



BE READY

GRADE 9-12



THE SON OF MAN IS COMING AT AN HOUR YOU DO NOT EXPECT

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HIS HOLINESS POPE TAWADROS II



**118TH POPE OF ALEXANDRIA AND
PATRIARCH OF THE SEE OF SAINT MARK**



BE READY

**“Therefore you also be ready,
for the Son of Man is coming
at an hour you do not expect.”**

Matthew 24:44

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Visit the St. Mark Festival's website at www.smfsus.org
to find the material for the festival and
for guidelines and information on the tests



BE READY

St. Mark's Festival 2018 Anthem

Your treasure is heaven, home and blessing

Abide in church to get to heaven

With genuine faith, my church's grace

God Himself has put in place

2x

Be an icon for Christianity,

The fathers' teachings its centrality

With firm doctrine based on the Bible

In the world a mighty fort

God, He grows it and He nurtures

The seed planted by Mari Morcos

A service increased by Habib Guirguis

We reap its fruits for years and years

The Spirit of God inside us whispers

For heaven be ready

Be Ready

“You also be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.”

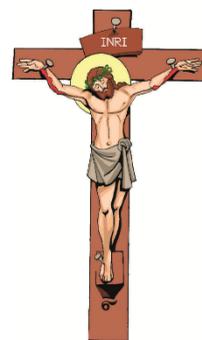
Matthew 24:44



Our ever-existing God created the universe. He created Adam and Eve from the dust of the earth and placed them in the Garden of Eden. (Genesis 2)

Then Adam and Eve disobeyed His commandment and ate from the tree. God said to the serpent:

"And I will put enmity between you and the woman, And between your seed and her seed; He shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise His heel." Genesis 3:15



And this is what happened at the Cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, He bruised the devil.

First there was the creation, then the fall of mankind, then the promise of redemption and salvation, which our Lord Jesus Christ fulfilled by His incarnation, crucifixion, resurrection, and ascension.



He sent us the Comforter, His Holy Spirit, and established for us the Church and promised His second coming when **“He will appear to judge the world in righteousness and give each one according to his deeds.” (The Holy Liturgy)**

Therefore, we are established in our Lord Jesus Christ and He dwells in us by faith, partaking in the holy sacraments, repentance and confession and by spiritual guidance.

BE READY FOR THE SECOND COMING OF CHRIST

Our Church teaches us the importance of being ready. We must be ready to partake of the Holy Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ.

"Therefore whoever eats this bread or drinks this cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord."
1 Corinthians 11:27



Being ready through faith, doctrine, spirituality, church and service.

1- Faith:

- In the Old Testament, "God said to Moses, I AM WHO I AM." Exodus 3:14. And we believe in one God, and His promises in the Old Testament that He fulfilled in the New Testament through His incarnation and our salvation.
- We proclaim our faith in our prayers and liturgical services. "For if you do not believe that I am He, you will die in your sins." John 8:24



2- Doctrine:

- Our Church teaches us the importance of understanding the Coptic Orthodox doctrine as well as the importance of keeping it safe from wrong teachings.
- Our Church presents us the doctrine in an easy way to understand. We learn about the history and the role of the council of Nicaea in preserving the faith.

Our Coptic Orthodox doctrine is:

- **Sound:** Accurate according to the teachings of the Holy Bible and tradition.
- **Straight:** It never changed since the time of the Apostles.
- **Comprehensive:** It doesn't emphasize any aspect over another. We see faith without ignoring works, and we see the work of grace without ignoring strive.
- **Biblical:** All the doctrines of the Church are biblical. The Sacraments, intercession, the tradition, honoring St. Mary, the anointing by priests, the altar.... are all based on teachings of the Holy Bible.

We study the lives and teachings of our fathers who lived Christianity and the Holy Bible. We learn from their interpretations of the Holy Bible and we strive in following their steps.

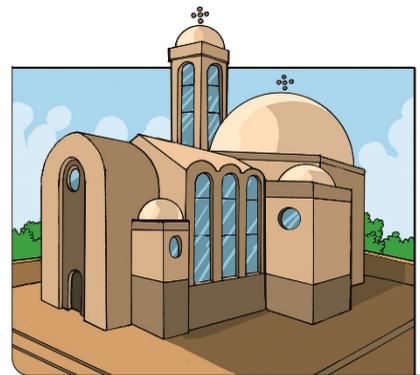
3- Spirituality:

- We can be ready spiritually by prayer, fasting, reading the Holy Bible, Eucharist, spiritual readings, spiritual meetings, service, and praises, etc.



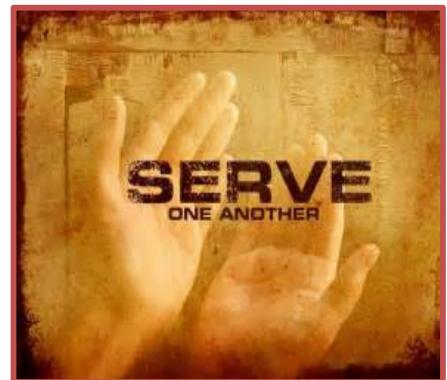
4- Church:

- We can be ready through our commitment to the Church.
- We learn the history of the Church, the fathers of the Church and their teachings.
- We learn the rites of the Church. They are a translation of the Christian life.
- The Church is the unity of the believers (on earth), the saints (in heaven) and our Lord (the Head of the Church and her Heavenly Bridegroom).



5- Service:

- Service is not just by giving to others, but a blessing returned to the servant. **"The generous soul will be made rich, and he who waters will also be watered himself." Proverbs 11:25**
- In the Holy Bible, our Lord Jesus Christ teaches us that there are many fields of service such as teaching, visitation, prayer, love, etc.
- A person that does not serve is like an empty well, dry. Therefore, we must spend a lot of effort in service for our own benefit and for the spread of the kingdom of God



6- Eternity

- Our goal is eternity, **"We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the age to come."**
- Our eyes are always focused on our eternal life with the Lord Jesus Christ; so, we must be watchful in our daily life and be vigilant in spirituality.



BE READY IN OUR DAILY LIFE

"All things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the power of any."

1 Corinthians 6:12

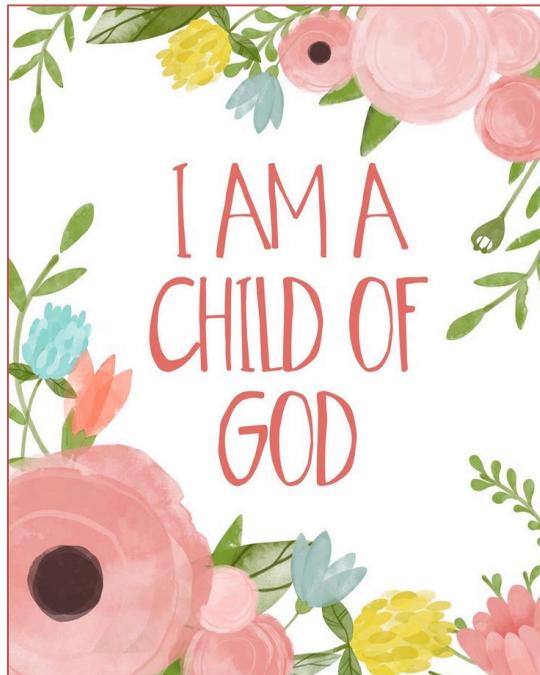
"All things are lawful for me, but not all things are helpful; all things are lawful for me, but not all things edify." 1 Corinthians 10:23

Here, St. Paul the Apostle sets 3 principles to follow in our daily life. In every situation, ask yourself:

- 1- **Is this helpful to me as a child of God?**
- 2- **Does it edify?** my life, family, church, or country...
- 3- **Will I become under its power?** smoking for example

This way I accept the edifying behavior and reject anything against the Christian teachings. The goal is to not let anything keep me away from the eternal life with the Lord Jesus Christ.

