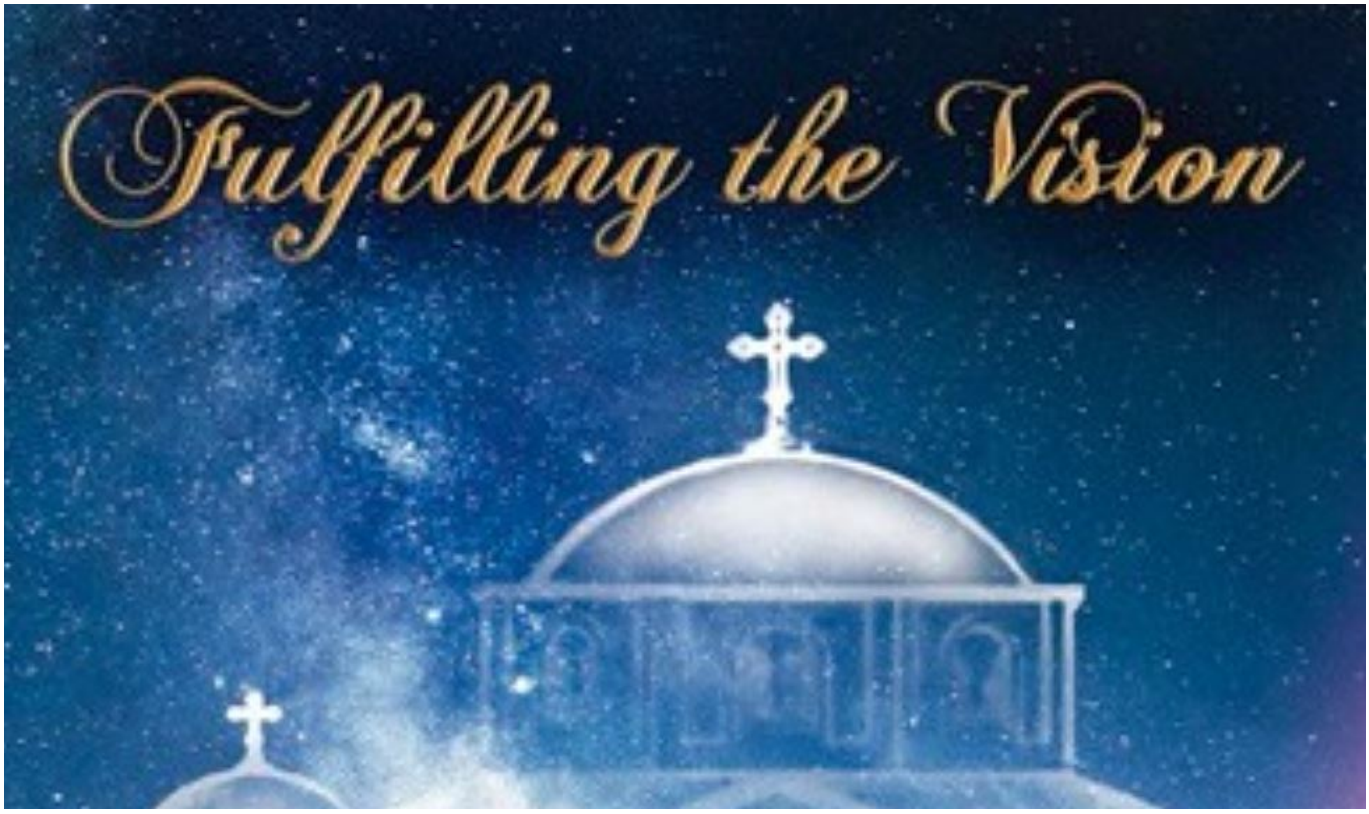
06/03/2020

Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America: Metropolitan Joseph announces 2020 Antiochian Women Project: “Fulfilling the Vision”



Resources (PDF)
His Eminence’s letter
Message to the congregation
Letter from Antiochian Women Vice President

Beloved Antiochian Woman of our God-Protected Archdiocese:

This month, “Women Month” as we commonly refer to it in the Archdiocese, coincides with the beginning and first part of the Great Fast and always includes the Great Feast of the Annunciation. What a beautiful time of the Church year to rededicate our lives and everything we do “unto Christ our God” as we recite in the litanies of the Church.

As we concentrate on our spiritual lives through increased prayer, fasting and giving alms to the poor and needy, we delve deeper into the reality of what it

means to be a Christian in the often mixed up world we live in today. At the same time, as members of the Antiochian Women of our mighty Archdiocese, you put these ascetical and salvation building foundations I just mentioned into concrete actions and realities through your good and mighty works in obedience to the will of God and the direction of your Metropolitan.

This year, we have as our project theme, “Fulfilling the Vision”. This “vision” includes the next phases of the Antiochian Village. When our beloved Metropolitan PHILIP of thrice-blessed memory purchased and founded the Antiochian Village in the late 1970’s, he had many visions for this beautiful piece of land, some of which he realized in his lifetime like the Camp and the Heritage and Learning Center, and others that have yet to be fulfilled. After assessing the needs of our Archdiocese over the past five years, in addition to his “visions”, I have added some of my own and, now, in 2020, it is part of that continued overall vision to begin the next phase of growth on this sacred piece of land.

