

Grade 3-4

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HIS HOLINESS POPE TAWADROS II



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



We Are More Than Conquerors Through Him Who Loved Us

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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



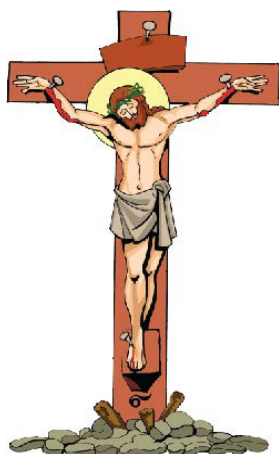
We Are More Than Conquerors Through Him Who Loved Us

St. Mark Festival 2026 Anthem

(The Cross is our salvation, a harbor in the raging sea
The sign of love that reconciled heaven and earth eternally) x2

God showed His justice and grace
And gave us His victory
In the middle of the storm,
The Cross lets us live peacefully

(The Cross is a doctrine of our Church
Passed down through her history
In her prayers and her rites
On the Cross God showed His mercy) x2



Through it prophecies were fulfilled
God loved us endlessly
He redeemed us on the Cross
Now we live eternally

("We are more than conquerors
through Him who loved us") x2



The Cross is God's Eternal Plan

The Bronze Serpent (Numbers 21:4-9)

Learning about the symbols of the Cross in the Old Testament shows us that the Cross is part of God's eternal plan.

God had a plan to save us even before our Lord Jesus Christ came to earth. In the Old Testament, God gave us special symbols to help us understand His plan. These symbols help us learn about the Cross.

God loves mankind. He created man after preparing all creation for him. God distinguished man from all other creatures in the way He created him. He breathed into him the breath of life and created him in His image.

God gave man free will and commanded Adam, saying:

“Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.” (Genesis 2:16–17)

God could have prevented Adam from eating from the tree. However, God created Adam with free will and allowed him to choose. Sadly, Adam and Eve sinned.



They did not obey God's word and broke His commandment. They listened to the serpent and ate from the tree.

Adam and Eve sinned, and through their disobedience, sin entered the world and spread to all humanity.

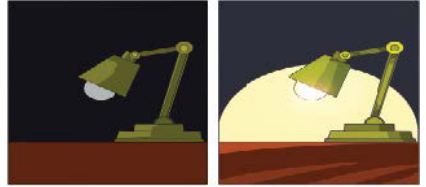
“...thus death spread to all men, because all sinned” (Romans 5:12)

The Punishment for Sin:

- **Death and Separation from God:** Adam and Eve, and all people after them, were separated from God and were sentenced to death.

God is the source of life, and without Him we cannot live, just like a lamp cannot shine without electricity.

- **Corrupted Nature:** Human nature became corrupted because of sin.
- **Sent out of Paradise:** They were sent out of the Garden of Eden (Paradise).



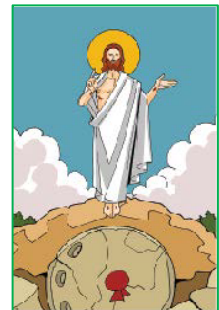
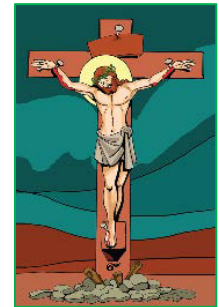
How Can We Regain the Life We Lost Because of Sin?

1. The sentence of death must be lifted
2. Our corrupted nature must be renewed

God loves us so much that He promised salvation, that He Himself would come and redeem us.

The Lord Jesus Christ was incarnate, crucified, and died on the Cross for us. By His death, the Lord Jesus Christ gave us life again.

On the third day, the Lord Jesus Christ rose from the dead by the power of His divinity and conquered death. By His Resurrection, He gave us eternal life and renewed our nature, which had been corrupted by sin.



For us to receive this salvation, we must:

- **Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ as our Savior.**
- **Receive the Sacrament of Baptism and the Holy Myron.**
- **Practice the Sacrament of Repentance and Confession.** When we sin, we must repent and confess, showing that we accept God's forgiveness.
- **Partake of the Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist,** receiving the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- **Do good deeds** that follow our Lord Jesus Christ's teachings.