"I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness." 2 Timothy 4:7-8



Study of the Epistle of St. Paul to the Ephesians

Carry the Armor of God



This epistle is one of 14 written by St. Paul the apostle. He wrote it to the churches of Ephesus in Asia Minor, current day Turkey. St. Paul reminds us that we were on God's mind since the beginning of time; He chose us and united us with Him and we became His Body (the Church) and Christ is the Head.

In the second half of the epistle, St. Paul tells us how to live a Christian living befitting the sons of God. At the end, he teaches us how to be ready to fight our spiritual war to gain the eternal joy and inherit the kingdom of heaven.

Ephesus:

St. Paul preached to the Jews in Ephesus in the year 54 on his way to Corinth (Acts 18:19).

He went back and established the church (Acts 19:1) and stayed there for 3 years preaching and teaching the people.

The church of Ephesus is one of the 7 churches mentioned in the book of Revelation.



The Epistle:

St. Paul wrote this epistle around the year 62-63 from the prison in Rome, along with 3 other epistles; to the Colossians, the Philippians and to Philemon.

The theme of the epistle is that "**the Church is the Body of Christ**"; and it goes along with the epistle written to the Colossians with the theme "**Christ is the Head of the Church**". For this reason, he asked them to read both messages.



Chapter 1: Christ Blesses and Fills His Church

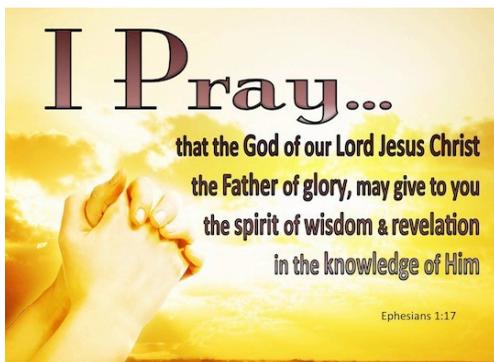
St. Paul starts his epistle with giving praise and thanks to God for all His blessings and gifts He gave to us.

The phrase "In Christ" was repeated many times in this epistle, confirming we have no salvation without the Lord Jesus Christ.



In Christ...

- the Father chose us since the beginning
- we became children of God
- we received salvation
- the heaven and the earth were united, the Jews with the Gentiles were united and together will share in the eternal inheritance
- we received redemption and forgiveness of sins and received the Holy Spirit



St. Paul prays for the believers, **“that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him, the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints”** Ephesians 1:17-18

Are we ready to strive to receive our inheritance?

Chapter 2: Christ Unites Humanity in His Church

St. Paul explains that we received salvation by grace in Christ. This grace was a gift summarizing God's love and mercy to us. Therefore, we need to strive and abide in our Lord through Communion, so we can have a place in His kingdom. The grace of God will work when we sin, only if we are ready for the spiritual war and to strive for the salvation of our souls.

He explains the reconciliation between God and man, and between the Jews and Gentiles and how they became one body united in Christ. **"In whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit."** Ephesians 2:22

In this chapter, we see the Cross with its two parts, vertical and horizontal:

Vertical: signifying our reconciliation and unity with Christ - we rise with Him and go to heaven with Him (verses 6, 16)

Horizontal: signifying the reconciliation and unity between the members of the Church (verses 14-16)



We receive reconciliation and unity through the Holy Cross.

Chapter 3: The Great Love of God in the Salvation of the Gentiles

St. Paul confirms that the Spirit revealed to the apostles is the mystery that has not been revealed in the Old Testament to the prophets; that is the salvation of the Gentiles and their sharing the inheritance of the kingdom.

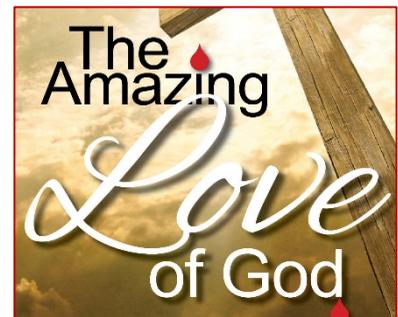
God revealed this mystery to the Gentiles by preaching the faith to them.

St. Paul prays for:

- 1- The believers to be strengthened with might through His Holy Spirit, that Christ may dwell in their hearts through faith.
- 2- The believers to be rooted and grounded in love, that they may be able to comprehend the love of Christ which passes knowledge.

This love of God that appeared on the Cross is unlimited, for God is love and God is unlimited. For this reason, St. Paul described it with width, length, depth and height. The love of God encompasses us all and is above the comprehension of man.

Have we reached this love, are we ready to tire for others and care for their salvation?



Chapter 4: Renewal and the Christian Behavior

The Christian behavior includes:

- 1- Living according to the commandments of Christ in gentleness, lowliness, longsuffering and love.
- 2- Keeping the unity of Spirit in the bond of peace.
- 3- Each one has a gift given by God for the work of ministry and the edifying of the church that we may come to the unity of faith and the knowledge of the Son of God.
- 4- Standing firm in faith and not believe false teachings.
- 5- Stay away from the way of the world in sin and uncleanness



It is not enough to escape from sin, but we should also acquire virtues. Do not just stay away from lying; but always tell the truth... do not steal, but also give to those who are in need... escape from anger, acting in meekness and forgiveness

Let us always hold on to God's commandments and be ready to strive to obtain virtues.

Chapter 5: Christian Behavior in the World

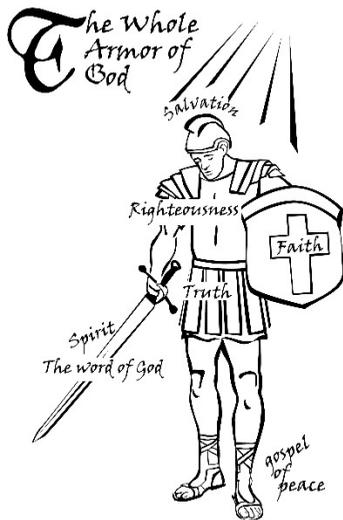
In an evil world, the Christian behavior should be:

- 1- Following the example of Christ in love, sacrifice and kindness.
- 2- Fleeing uncleanness, covetousness, filthiness and foolish talking.
- 3- Not being deceived in believing happiness comes from sin.
- 4- Walking as children of light and give fruits of the Holy Spirit.
- 5- Not having fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness but expose them.
- 6- Walking in circumspection, redeeming the time before this life ends. Use your time wisely in prayers and spiritual works.
- 7- Being filled with the Spirit and obtaining the real joy, which is a fruit of the Spirit, through the means of grace: praise, repentance and abiding in Christ through communion and reading the Holy Bible.



St. Paul gives instructions to the married. As Christ is the Head of the Church, the husband is the head of the wife. The husband should lead the family in the fear of God, and the wife should submit to her husband in Christ. The husband should love his wife as his own self and give himself up for her, just like Christ gave His Blood for the

Chapter 6: The Armor of God



The chapter begins with instructions for parents and children, and to masters and servants. The second part of the chapter is about the spiritual armor.

The whole armor of God mentioned in Ephesians 6:10-14 is given to us in the 36 anointments in the Sacrament of Confirmation.

