of serving on the Board, and the opportunity to serve you.

As many of you may know, one of my major goals for the year has been the updating and reformatting of the Antiochian Women's Membership Handbook. I have been in close contact with Cindy Nimey, other officers of the NAB, and our Spiritual Advisor to be sure the information in the Handbook is accurate and is the most current available. I want to thank everyone who had so many wonderful and helpful suggestions, corrections, and comments during the editing process, and especially my husband, Fr. Gregory, who put his computer and design skills to work in helping with this project. The Board and I hope that you find this new Handbook informative and easy to use. The Handbook is being made available to you today so that each parish in the Archdiocese can have an initial copy. My goal is to produce a CD-ROM with the Handbook in a PDF version so that every diocesan board can have a master disk to use in printing additional copies as needed. I also hope that within the next few months, the Handbook will be available on the Antiochian Website for everyone to download and use for recruitment and support.

My goal in undertaking this project was to make the information contained in the Handbook available to every woman in our Archdiocese. Some of the information may seem quite basic, but part of the purpose of this Handbook is to help those women who may be new to our Archdiocese -- and to our Antiochian Women organization -- to gain a basic understanding of who we are and what we do. This basic introduction is a way of assisting them to build a level of familiarity and comfort with us. There are also some sections, like the Constitution, By-laws, and reimbursement policy that are more technical and intended for use by our chapter officers. In short, we want this Handbook to have a little something for everyone, to be interesting and appealing, and to help us in our goal of building a faithful, active, and caring sisterhood-in-Christ.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with comments or questions about the content or format of the Handbook. We will try to make subsequent editions better and even more helpful. Thank you.

*Suzanne Murphy*

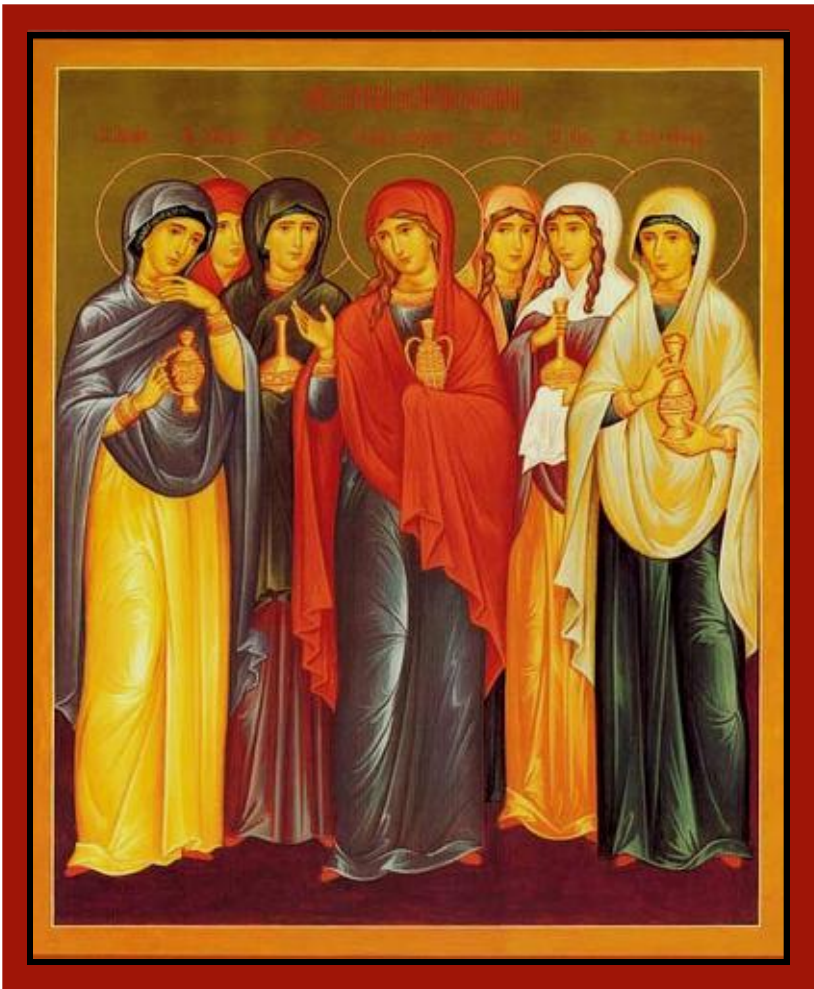
Your sister in Christ Jesus,

**Kh. Suzanne Murphy**

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WE ARE ENCOURAGED BY THE WORDS OF HIS GRACE BISHOP JOSEPH WHO, WHEN ADDRESSING THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, SAID:

**“When everyone left our Lord Jesus Christ alone on the cross, the women were there. Can you see how important the women are? You are the myrrh-bearing women.”**