God's Plan for Salvation:

- God's plan for our salvation has always existed. It is an eternal plan.
- In the Old Testament, God began to prepare our understanding of this plan through many symbols.
- One of the symbols in the Old Testament was **the bronze serpent**. It was a symbol of the Cross of our Lord Jesus Christ.



The Bronze Serpent (Numbers 21:4-9)

God brought the people of Israel out of the land of Egypt, led by Moses the Prophet. They were very happy because God saved them from the slavery of Pharaoh.

As they journeyed through the wilderness toward the land of Canaan, God cared for them the entire time. Yet, despite His love and care, they often complained against God and against Moses.

At one point, they complained about food, and God sent them manna and quail (birds). Manna looked like coriander seeds, white in color, and tasted like wafers with honey.



Later, they complained again because they were thirsty. God showed patience with them and brought water out of the rock for them. (Numbers 20:1–13)

But when they continued in their disobedience, God allowed fiery serpents to bite them, and many died.

Because God is merciful, when the people repented, confessed their sins, and asked Moses to pray for them, God immediately responded.

The Lord commanded Moses to make a bronze serpent and lift it up on a pole. Anyone who was bitten and looked at the bronze serpent would live and be saved from the poison.



Similarities Between the Cross and the Bronze Serpent:

- **Lifted up high:** Just as Moses lifted the serpent on a pole, our Lord Jesus Christ was lifted up on the Cross.

“And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up.” (John 3:14)

- **Gives life:** Those bitten by serpents were dying, but those who looked at the bronze serpent were healed. Likewise, we were under the sentence of death because of sin, but whoever believes in the Lord Jesus Christ receives eternal life.

“That whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.” (John 3:15)

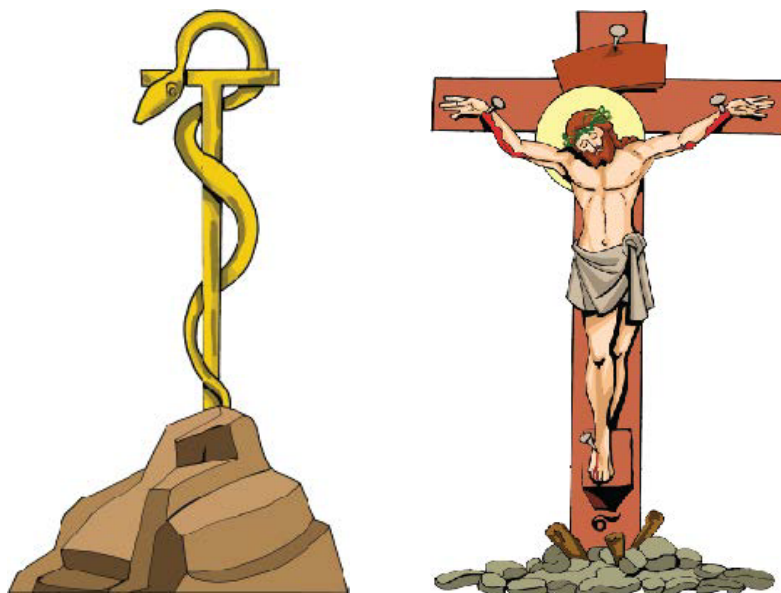
- **Man cannot save himself:** The people of Israel could not heal themselves, so God provided a way to save them from the serpent’s poison.

In the same way, we cannot save ourselves, so God made a plan to save us, removing the sentence of death and renewing our corrupted nature.

“Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.” (Acts 4:12)

- **Without poison (without sin):** The bronze serpent had the form of the serpent but no poison. Likewise, our Lord Jesus Christ took our human nature and became like us in everything, yet without sin.

“For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.” (2 Corinthians 5:21)





The Bronze Serpent

Match the Similarities



Bronze Serpent

Snake bites

Healing

Salvation

The Cross

Sin

True or False:

1. The people could heal themselves.
2. God gave them a way to be saved.
3. Looking at the serpent did nothing.
4. The Lord Jesus Christ was lifted up on the Cross.