The armor signifies the state of readiness, the continuous strife and holding on to Christ; and the Christ in us is the one who will conquer.

This whole armor is based in Christ and we will conquer in Christ. Therefore, we need to give the glory to God and not to our efforts.

Weapon	Usefulness	Spiritual weapon	Anointing in the Sacrament of Confirmation	Spiritual Usefulness
Helmet	Protects the head and face	Salvation	1-8	Protects our minds and thoughts from the false teachings and evil/sinful thoughts.
Breastplate	Protects the chest and heart	Righteousness	9, 10	Righteous behavior protects the heart from lusts and sin.
Girded waist	Supports the back	Truth	11, 12	Truth is knowing Christ and the commandments and holding fast to them. This will strengthen us.
Footwear	Walking forward towards the goal	Gospel of peace	25-36	Always ready to walk according to the will of God and preaching the gospel of love and peace.
Shield	Protects the whole body	Faith	9-36	Protects us. Without it we would be open to the fiery darts of the wicked one.
Sword	Only weapon of attack	The Word of God		<p>The word of God strikes the devil "For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword" Hebrews 4:12</p> <p>The Lord Jesus Christ used the Word of God in the temptation "But Jesus answered him saying: It is written..." Luke 4:4</p>

Let us always be ready, carrying the whole armor of God, holding on to our faith and the word of God, caring for our daily repentance to win and conquer to receive the crown of life and the heavenly joy awaiting us.

A Cloud of Witnesses

Our Coptic Church is a Church of martyrs. Our Church martyrs accepted torment with joy.



"So they departed from the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for His name." Acts 5:41

They rejoiced to share with Christ His sufferings and looked at martyrdom to witness their love to our Lord. They were always ready to witness for their faith and to meet with their beloved Christ

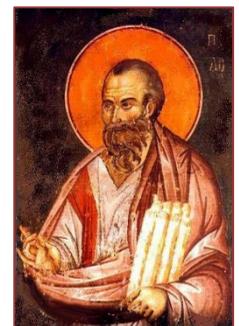
The reasons for martyrdom and its methods are many:

1 - Martyrs for their Faith: The saints who would not deny their faith in Christ even if it meant they gave up their lives.

Examples of these martyrs are many in our Church, the martyrs that were killed for the mere fact that they are Christians, even until this day; like the **21 martyrs of Libya**.



Another example is **St. Polycarp Bishop of Smyrna** who was a disciple of St. John the apostle. He refused to deny the Lord Christ and said: "I've served Him for 86 years and He never allowed any harm to get to me, how could I curse Him?" Finally, the governor ordered him to be burned alive.



2 - Martyrs for their Doctrine: those who rejected heresies and gave up their lives in defense of the true faith.

We see many examples of those martyrs, especially around the fourth century when the heresies arose, and some rulers started to follow these deviated teachings. examples are many; such as the martyrdom of many at the hands of the Arians in Alexandria; St. Theodore, a monk who defended the faith against the Arians; St. Macarius the bishop, one of the 3 Saints Maccari, and many more.



3 - Martyrs for their Chastity: those who gave up their lives rather than be defiled by sin.

St. Potamena and St. Basilides

St. Potamena refused to submit to the immoral requests of her master, so he sent her to the judge. The judge ordered that she be stripped and thrown in a cauldron filled with bubbling hot tar. To preserve her chastity, she asked to be gradually submerge into the cauldron and not uncover her body.

She was handed off to St. Basilides the soldier. He treated her with civility and kept off the people who wanted to insult her modesty. She promised him that after her death she will ask God for his salvation. After her martyrdom, he became a Christian and confessed his faith. He was beheaded and received the crown of martyrdom as well.

St. Theodora and St. Didymus

St. Theodora was a virgin of noble descent and upbringing who was from Alexandria. As a Christian, St. Theodora was brought to trial before the pagans. After a lengthy period of torture for the faith of Christ, the prince-torturer ordered that she be brought to a place of shame and permitted the soldiers to enter and to approach her for the satisfaction of their carnal passions.

St. Theodora fervently prayed to God to save her from defilement and while she was praying, a soldier by the name of St. Didymus came to her and told her that he also is a servant of Christ, he dressed her in his military clothing and he wore her clothes. Then, he allowed her to leave and he stayed in her place. Later, St. Didymus was arrested and brought to trial. He admitted that he is a Christian who helped St. Theodora escape. He told them that he is a Christian, ready to die for Christ.

St. Didymus was sentenced to death. St. Theodora ran up to him and cried out: "Even though you saved my honor, I did not ask you to take my crown". The pagans sentenced them both to death and both were beheaded. They honorably suffered, and both obtained the crown of martyrdom.

These are some examples of the many martyrs of our Church, may their blessings be with us all.

Foundation

The Creed

The Nicene Creed was formally drawn up at the first Ecumenical Council in Nicaea (325) and at the second Ecumenical Council in Constantinople (381). It was the definitions of these councils that was ultimately accepted by the Orthodox Church as the proper Symbol of Faith

To be an Orthodox Christian is to affirm the Orthodox Christian faith—not merely the words, but the essential meaning of it. It means as well to affirm all that this statement implies, and all that has been expressly developed from it and built upon it in the history of the Orthodox Church over the centuries down to the present day.

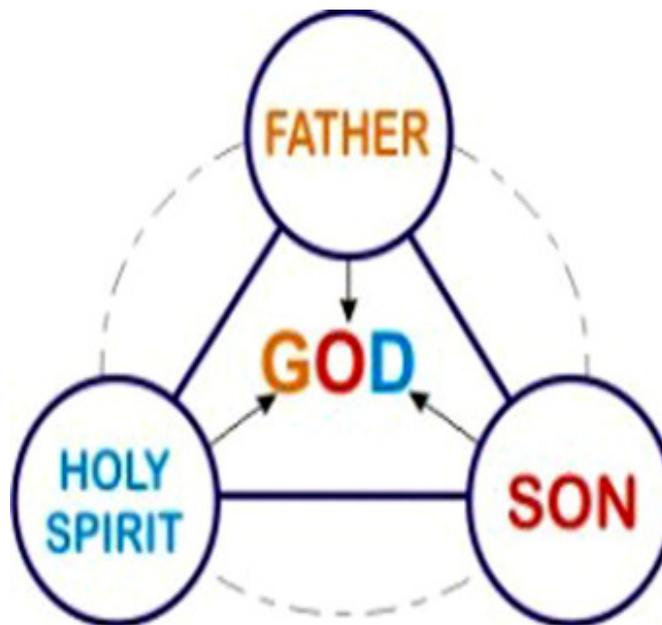
Faith is the foundation of Christian life and therefore we start our Liturgy by confessing the faith.

The following three topics are the basics of the Orthodox faith as they appear in the Creed:

1. **The Holy Trinity:**

One cannot read the Holy Bible nor the history of the Church without being struck by the numerous references to God the Father, the Son (Word) of God and the Holy Spirit. It is the Church's teaching and its deepest experience that there is only one God because there is only one Father. In the Holy Bible the term "God" with very few exceptions is used primarily as a name for the Father. Thus, the Son is the "Son of God," and the Spirit is the "Spirit of God." The Son is born from the Father, and the Spirit proceeds from the Father—both in the same timeless and eternal action of the Father's own being. In this view, the Son and the Spirit are both one with God and in no way separated from Him.