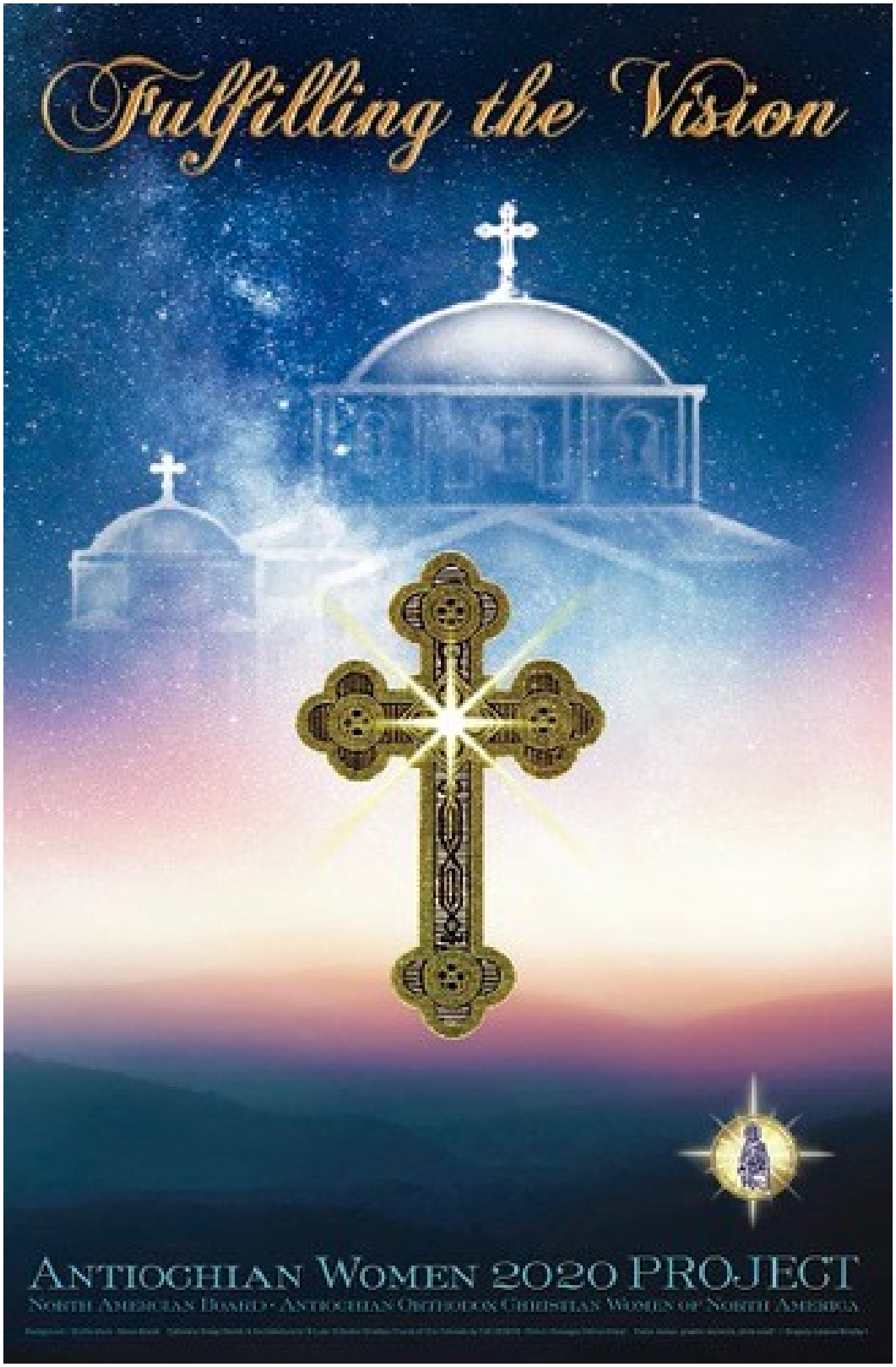
This “vision” includes a new cathedral with a crypt for our past and future hierarchs, a shrine for St. Raphael of Brooklyn for the proper veneration of his holy relics, offices and a conference room, a residence for our hierarchs when they retire, and a monastery on a secluded part of the property.

We know with faith and help of our Antiochian Women, this dream, this vision, will become a reality. Recently, many of us heard of the repose of the Elder Ephraim of Arizona. This humble monk came to this country and, with the faith and support of his followers, established 17 fully functioning and majestic monasteries for men and women all over the United States and Canada in just the past 30 years. If he was able to do this, I have faith that we in our Archdiocese can also plant a thriving monastic community in this beautiful piece of land that has been entrusted to us from God. As such, I am grateful in advance for your charitable and fund-raising efforts in helping with this grand project.

Finally, as we begin our Lenten journey, I pray that each one of you will be spiritually strengthened to accomplish the course of the Fast with humility and love for one another.

Wishing you all a blessed season of fasting, I remain,

Your Father in Christ,
+JOSEPH Archbishop of New York and Metropolitan of all North America



— Source: antiochian.org