True or False

True or False

True or False

True or False

Circle the Correct Answer:

1. The Israelites were bitten by:

Snakes

Dogs

Birds



2. God told Moses to make a:

Cross

Bronze Serpent

Crown



3. The serpent was lifted on a:

Mountain

Pole

House



Complete the verse:

“And as _____
 lifted _____ the
 _____ in the wilderness,
 even so must the _____
 of Man be _____ up.”

(John 3:14)



The Cross in the Liturgy

The Cross in the Church

The Processions of the Cross

We learn how the Cross is an essential part of the rites of our Church.

The Processions of the Cross

Our Lord Jesus Christ is a God of order. That is why our Coptic Church prayers are organized in a specific way, which we call rites. Church rites help us understand, live, and participate in all Church feasts and occasions.

Processions in the church include everyone: priests, deacons, and the congregation. All participate in the rites. The deacons use cymbals and triangles while praising and circling the church, and the congregation chants hymns.



The Processions of the Feast of the Cross and Palm Sunday

The processions for the **2 Feasts of the Cross** and for **Palm Sunday** are similar.

The deacons carry a cross decorated with flowers (for the Feast of the Cross) or with olive branches, palm branches, and flowers (for Palm Sunday), while the priest carries the censer as they make a procession around the church.

12 Psalms and Gospels are read at **12 locations** throughout the church. Each reading is connected to a specific icon (a saint, an angel, or an event), and each one has a clear connection to the Cross.

After each reading, the congregation chants the Gospel Response.

- **The Feast of the Cross Gospel Response:**
“Through His Cross/ and His holy Resurrection/
He restored man once again/ to the paradise.”
- **The Palm Sunday Gospel Response:**
“Hosanna in the highest/ this is the King of Israel/
Blessed is He who comes in the name/ of the Lord of hosts”.



Hosanna means ‘save us’. The people said this as they welcomed our Lord Jesus Christ into Jerusalem, holding palm branches.

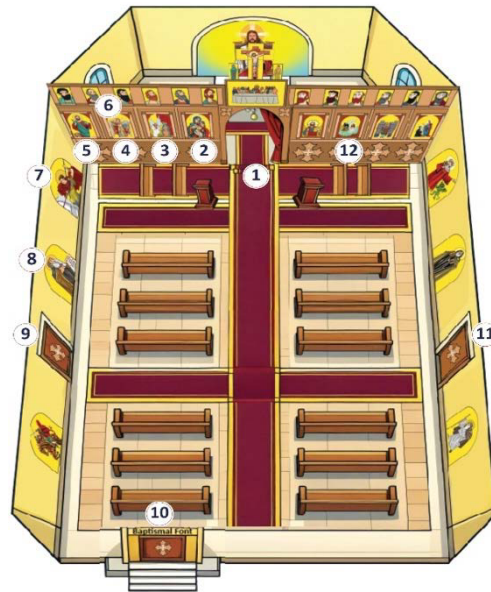
First Gospel: Before the Main Sanctuary:

The sanctuary is a symbol of heaven filled with angels serving God. We celebrate the Cross of our Lord Jesus Christ before the main sanctuary door.

Gospel Response:

The Gospel Response tells us about the Four Living Creatures that carry the throne of God.

“The four incorporeal creatures/
who carry the chariot of the Lord/
a face of a lion, a face of an ox/
a face of a man and a face of an eagle.”



Second Gospel: Before the Icon of St. Mary:

Through the incarnation of our Lord Jesus Christ from the Virgin St. Mary, we received salvation.

Gospel Response:

“We exalt you worthily/ with Elizabeth your cousin/
saying, “Blessed are you among women/
blessed is the fruit of your womb.”

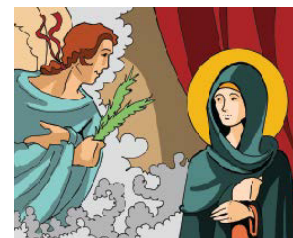


Third Gospel: Before the Icon of Archangel Gabriel (the Announcer):

Archangel Gabriel is the angel who announced the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ to the Virgin Mary.

Gospel Response:

“Gabriel the angel/ Daniel saw/
standing on his feet/ by the riverbank.”



Fourth Gospel: Before the Icon of Archangel Michael:

Archangel Michael is the angel who came to the tomb of our Lord Jesus Christ and rolled away the stone. He is also called the Angel of the Resurrection.