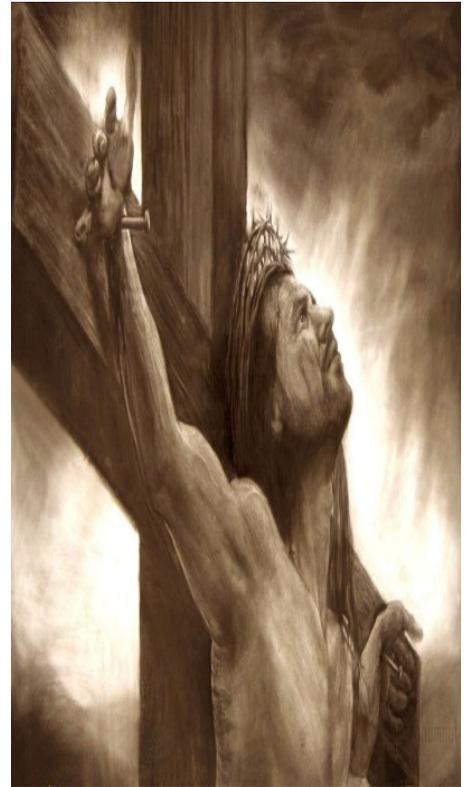
Thus, the Divine Unity consists of the Father, with His Son and His Spirit distinct from Himself and yet perfectly united together in Him.



2. Salvation:

Only God can save the world. However, it had to be a man that pays the price of transgression since it was man who sinned. But man alone cannot do it because it is man himself who must be saved. Therefore, the divine Son of God was born as a man from the Virgin Mary by the power of the Holy Spirit. **“And the angel answered and said to her, *‘The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Highest will overshadow you; therefore, also, that Holy One who is to be born will be called the Son of God.’*”** **Luke 1:35.** Our Lord Jesus Christ is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world, the Lamb that is slain that through Him all sins might be forgiven. He is also the great high priest, who offers the perfect sacrifice by which man is purged from his sins and cleansed from his iniquities. Our Lord Jesus Christ offers, as high priest, the perfect sacrifice of His own very life, His own body, as the Lamb of God, upon the tree of the cross.

And although our Lord Jesus Christ did not sin and did not have to suffer and die, He voluntarily took upon Himself the sins of the world and voluntarily gave Himself up to suffering and death for the sake of salvation. This was His task as the Messiah-Savior.

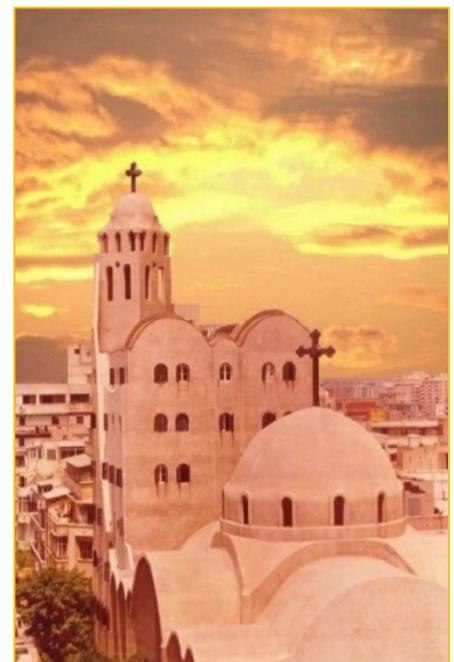


3. The Church:

In the Church, all become one in Christ, all put on the deified humanity of the Son of God. **“For as many as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ”** (Gal 3.27). There can only be one Church and not many. And this one Church, because its unity depends on God, Christ, and the Spirit, may never be broken. Thus, according to Orthodox doctrine, the Church is indivisible. Within the unity of the Church man is what he is created to be and can grow for eternity in divine life in communion with God through Christ in the Holy Spirit.

The holiness of the Church comes from God. The members of the Church are holy to the extent that they live in communion with God. The Church, and faith of the Church, is an essential element of Christian doctrine and life.

Without the Church as a divine, mystical, sacramental, and spiritual reality, in the midst of the fallen and sinful world there can be no full and perfect communion with God.



Who am I?

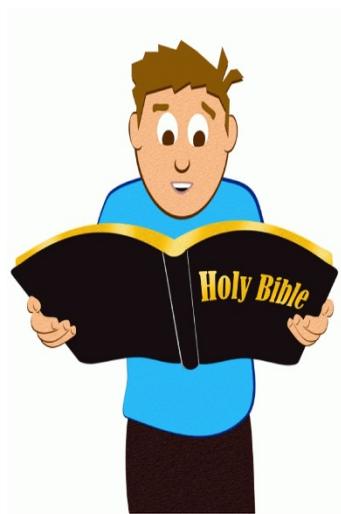
Am I a withering leaf or a strong founded mountain?

The world around us is ever evolving and ever changing! And we as humans must be able to adapt and function in this constantly changing world....but how? Does that mean I should be a chameleon and change colors and skin according to my environment?



We were created in a very distinct and unique way. But what is the secret ingredient in me that makes me so special?

There are 4 characteristics that form the distinction of the Christian person:



- “Do you not know that you are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you?” (1 Corinthians 3:16)
- For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.” (Romans 8:14)
- “For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ.” (Galatians 3:27)
- “Whoever eats My flesh and drinks My blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day.” (John 6:54)
- “Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit.” (Titus 3:5)

Therefore, we are special because we are the temple of God, children of God and led by His Spirit, we put on Christ when we were baptized, and finally we were saved through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ through the Holy Spirit.

We as believers are not of the world, not because we have a different nature than others but because we accepted God’s call and salvation. As the children of God, we became the chosen ones.

“If the world hates you, you know that it hated Me before it hated you. If you were of the world, the world would love its own. Yet because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you.” (John 15:18-19)

We must understand and embrace that we, as children of God, are distinct and different. How can we liken ourselves to the people of the world when we are sons and daughters of the King of kings?

Since the world hates and rejects us, does that mean we should withdraw from the world we live in?

Our Lord Jesus Christ was rejected from the world, but His presence is still seen in the world. We are rejected from the world because of our religion and spirituality, but we are still present. We must be steadfast and preserve and protect our purity and holiness from the evils of the world.

Our Lord Jesus Christ prayed on our behalf to the Father and said, **“I do not pray that You should take them out of the world, but that You should keep them from the evil one.” (John 17:15)**

- **Beware** of becoming one with the world! Do not follow the world (do not say "everyone is doing it").
- **Embrace** selectiveness, simply meaning take the good that the world offers and reject all the negative or harmful things.

Am I a withering leaf or a strong founded mountain?



A Withering Leaf	A Strong Founded Mountain
Blown by the wind, with no sense of direction	A strong founded mountain, not affected by the wind at all
Constant change in appearances depending on the environment, like a chameleon.	Steadfast, regardless of the changes around it.
Withers away, forgets and loses its original identity.	Adapts to different changes and never loses its identity or essence.



Be these

Matthew 5:13-16

Find these verses: **John 15:5, 1 Corinthians 6:19, 2 Maccabees 7:36, John 10:27-28, John 18:36, Matthew 7:21, John 15:19.** Our Lord Jesus Christ tells us who we are, how we're different, and how we can be a strong founded mountain.

“All things are lawful for me, but not all things are helpful; all things are lawful for me, but not all things edify.” (1 Corinthians 10:23)

We must have principles, goals, and be diligent! We will experience losses and successes throughout our lives. God does not command us to abandon the “world”, on the contrary, He created us and told us that we are the light and salt of the world! God created us brilliantly with different gifts and characteristics.

Where do we get the strength to be an individual with principles, ambitious, and diligent or hard working?

