



Deacon Bashir teaching Arabic Literature at the American University of Beirut with his class 1921

commanded Antony's major attention. From 1915 to 1920 he collaborated with two leading scholars—Archbishop Paul Abou Adal and Najeeb Khalaf—in compiling what has since earned universal recognition as the most accurate and complete Arabic version of the New Testament.

In 1922, Antony's work in Lebanon was cut short when the Patriarch of Antioch assigned him to America as Special Representative. A year later he was advanced to the rank of Archmandrite, with the title of Right Reverend. Already well schooled in the English language and quick to adjust himself to the New World, the hard working priest traveled the length and breadth of the North American continent during the next 13 years, building churches, serving parishes, and organizing societies throughout the United States, Canada and Mexico.



Archdeacon Bashir arrives in New York 1922.

**Deacon Bashir who became the*

head of the Orthodox Church in