Gospel Response:

“Michael, the head of the heavenly/ he is the first/
among the angelic ranks/ serving before the Lord.”



Fifth Gospel: Before the Icon of St. Mark the Apostle:

St. Mark is called **'The Preacher of Egypt'**. He is one of the 70 apostles chosen by our Lord Jesus Christ to preach the Gospel.

Gospel Response:

"O Mark the Apostle/ and the Evangelist/
the witness to the Passion/ of the Only-Begotten God."



Sixth Gospel: Before the Icon of the Apostles:

The disciples preached the name of our Lord Jesus Christ throughout the whole world. They were given authority to heal the sick and cast out demons. They suffered greatly to spread the faith.

Gospel Response:

"Jesus Christ sent you/ O twelve Apostles/
to preach in the nations/ making them Christians."



Seventh Gospel: Before the Icon of St. George the Prince of Martyr

The martyrs loved our Lord Jesus Christ, and they confessed their faith before pagan kings. They were persecuted and martyred.

Gospel Response:

"St. George completed/ seven whole years/
being judged daily/ by seventy lawless kings."

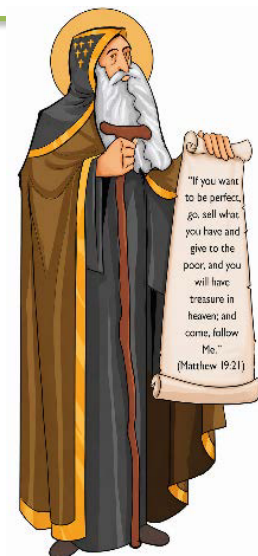


Eighth Gospel: Before the Icon of St. Anthony (or any saint):

St. Anthony represents the saints who were not martyred. He left everything that is of this world and gave his life to the Lord Jesus Christ. He is known as the **'Father of Monks'**.

Gospel Response:

"Purge from your hearts/ thoughts of vice/
and deceiving ideas/ that darken the mind."



Ninth Gospel: Before the Northern Door:

The Psalm and Gospel declare our joy in entering the house of the Lord.

Gospel Response:

“When You come in Your second/ fearful appearance/
do not let us fearfully hear/ ‘I do not know you.’”



Tenth Gospel: Before the Baptismal Font:

The Gospel reading is about the baptism of our Lord Jesus Christ. Through baptism, we become Christians and are moved from darkness to light.

Gospel Response:

“John has borne witness/ in the four Gospels/
saying: I have baptized my Savior/ in the waters of the Jordan.”



Eleventh Gospel: Before the Southern Door:

We read the Gospel of Palm Sunday. On this day, our Lord Jesus Christ entered Jerusalem, and through the Cross, He opened the gate of heaven for us.

Gospel Response:

“He who sits upon the Cherubim/ on the throne of His glory/
entered into Jerusalem/ what is this great humility?”



Twelfth Gospel: Before the Icon of St. John the Baptist:

St. John prophesied about the Cross.

“Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.” (John 1:29)

Gospel Response:

“Among those born of women/ no one is like you/
You are great among all the saints/ O John the Baptist.”