From the source of strength, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

The Heavens

Heavenly Creatures

Human beings are created more *unique* than any other creature. God created man and breathed into him from His Spirit. **“And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and *breathed into his nostrils the breath of life*; and man became *a living being*.”** (Genesis 2:7)

Human beings are heavenly creatures:

- In Jacob’s dream in Bethel, there was a ladder connecting heaven and earth with angels of the Lord ascending and descending upon it. (Genesis 28:12). This supports that us as human beings are heavenly creatures.
- Our Lord Jesus Christ replied to Nathanael, **“Most assuredly, I say to you, hereafter you shall see heaven open, and the angels of God ascending upon the Son of Man.”** (John 1:51) This provides proof that humans were created as heavenly beings; even though, they were created from dust. Their final destination and citizenship is heaven. This is manifested in their good works, prayers, and intercession of the saints and prayers for the departed.



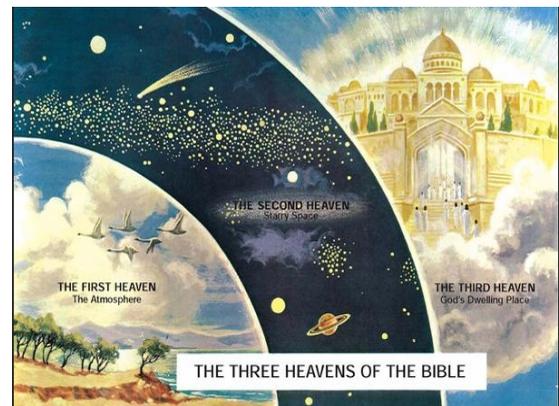
Heaven is often understood or depicted as the higher place above the earth. God initially created the universe into two large categories; heaven and earth. Earth became a home to human beings and animals, heaven is the throne of God.

The 3 Heavens

- The **first heaven** is where we can see birds and planes and the atmosphere are.
- The **second heaven** is the astronomy, which includes the stars, sun, moon and different planets.

The first and second heavens are materialistic, simply meaning, they are not ever-existing, they will perish.

- The **third heaven** is Paradise, the throne and glory of God; the spiritual heaven.



We learned this from St. Paul, **“I know a man who was caught up to the third heaven which is Paradise.”** (2 Corinthians 2:4) The materialistic heavens will pass away with the earth, but not paradise of course. The martyrs and saints of the Church bore their sufferings for the sake of Christ and Heaven.

What does heaven look like?

St. John the beloved describes heaven in the Book of Revelation 21:10.

- **The Jasper stone**, mentioned in Revelation 21:11, represents the Glory of God. In Exodus 34:20-33, we read that Moses' face shone from the Glory of God and he had to cover his face with a veil.
- The city is shaped as a **square with 4 corner points**, the four corner points represent the four Gospels.
- **The wall of the city's measure** 144 cubits this unites the Old Testament, 12 Tribes of Israel x 12 disciples of the New Testament. (Rev. 21:17)
- The wall consists of **12 different precious stones** which represent the 12 disciples. (Rev. 21:19-20) **"having been built on foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone."** (Ephesians 2:20)
- The **12 precious stones** also represent the virtues God blesses us with. Our Lord Jesus Christ built the city with different precious stones, He gave each one of us different talents and virtues, so we may complement one another. (Isaiah 54:10-17)
- The **12 gates**: each was of one pearl. This represents our Lord Jesus Christ Himself, the one pearl of great price as mentioned in Matthew 13:45-46.
- The **street of the city**: pure gold; like transparent glass. This represents purity and the nonexistence of sin. Pure gold symbolizes the righteous people and saints, simplicity and purity of the heart. (Rev. 21:21)
- **No temple, or offering, no sun, moon, or light.** The Lord God Almighty is the Lamb and the temple. The city doesn't need any form of light for the glory of God illuminates it. (Rev. 21-22-23)
- The **gate shall not be shut** (Rev. 21:25): **"For I say to you that many will come from east and west, and sit down with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven."** (Matthew 8:11) For they come with their own free will, without force or binding, for the doors are always open. For God desires the salvation of every soul.



Story:

An **old man** walked down the street and saw a young man carrying a cage full of unique colorful birds.

The old man asked him, "How were you able to catch these beautiful and unique birds in one cage?"

The young man replied: "I tricked them with small pieces of bread until they entered the cage."

The old man asked "What are you going to do with them?"

The young man replied, "I'll enter them into a death match and see who wins... and I'll kill the survivor"

The old man thought for a moment then asked, "How much would you sell them for?"

The young man replied, "\$300"

The old man bought the cage filled with the colorful birds with all the money that he had. The old man walked down the street carrying his new cage filled with beautiful birds. He opened the door of the cage and set the beautiful birds free!

**Who do you think the old man is in our lives? Who is the young man?**

The old man in this story is our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. The young man represents the devil.

Do you think that the devil is an innocent friend that presents you with different sins and lusts to trap you in his cage? For this reason, we all need to be ready to enter God's beautiful Kingdom.

Find these verses to know what you need to be ready!

- **John 3:5**
- **Hebrews 6:12**
- **Ephesians 2:10**
- **2 Timothy 2:5**
- **John 6:53**

Memorization

1. **“Therefore you also be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.”**

Matthew 24:44

2. Gospel of the Third Watch of the Midnight Prayer- Luke 12:32-46

“Do not fear, little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom. Sell what you have, and give alms; provide yourselves money bags which do not grow old, a treasure in the heavens that does not fail, where no thief approaches, nor moth corrupts. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. Let your loins be girded, and your lamps burning. And you yourselves be like men who wait for their master, when he will return from the wedding, that when he comes and knocks, they may open to him immediately. Blessed are those servants, whom their master, when he comes will find them watching. Assuredly I say to you, that he shall gird himself, and have them sit down to eat, and will come and serve them, and if he shall come in the second watch, or come in the third watch, and finds them so, blessed are those servants. But know this, that if the master of the house had known what hour the thief would come, he would have watched, and not have allowed his house to be broken into. You therefore be ready also, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour when you do not think.”

Then Peter said to Him, “Lord, do you speak this parable only to us, or to all people?” And the Lord said, “Who then is that faithful and wise steward, whom his master will make ruler over his household, to give them their portion of food in due season? Blessed is that servant, whom his master when he comes will find so doing. Truly I say to you, that he will make him ruler over all that he has. But if that servant says in his heart, “My master is delaying his coming” and begins to beat the menservants and maidens, and to eat and drink, and be drunk, the master of that servant will come in a day when he is not looking for him, and at an hour when he is not aware, and will cut him in two, and appoint him his portion with the unbelievers.”

Glory be to God forever. Amen.

3. Sayings of the Fathers about Preparedness:

- “Prepare yourself to meet the Lord, and you will find yourself acting according to His will.” – **St Moses the Strong**
- “Acquire repentance in every moment and do not give yourself to laziness even for a moment” – **St Moses the Strong**
- “It is not for our own good to know the time, but it is rather for our own good not to know. Our ignorance of it makes us fearful, and get watchful, and thus correct ourselves” –**St Ambrose**



Coptic



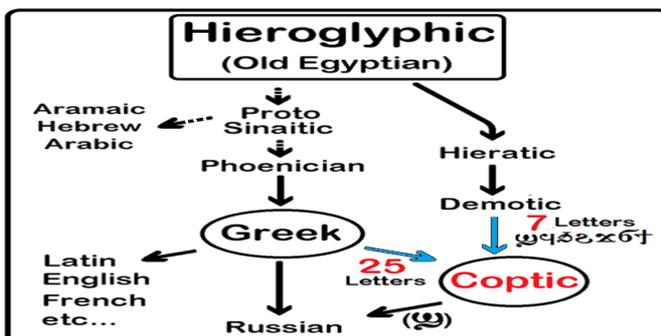
Our Lord spent about four years in Egypt as a baby. He spoke to the people of Egypt in their language, which was Coptic at that time.

