

Forty-Second

ANNUAL



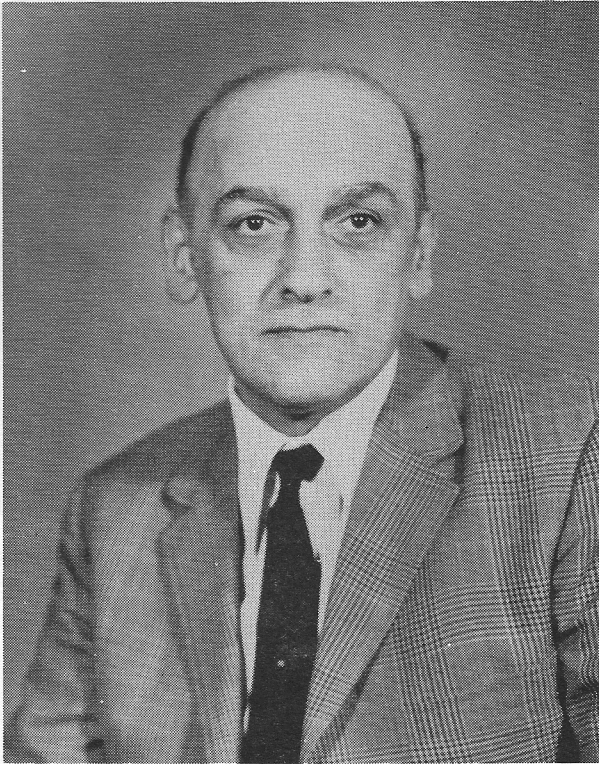
أهلاً وسهلاً بكم كفيرياً

**KFEIRIAN  
BROTHERHOOD  
REUNION**

AUGUST 31, SEPTEMBER 1 - 2, 1974

Holiday Inn

BLUEFIELD, WEST VIRGINIA



MR. JOHN R. MICKEL, Chairman

The Kfeirians of Bluefield, West Virginia are proud to host our 42nd Annual Kfeirian Reunion for 1974.

This is the first time that the Kfeirian Reunion has been held in Bluefield, and it is our sincere wish that your visit will be a most pleasant one.

As we come together for this Reunion let us strengthen the bonds of our heritage in the spirit of good will and fellowship.

On behalf of myself, and the Kfeirians of Bluefield, AHLA WA SAHLA. May God's blessings be with you on your return home and always.



**Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese**

OF NEW YORK AND ALL NORTH AMERICA

358 MOUNTAIN ROAD  
ENGLEWOOD, NEW JERSEY 07631

"... the Disciples were called Christians first in Antioch!"

ACTS 11:26

1974

To My Dear Friends of the Forty-second Annual Kfeirian Reunion:

Once again we are delighted to greet you in the Name of our Lord hoping and praying that your deliberation will prove very beneficial for your people in this country and abroad.

We have no doubt that you are fully aware of the terrible damage which Kfeir suffered from the Israeli raids. It is unfortunate that Kfeir is on the southern border between Lebanon and Israel and as a result of this Kfeir and its people have suffered much throughout the years.

We ask you, therefore, to extend a helping hand to Kfeir, the birthplace of your fathers and forefathers and many great civic leaders. We know well that you are fully dedicated to the work of charity, thus, "let your light shine before man so that many see your good work and glorify your Father who is in heaven."

Because of our inability to be with you this year, we have delegated our brother-in-Christ, His Grace, Bishop Elia, to represent us at this Forth-second Reunion.

We beseech the Almighty God to keep you together and crown all your efforts with success.

Yours in Christ,

Metropolitan PHILIP

Archbishop

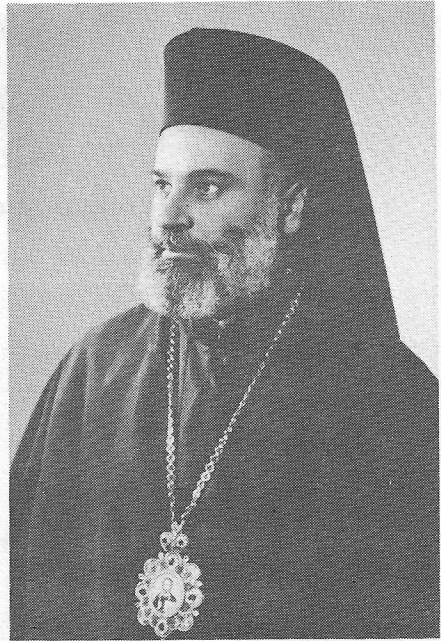
Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese  
of New York and all North America.

MP:km

## BIOGRAPHY

### BISHOP ELIA (Saliba) of SALAMIA

On Holy Wednesday, April 5, 1972, His Grace, Bishop Elia of Salamia, arrived to the Archdiocesan headquarters from Lebanon to assist Archbishop PHILIP with his various archpastoral duties.



His Grace was born in 1924 in Kfarsaroun near Amioun, Al Koura, North Lebanon. At age fourteen, he entered the Balamand Seminary. After spending five years at Balamand, he moved to Damascus, Syria, where he finished his secondary study and obtained his baccalaureate degree. In 1949, he graduated from Law School of the University of Damascus. In 1950 he was appointed by Patriarch Alexander, III to the Ecclesiastical Court of the Patriarchate and taught Arabic and Mathematics in the Orthodox schools of Damascus. In 1952 he enrolled at the Theological Academy of Khalky, Turkey, and remained there until his graduation in 1956. Upon his return to Damascus, he was appointed a principal of all Orthodox Schools in the city of Damascus. In 1966, he was elected by the Holy Synod Titular Bishop of Salamia and Vicar-General of the Patriarchate of Antioch. When the late Patriarch Theodosius became ill, Bishop Elia administered very efficiently all the affairs of the Antiochian Patriarchate. He speaks the following languages fluently: Arabic, French, Greek and has a good knowledge of English.