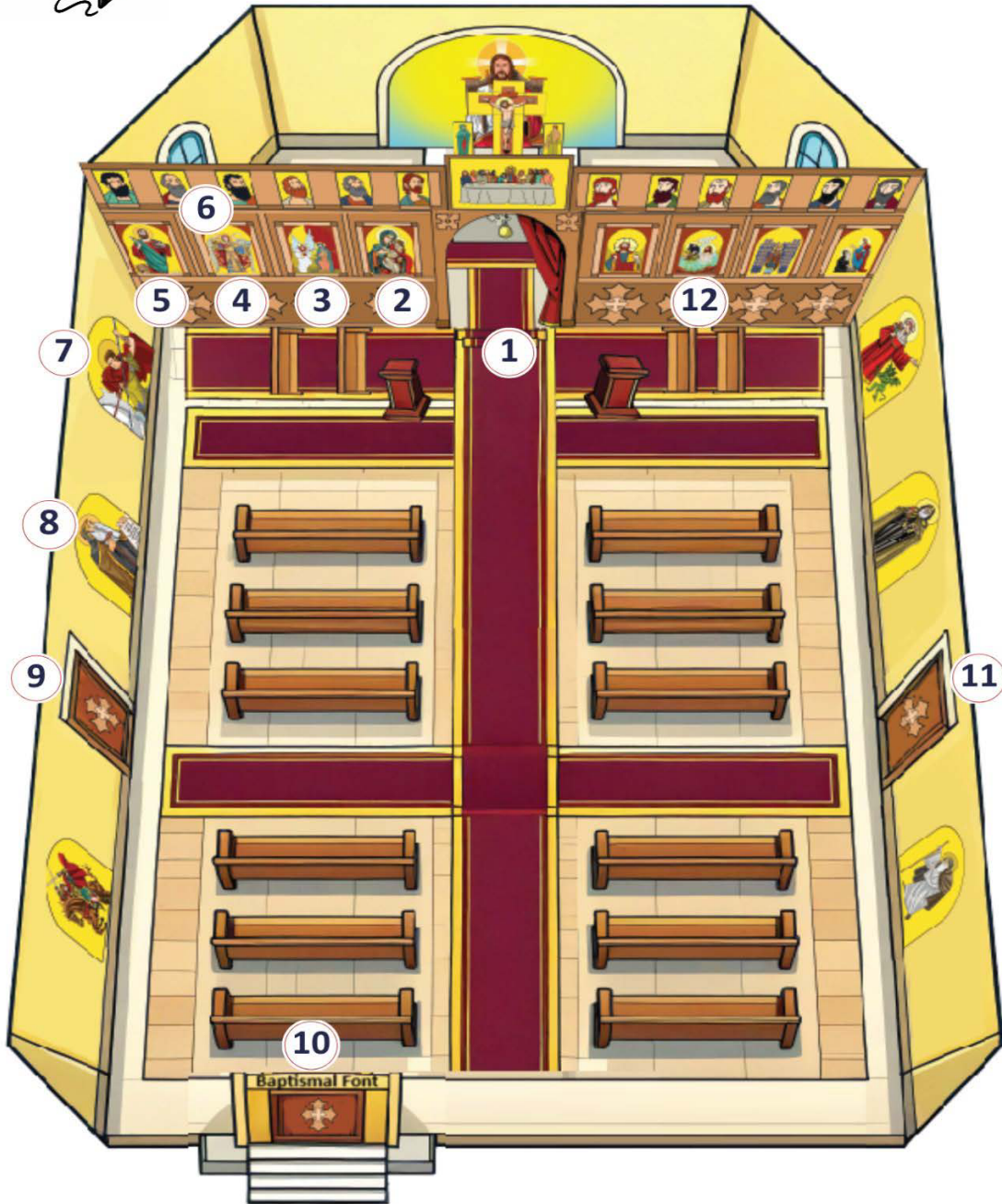
**Through the Procession of the Cross, we are reminded that
the Cross is at the center of our lives.**

**The Church teaches us to live in Christ, walk with Him,
and look forward to eternal life with Him.**

**“Then Jesus said to His disciples, ‘If anyone desires to come after Me,
let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me.’”
(Matthew 16:24)**

Activity

The Procession of the Cross



Write down the icon or place where each Gospel is read.

- | | | |
|----------|----------|-----------|
| 1. _____ | 5. _____ | 9. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 6. _____ | 10. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 7. _____ | 11. _____ |
| 4. _____ | 8. _____ | 12. _____ |

Humanity is Saved Through the Cross

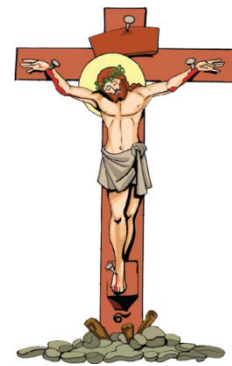
The Lord Jesus Christ Died on the Cross to Save Us

Learning about God's plan for our salvation helps us understand how the Cross saved us.

Why the Cross?

Why did our Lord Jesus Christ choose the cross, even though it was a painful punishment used for criminals and a symbol of shame?