THE COPTIC ALPHABET

	Ⲁ ⲁ Alpha A	Ⲃ ⲃ Veeta B, V	Ⲅ ⲅ Gamma G, N, Gh	Ⲇ ⲇ Delta D, Th (the)	
Ⲉ ⲉ Eyy E	Ⲋ Number 6 So-oo Not a true letter The number 6	ⲋ Ⲍ Zeeta Z	ⲍ Ⲏ Eeta EE	ⲏ Ⲑ Theeta TH (think), T	ⲑ Ⲓ Yota I, Y
ⲓ Ⲕ Kappa K	ⲕ Ⲍ Lavla L	ⲍ Ⲏ Mey M	ⲏ Ⲑ Ney N	ⲑ Ⲓ Eksee KS	ⲓ Ⲕ O O
ⲕ Ⲍ Pee P	ⲍ Ⲏ ro R	ⲏ Ⲑ seema S-Z	ⲑ Ⲓ tav T	ⲓ Ⲕ Epsilon V, I, (oo)	ⲕ Ⲍ Fey F
ⲍ Ⲏ Key K, Kh, Sh	ⲏ Ⲑ Epssee PS	ⲑ Ⲓ Oo Oo	ⲓ Ⲕ Shai SH	ⲕ Ⲍ Fai F	ⲍ Ⲏ Khai KH
	ⲏ Ⲑ Hori H	ⲑ Ⲓ Ganga G, J	ⲓ Ⲕ Cheema CH	ⲕ Ⲍ Tee Tee	

The Coptic Alphabet has 32 letters

- 24 consonants
- 7 vowels (Ⲁ Ⲉ ⲍ ⲑ ⲓ ⲏ ⲕ)
- 1 letter used only as a number (Ⲋ)



First 25 letters from Hieroglyphic through Proto-Sinaitic, Phoenician and Greek Alphabets

Last 7 letters from Hieroglyphic through Hieratic and Demotic

Pronunciation

Pronunciation of the (**ι**) next to another vowel

The (**ι**) is pronounced “Y”
when it is either before or after
any other vowel

ια ya **αι** ay **ιε** ye **ει** ey

ιο yo **οι** oy **ιω** yo- **ωι** o-y

ιαλ Mirror

αιαι Grow, Increase

ιε Or

ιω Wash

ιοω Sea

(**φιωω** The Sea)

ιωτ Father

(**φιωτ** The Father)

ωικ Bread

(**πωικ** The Bread)

Pronunciation when the (**οι**)
is followed by another vowel

οιι (owwi) such as in **νιφιηοιι**

οια (owwa) such as in **εθοιαβ**

οιη (owwee) such as in **οιηβ**

ночы

hi

ночы пенннв

Hi Sayedna

ночы пеніωт

Hi Abouna

оуѡа



Bye

оуѡа
ѡен ꙗ̇боис

Bye
(in the Lord)

The possessive Pronouns (1)

	For s.m. nouns e.g. Father (ዐጥ)	For s.f. nouns e.g. Mother (ሀእሃ)	For plural nouns e.g. Books (ኧወወ)
	በ	ጥ	ዘ
My	በእዐጥ My father	ጥእሀእሃ My mother	ዘእኧወወ My books
Our	በዩዐጥ Our father	ጥዩሀእሃ Our mother	ዘዩኧወወ Our books

Practice with some words **MY OUR**

Masculine	Feminine	Plural
ዐጥ God	ሀእሃ Sister	ሀእሃ Mothers
ወገ Bread	ኧወወ Power	ዐጥ Fathers
ፊዐር Lord	ሣዩዎ Daughter	ኧከዐጥ Brothers
ኧወወ Book	ባእከ City	ሀእሃ Sisters
ሀእሃ Brother		

The possessive Pronouns (2)

	For s.m. nouns e.g. Father (ዐጥ)	For s.f. nouns e.g. Mother (ሀእሃ)	For plural nouns e.g. Books (ኧወወ)
	በ	ጥ	ዘ
Your (s.m.)	በዩከዐጥ Your father	ጥዩከሀእሃ Your mother	ዘዩከኧወወ Your books
Your (s.f.)	በዩዐጥ Your father	ጥዩሀእሃ Your mother	ዘዩኧወወ Your books
Your (pl.)	በዩጥዩዐጥ Your father	ጥዩጥዩሀእሃ Your mother	ዘዩጥዩኧወወ Your books

Practice with some words **Your (m) (f) (pl)**

Masculine	Feminine	Plural
ዐጥ God	ሀእሃ Sister	ሀእሃ Mothers
ወገ Bread	ኧወወ Power	ዐጥ Fathers
ፊዐር Lord	ሣዩዎ Daughter	ኧከዐጥ Brothers
ኧወወ Book	ባእከ City	ሀእሃ Sisters
ሀእሃ Brother		

The possessive Pronouns (3)

	For s.m. nouns e.g. Father (ዐጥ)	For s.f. nouns e.g. Mother (ሀእሃ)	For plural nouns e.g. Books (ኧወወ)
	በ	ጥ	ዘ
His	በዩከዐጥ His father	ጥዩከሀእሃ His mother	ዘዩከኧወወ His books
Her	በዩዐጥ Her father	ጥዩሀእሃ Her mother	ዘዩኧወወ Her books
Their	በዐሃዐጥ Their father	ጥዐሃሀእሃ Their mother	ዘዐሃኧወወ Their books

Practice with some words **His Her Their**

Masculine	Feminine	Plural
ዐጥ God	ሀእሃ Sister	ሀእሃ Mothers
ወገ Bread	ኧወወ Power	ዐጥ Fathers
ፊዐር Lord	ሣዩዎ Daughter	ኧከዐጥ Brothers
ኧወወ Book	ባእከ City	ሀእሃ Sisters
ሀእሃ Brother		

Present Tense

	1 st person	2 nd person	3 rd person
(s.m.)	†	κ̂(χ̂) you	ὅ̂ he
(s.f.)		τε you	ς̂ she
(pl)	τεν we	τετεν you	ce they

Negative of Present Tense

ἄν or ἢ...ἄν

The Verb **ὕληλ** (to pray) in the Present Tense

	1 st person	2 nd person	3 rd person
(s.m.)	†ὕληλ I pray	κ̂ὕληλ You pray	ὅ̂ὕληλ He prays
(s.f.)		τεὕληλ You pray	ς̂ὕληλ She prays
(pl)	τενὕληλ We pray	τετενὕληλ You pray	ceὕληλ They pray

Present Tense	Negative of the present Tense	
†ὕληλ I pray	†ὕληλ ἄν I do not pray	ἢ†ὕληλ ἄν I do not pray
ceὕληλ They pray	ceὕληλ ἄν They do not pray	ἢceὕληλ ἄν They do not pray

Practice the **present tense**
and the **negative of the present tense**
with these verbs

κωορν	to know	ζεωσι	to sit down
ωψ	to read	ζερδερ	to snore
ς̂δαι	to write	ορωψτ	to worship
†ωορ	to glorify	ναρ	to look at

