



## V. REV. DR. MICHEL ELIAS NAJIM

St. Nicholas Antiochian Orthodox  
Cathedral  
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### ***Positions Held***

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#### **CATHEDRAL DEAN AND PASTOR**

*St. Nicholas Cathedral, Los Angeles, CA (1996-2004)*

Administrative and spiritual head of a community of several thousand Arab-American Orthodox communicants, one of the largest parishes in the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America. Duties include ministering to communicants, counseling and monitoring the operation of the Cathedral office. In addition, responsible for external relations with other churches and religious organizations.

#### **CATECHISMAL INSTRUCTOR**

*St. Athanasius Academy, CA (1987-1996)*

Transferred from Lebanon and given responsibility for the catechismal instruction of several thousand converts brought into the Antiochian Archdiocese in 1987. Acted in various other capacity for the Archdiocese as directed by the Archbishop and assisted the pastor in ministering Saint Nicholas Cathedral community.

#### **DEAN**

*St. John of Damascus School of Theology, Balamand, Lebanon (1979-1987)*

In addition to professorial duties cited below, acted as head administrator for the School. Developed curriculum and educational programs for the students in residence. Provided pastoral and academic guidance, as well as general management of facilities. Acted as pastor to several local parishes in the Diocese of Tripoli and North Lebanon

#### **PROFESSOR**

*St. John of Damascus School of Theology, Balamand, Lebanon (1978-1979)*

Taught courses in Patristics, Eastern Christianity, Islamic/Christian relations and scholarly languages. Acted as pastor to a parish in the Diocese of Tripoli and North Lebanon.

#### **PASTOR**

*The Church of the Virgin Mary of Halcion, Salonica, Greece (1977-1978)*

Acted as rector to a parish while conducting postgraduate studies.

### ***Additional Academic and Ecclesiastic Positions***

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**PROFESSOR, ANTIOCHIAN HOUSE OF STUDIES**

*Pittsburgh Theological Seminary, Pittsburgh, PA* (1992-2004)  
Instruct students in ethical and theological issues related to parish life as part of the Doctor of Ministry program (1994-2001). Also responsible for teaching courses in Christian/Islamic relation and Antiochian Church history.

**REPRESENTATIVE AND MEMBER**

*World Council of Churches* (1983-2004)  
Representing the Antiochian Orthodox Church to the WCC at various committees, including Missions and Evangelism (1983-1989) and the Faith and Order Commission (2001).

**VISITING PROFESSOR**

*St. John of Damascus School of Theology, Balamand, Lebanon* (1999-2004)  
*Claremont Graduate University* (2000-2004)

**ADJUNCT PROFESSOR**

*Azusa Pacific University, Los Angeles, CA* (2001)

**ADJUNCT PROFESSOR**

*Fuller Theological Seminary, Pasadena, CA* (1994-1998)

**REPRESENTATIVE**

*Orthodox and Roman Catholic Dialogue, Los Angeles, CA* (2000)

**CO-CHAIRMAN**

*Department of Liturgics and Translation, Antiochian Archdiocese* (1988-1997)

**MEMBER**

*Liturgical Translations Committee Standing Conference of Orthodox Bishops of America* (1993-1995)

**PROFESSOR**

*St. Athanasius School of Theology, Santa Barbara, CA* (1987-1992)

***Education:***

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**DOCTOR OF THEOLOGY**

*Aristotelian University, Salonica, Greece* (1985)

**MASTER OF THEOLOGY**

*Aristotelian University, Salonica, Greece* (1974-1976)

**MASTER OF DIVINITY**

*Balamand University, Tripoli, Lebanon* (1971-1974)

***Published Works***

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**Books**

*Understanding the Orthodox Liturgy* (with T. L. Frazier, Oakwood Pub. 1995), *St. John of Damascus* (Salonica, Greece 1985), *Orthodox Study Bible* (Translation/Contributing Editor, Thomas Nelson Pub. 1982), *Orthodox Mission in the United States* (Oklahoma 1981), *An Introduction to Patrology* (Balamand Univ. 1980), *The History and Legacy of Arab Christianity in the Pre-Islamic Period* (Balamand Univ. 1980).

**Articles (1999-2001 only)**

“Two Ways in the East” (in *Vested in Grace*, Holy Cross 2001), “An Orthodox Perspective on Yves Congar’s Book ‘I Believe in the Holy Spirit’” (delivered at the Meeting of Catholic Theologians, San Diego 2001), “Christianity and the Globalization of Culture” (Balamand 2001), “Abortion and the Orthodox Perspective” (Balamand 2001), “The Characteristics of Arabic Christian Theology” (Balamand 1999)

*(further citations available upon request)*

**Translations**

Responsible for over a dozen major translations, a list of which may be provided upon request.

***Language Skills***

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Fluent in English, Arabic, Modern and Classical Greek, Latin, Ancient Hebrew, Aramaic and French; reads Spanish and German.

*Fr. Michel is presently an Archpriest in the Antiochian Archdiocese of North America. Born in Beirut, Lebanon in 1949, he is married (wife Eva) and has three children (Theodore, Maxime and Lydia). He is presently working on a number of important translation projects for the Church.*