The Lord Jesus Christ chose to offer Himself willingly as a sacrifice and to die on the Cross, because **“without shedding of blood there is no remission.”** (Hebrews 9:22)



But Why Specifically the Cross?

1. The Cross Was Lifted Up for All to See

The Lord Jesus Christ chose the Cross so that His sacrifice would take place in a high, visible, and public setting before a large crowd. Everyone present could clearly see Him: His hands and feet pierced with nails, the crown of thorns on His head, and His side pierced by the soldier.



Because of this, all who witnessed the Lord Jesus Christ on the Cross were certain of the following:

- The One who was crucified was truly our Lord Jesus Christ Himself, not someone else or another person who looked like Him.
- After the Resurrection, when they saw the marks of the nails and His pierced side, they were certain that He who rose from the dead was the same One who had been crucified and buried.

**Through the Cross, our Lord Jesus Christ showed His perfect love,
completed our salvation,
and opened for us the way to eternal life.**

2. The Cross Is a Sign

It was necessary for our Lord Jesus Christ to have a sign, the sign of the Son of Man.

The Cross is a sign we can easily make and hold to remind us that the Lord Jesus Christ saved us through the Cross.

The Cross also points to the four directions: north, south, east, and west, showing that salvation is for the whole world.

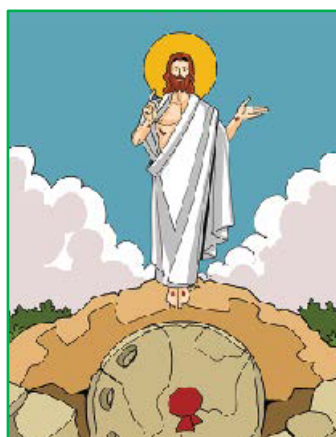
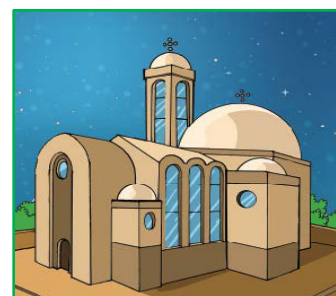


3. On the Cross, No Bone Was Broken

The Lord Jesus Christ wanted His body to remain whole, without any of His bones being broken.

His body represents the Church, and He desires the Church to be complete, united, and not divided.

The Lord Jesus Christ chose to die in a way that kept His body whole, showing the unity between the Lord Jesus Christ and His Church.

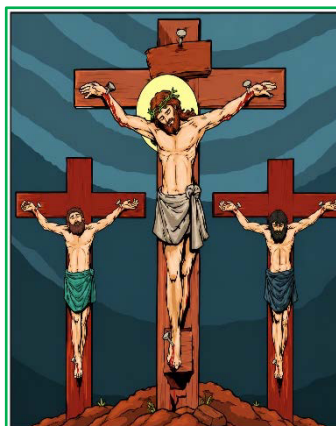


4. The Cross Is Shameful and Painful

The Cross was one of the most painful and shameful forms of punishment.

Our Lord Jesus Christ willingly chose to be crucified to show how serious sin is and how great His love for us is. The shame of the Cross reveals how much He humbled Himself for us.

Through His suffering, He took upon Himself our sins and removed the shame that separated us from God.



Why the Cross Was Necessary

• Sin Is a Disgrace

Sin is shameful before God. Although God loves the sinner, He hates sin and evil. **“For You are not a God who takes pleasure in wickedness, nor shall evil dwell with You.” (Psalm 5:4)**

Because of His great love for humanity, God did not leave mankind to die in sin. He did not create another human being and leave Adam to die in his sin forever. Yet, because He is just and holy, He could not simply overlook sin or forgive without justice being fulfilled.

Therefore, from the beginning, God gave a promise: **“And I will put enmity between you and the woman... He shall bruise your head.” (Genesis 3:15)**



• God’s Incarnation and Sacrifice

Our Lord Jesus Christ became man to save us. **“And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us.” (John 1:14)**

He took upon Himself our sins and died for us to remove the sentence of death. **“Who Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree.” (1 Peter 2:24)**

He carried the shame and pain that we deserved, out of His great love for us. **“But He was wounded for our transgressions... and by His stripes we are healed.” (Isaiah 53:5)**



Why the Cross?