ΔΕΝ ΦΡΑΝ ἈΦΙΩΤ

In the Name of the Father

ΝΕΥ ΠΩΗΡΙ

and the Son

ΝΕΥ ΠΙΠΝΕΥΜΑ ΕΘΟΥΑΒ

and the Holy Spirit

ΟΥΝΟΥΤ ἸΟΥΩΤ ἈΜΗΝ

One God Amen



ΧΕ ΠΕΝΙΩΤ ΕΤΔΕΝ ΝΙΦΗΟΥΤΙ

Our Father who art in Heaven

ἄΡΙΤΕΝ ἸΕΥΠΩΑ ἸΧΟΣ ΔΕΝ ΟΥΨΕΠΘΕΜΟΥΤ

Make us worthy to say thankfully

ΧΕ ΠΕΝΙΩΤ ΕΤΔΕΝ ΝΙΦΗΟΥΤΙ

Our father who art in heaven

ΜΑΡΕΥΤΟΥΒΟ ἸΧΕ ΠΕΚΡΑΝ

Hallowed be Thy name

ΜΑΡΕΣΙ ἸΧΕ ΤΕΚΜΕΤΟΥΡΟ

Thy kingdom come

ΠΕΤΕΘΝΑΚ ΜΑΡΕΥΩΠΙ

Thy will be done

ἈΦΡΗΤ ΔΕΝ ΤΦΕ ΝΕΥ ΘΙΧΕΝ ΠΙΚΑΘΙ

On earth as it is in heaven

ΠΕΝΩΙΚ ἸΤΕ ΡΑΣΤ ΜΗΙΥ ΝΑΝ ἈΦΟΥΤ

Give us this day our daily bread

ΟΥΘ ΧΑ ΝΗΕΤΕΡΟΝ ΝΑΝ ἘΒΟΛ

And forgive us our trespasses

ἈΦΡΗΤ ΘΩΝ ἸΤΕΝΧΩ ἘΒΟΛ

As we forgive

ἸΝΗΕΤΕ ΟΥΘΝ ἸΤΑΝ ἘΡΩΟΥΤ

those who trespass against us

ΟΥΘ ἈΠΕΡΕΝΤΕΝ ἘΘΟΥΝ ἘΠΙΡΑΣΜΟΣ

And lead us not into temptation

ΑΛΛΑ ΝΑΘΜΕΝ ἘΒΟΛΘΑ ΠΙΠΕΤΘΩΟΥΤ

But deliver us from the evil one

ΔΕΝ ΠΙΧΡΙΣΤΟΣ ΙΗΣΟΥΣ ΠΕΝΘΟΙΣ

In Christ Jesus our Lord

ΧΕ ΘΩΚ ΤΕ

For Thine is

ΤΜΕΤΟΥΡΟ ΝΕΥ ΤΧΟΥ ΝΕΥ ΠΙΩΟΥΤ

the kingdom, the power and the glory,

ΨΑ ἘΝΕΘ ἈΜΗΝ

forever, Amen

Hymns & Rituals



1. Good Friday 9th Hour Litanies Refrain

On the 9th Hour of Good Friday, the 9th Hour Litanies are chanted. They are the same litanies as those in the 9th Hour of the Agpeya (Book of Hours) Prayers. The refrain for the Litanies comes from the first litany in the 9th Hour of the Agpeya.

O You, who tasted death in the flesh in the ninth hour for our sake, we the sinners, kill our carnal lusts, O Christ, our God, and save us.

Ω ΦΗΕΤΑΡΧΕΥΤΠΙ ΑΨΜΟΥ ΔΕΝ
ΥΤΑΡΧ: ΑΨΝΑΥ ΝΑΣΠ ΨΙ†
ΕΘΒΗΤΕΝ: ΔΩΤΕΒ' ΝΕΝΛΟΣΙΜΟΣ
ΝΕΩΜΑΤΙΚΟΝ: Ω ΠΙΧΡΙΣΤΟΣ
ΠΕΝΝΟΥ† ΟΥΟΣ ΝΑΣΜΕΝ.



2. Psali Watos for Bright Saturday

The Psali Watos for Bright Saturday is chanted in the standard tune of the Watos Psalis. It is prayed during Matins of Bright Saturday before the Saturday Theotokia. It is followed by a melody in the same tune, with the same refrain at the end of each verse:

ΑΓΙΟΣ ΑΘΑΝΑΤΟΣ ΝΑΙ ΝΑΝ Holy immortal have mercy on us.

<p>The Lord has increased goodness for us so we became joyful. Let us say without ceasing: Holy immortal have mercy on us.</p>	<p>ΑΠΟC ΤΑΨΕ ΙΡΙ ΝΕΜΑΝ: ΑΝΨΩΠΙ ΝΟΥΝΟC ΰΜΟΝ: ΜΑΡΕΝΧΟC ΗΧΑΡΟC ΑΝ: ΑΓΙΟC ΑΘΑΝΑΤΟC ΝΑΙ ΝΑΝ.</p>
<p>You became man like us, O only-begotten God, without alteration or change. Holy immortal have mercy on us.</p>	<p>ΠΡΟΤΟC ΑΚΨΩΠΙ ΰΠΕΝΡΗΤ: ΩΠΙΜΟΝΟΥΣΕΝΗC ΗΝΟΥΤ: ΞΕΝ ΟΥΜΕΤΑΤΨΩΝΖ ΜΕΝ ΟΥΜΕΤΑΤΨΙΒΤ: ΑΓΙΟC ΑΘΑΝΑΤΟC ΝΑΙ ΝΑΝ.</p>
<p>You are Jesus Christ the Son of God the Word the Existent and Creator. Holy immortal have mercy on us.</p>	<p>ΣΕ ΓΑΡ ΗΘΟΚ ΠΕ ΙΗΣΟΥC ΧΡΙCΤΟC: ΠΩΗΡΙ ΰΨΤ ΠΙΛΟΥCΟC: ΑΙΔΙΟC ΗΔΙΜΙΟΥCΟC: ΑΓΙΟC ΑΘΑΝΑΤΟC ΝΑΙ ΝΑΝ.</p>
<p>O Master, the Philanthropic One, unto You is due glory and holiness, for You came and saved us. Holy immortal have mercy on us.</p>	<p>ΔΕCΠΟΤΑ ΦΥΛΑΝ ΘΡΟΠΟΝ: ΦΩΚ ΠΕ ΠΙΩΟΥ ΝΕΜ ΠΙΔΥΙΟΝ: ΧΕ ΑΚΙ ΑΚCΩΤ ΰΜΟΝ: ΑΓΙΟC ΑΘΑΝΑΤΟC ΝΑΙ ΝΑΝ.</p>
<p>You stood in front of Pilate to be judged, You the unlimited, for the salvation of the world. Holy immortal have mercy on us.</p>	<p>ΕΟΥΜΑΝΤΖΑΠ ΝΑΖΡΕΝ ΠΙΛΑΤΟC: ΑΚΨΑΝΟΖΙ ΠΙΑΧΩΡΙΤΟC: ΕΘΒΕ ΦΝΟΖΕΜ ΰΠΙΚΟCΜΟC: ΑΓΙΟC ΑΘΑΝΑΤΟC ΝΑΙ ΝΑΝ.</p>
<p>The Giver of Life, the Incomprehensible, suffered and was buried for the sake of Adam to raise him. Holy immortal have mercy on us.</p>	<p>ΖΩΗΦΟΡΟC ΗΑΤΨΤΑΖΟC: ΑΨΩΕΠ ΰΚΑΖ ΟΥΟΖ ΑΥΚΟCΨ: ΕΘΒΕ ΑΔΑΜ ΕΘΡΕΨ ΤΟΥΤΟΥΝΟCΨ: ΑΓΙΟC ΑΘΑΝΑΤΟC ΝΑΙ ΝΑΝ.</p>
<p>Through Your cross You granted us freedom and we gained the true life. Holy immortal have mercy on us.</p>	<p>ΗΠΠΕ ΓΑΡ ΖΙΤΕΝ ΠΕΚΨΤΑΥΡΟC: ΑΚΕΡΕΖΜΟΤ ΝΑΝ ΗΕΛΕΥΘΕΡΟC: ΑΝΒΙ ΰΠΙΩΝΞ ΗΑΛΗΘΙΝΟC: ΑΓΙΟC ΑΘΑΝΑΤΟC ΝΑΙ ΝΑΝ.</p>
<p>A pure and acceptable sacrifice, without blemish and immaculate; You lifted up Yourself, O Lamb. Holy immortal have mercy on us.</p>	<p>ΘΥCΙΑ ΕCΤΟΥΒΗΟΥΤ ΕCΨΗΠ: ΗΑΤΒΝΙ ΟΥΟΖ ΗΑΤΘΩΛΕΒ: ΑΚΩΛΨ ΕΨΨΩΙ ΩΠΙΖΗΒ: ΑΓΙΟC ΑΘΑΝΑΤΟC ΝΑΙ ΝΑΝ.</p>

<p>O Jesus Christ, the immortal, You abolished death by Your death and freed the whole world. Holy immortal have mercy on us.</p>	<p>ΙΗΣΟΥ ΧΡΙΣΤΟΥ ΑΪΜΩΤΟΥ: ΑΚΚΩΡΩΝ ΑΪΜΩΤΟΥ ΣΙΤΕΝ ΠΕΚΜΟΥ: ΑΚΕΡΡΕΜΕΝΟΝ ΑΪΜΩΤΟΝ ΤΗΡΟΥ: ΑΓΙΟΣ ΑΘΑΝΑΤΟΣ ΝΑΙ ΝΑΝ.</p>
<p>You trampled the devil's sting and the venomous serpent, and humiliated them with Your power. Holy immortal have mercy on us.</p>	<p>ΚΕ ΑΚΑΘΑΡΤΟΝ ΑΪΜΩΤΟΥ: ΑΪΜΩΤΟΝ ΑΚΑΘΑΡΤΟΝ ΑΪΜΩΤΟΥ: ΑΪΜΩΤΟΝ ΑΪΜΩΤΟΝ ΑΪΜΩΤΟΥ: ΑΓΙΟΣ ΑΘΑΝΑΤΟΣ ΝΑΙ ΝΑΝ.</p>
<p>Then You saved Your people Adam and Eve and their race from Hades full of sorrow. Holy immortal have mercy on us.</p>	<p>ΑΛΛΗΛΗΛΟΥΣ ΑΪΜΩΤΟΥ ΑΪΜΩΤΟΥ: ΑΛΛΗΛΗΛΟΥΣ ΑΪΜΩΤΟΥ ΑΪΜΩΤΟΥ: ΑΛΛΗΛΗΛΟΥΣ ΑΪΜΩΤΟΥ ΑΪΜΩΤΟΥ: ΑΓΙΟΣ ΑΘΑΝΑΤΟΣ ΝΑΙ ΝΑΝ.</p>
<p>Let us say with David the blessed: Arise O Lord. Why sleep? Holy immortal have mercy on us.</p>	<p>ΑΪΜΩΤΟΝ ΑΪΜΩΤΟΥ ΑΪΜΩΤΟΥ: ΑΪΜΩΤΟΝ ΑΪΜΩΤΟΥ ΑΪΜΩΤΟΥ: ΑΪΜΩΤΟΝ ΑΪΜΩΤΟΥ ΑΪΜΩΤΟΥ: ΑΓΙΟΣ ΑΘΑΝΑΤΟΣ ΝΑΙ ΝΑΝ.</p>
<p>Who is like You among the gods? You are the God of gods. We praise You in various ways. Holy immortal have mercy on us.</p>	<p>ΑΪΜΩΤΟΝ ΑΪΜΩΤΟΥ ΑΪΜΩΤΟΥ: ΑΪΜΩΤΟΝ ΑΪΜΩΤΟΥ ΑΪΜΩΤΟΥ: ΑΪΜΩΤΟΝ ΑΪΜΩΤΟΥ ΑΪΜΩΤΟΥ: ΑΓΙΟΣ ΑΘΑΝΑΤΟΣ ΝΑΙ ΝΑΝ.</p>
<p>Blessed are You O Christ the crucified, for You turned our sadness to joy and freed us from the bitter slavery. Holy immortal have mercy on us.</p>	<p>ΑΪΜΩΤΟΝ ΑΪΜΩΤΟΥ ΑΪΜΩΤΟΥ: ΑΪΜΩΤΟΝ ΑΪΜΩΤΟΥ ΑΪΜΩΤΟΥ: ΑΪΜΩΤΟΝ ΑΪΜΩΤΟΥ ΑΪΜΩΤΟΥ: ΑΓΙΟΣ ΑΘΑΝΑΤΟΣ ΝΑΙ ΝΑΝ.</p>
<p>You had compassion on our weakness, we sinners as a Good and Philanthropic One. Holy immortal have mercy on us.</p>	<p>ΑΪΜΩΤΟΝ ΑΪΜΩΤΟΥ ΑΪΜΩΤΟΥ: ΑΪΜΩΤΟΝ ΑΪΜΩΤΟΥ ΑΪΜΩΤΟΥ: ΑΪΜΩΤΟΝ ΑΪΜΩΤΟΥ ΑΪΜΩΤΟΥ: ΑΓΙΟΣ ΑΘΑΝΑΤΟΣ ΝΑΙ ΝΑΝ.</p>
<p>The Lord said: now I will rise and openly save My creation. Holy immortal have mercy on us.</p>	<p>ΑΪΜΩΤΟΝ ΑΪΜΩΤΟΥ ΑΪΜΩΤΟΥ: ΑΪΜΩΤΟΝ ΑΪΜΩΤΟΥ ΑΪΜΩΤΟΥ: ΑΪΜΩΤΟΝ ΑΪΜΩΤΟΥ ΑΪΜΩΤΟΥ: ΑΓΙΟΣ ΑΘΑΝΑΤΟΣ ΝΑΙ ΝΑΝ.</p>

Group Hymn

3. The Hymn of the Censer (Ύαιψοῦρη) for Good Friday

On the 6th Hour of Good Friday, the hymn of the censer – Ύαιψοῦρη – is chanted in the Paschal tune. It follows the Paschal Praise (Θωκ τε ἴχου) and is followed by the hymn of the cross (Φαί ἐταφενφ) and the Pauline Epistle (Ύεπιστολη). Then the 6th Hour Litanies are chanted followed by the hymn Ομοουσενης and the Trisagion. Then the Psalm is chanted followed by the four Gospel readings and the exposition. Then the Daytime Litanies conclude the hour and the Confession of the Thief begins.

This censer of pure gold, bearing the aroma, is in the hands of Aaron the priest, offering up incense upon the altar.

Ύαιψοῦρη ἠνοῦβ ἠκαθαροσ
εἴφαι ψα πἰὰρωμαῦτα εἴψεν
νενηχιζ ἠδάρων πιοῦηβ
εἴφαιλε οῦςθοινοῦφι ἐπῶφι
ἐχεν πιμαῆερῶοῦφι.





Visit the St. Mark Festival's website at

www.smfsus.org

to find the material for the festival
and for guidelines
and information on the tests

THE SON OF MAN IS COMING AT AN HOUR YOU DO NOT EXPECT