Our Lord Jesus Christ chose crucifixion because it was one of the most painful and shameful forms of punishment. **“He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross.” (Philippians 2:8)**

Through this, we understand that:

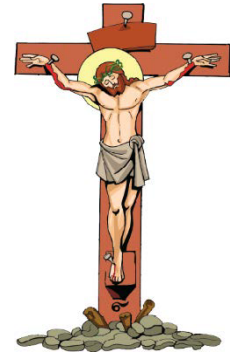
- God is holy and cannot accept sin.
- God deeply loves mankind.
- Christ willingly endured suffering to save us.

The Cross, once a symbol of shame, has become a sign of victory and glory.

As it is written: “But God forbid that I should boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ” (Galatians 6:14)



The Cross



1. The Lord Jesus Christ chose to die on the:
a. throne b. Cross c. bed
2. The Cross shows God's:
a. love b. anger c. weakness
3. The Cross is a:
a. sign b. toy c. game
4. The Cross shows salvation is for:
a. small cities only b. half of the world c. the whole world
5. The Cross was:
a. painful b. easy c. fun
6. The Lord Jesus Christ chose the Cross:
a. by force b. willingly c. by accident
7. The Lord Jesus Christ's body on the Cross was:
a. broken b. lost c. remained whole
8. The Lord Jesus Christ was lifted up on the Cross so:
a. no one could see Him
b. everyone could see Him
c. He could hide
9. The Cross shows how much the Lord Jesus Christ:
a. Forgot us b. loves us c. ignores us
10. Fill in the blank: **"But God forbid that I should boast except in the _____ of our Lord Jesus Christ" (Galatians 6:14)**

The Saints Lived the Cross with Spirituality

St. Anthony the Great

The Father of the Monks

Synaxarion of the 22nd day of the Coptic month of Tobe (January 30)

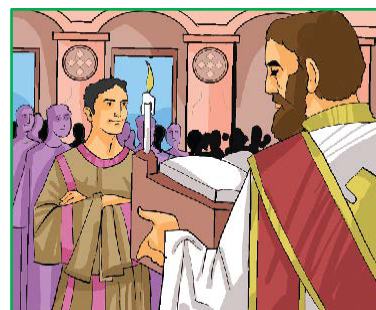
The saints loved the Cross and lived by it every day. Learning about St. Anthony the Great shows us how the saints honored and loved the Cross.

St. Anthony was born in the year 251 in the city of Beni Suef in Egypt. His family was very rich, but they loved helping the poor. They taught him and his sister to love God. When his parents departed, they left him and his sister valuable land and a lot of money.

At that time, St. Anthony was only 18 years old. He saw the departure of his parents as a message from God to always be prepared to meet the Lord Jesus Christ.

One day, God sent him another message. While attending the Liturgy, he heard this verse in the Gospel reading:

“If you want to be perfect, go, sell what you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me.” (Matthew 19:21)



St. Anthony felt that this was a message from God to him. He sold all his land and possessions and gave the money to the poor. He kept some of the money for his sister and took her to a house of virgins (a convent) to live there.



Then, he left to live alone with God. At first, he lived in a small hut near the Nile River. He learned many virtues from a group of ascetics. He learned to be gentle, humble, silent, and to always pray. He tried to learn a good virtue from each person he met.

One day, a woman went down to the river to wash. When St. Anthony saw her, he blamed her. But the woman told him that if he was a monk, he should live in the inner wilderness, because this place was not suitable for monks. St. Anthony saw this as another message from God. He left immediately and went to the inner wilderness to live in prayer and fasting.



St. Anthony had many spiritual battles with the devil, but he had strong spiritual weapons to overcome them. **His weapons were prayer, fasting, reading the Word of God, and making the sign of the Cross.**

One day, he felt bored. He prayed to the Lord Jesus Christ for help. God sent him an angel to show him how to overcome boredom. The angel appeared to St. Anthony as a man wearing a long garment, a leather belt with crosses, and a head covering with crosses. The angel sat and wove palm leaves, then stood up to pray, then returned to weaving, repeating this again and again. Finally, the angel told him to do the same, and he would not feel bored.

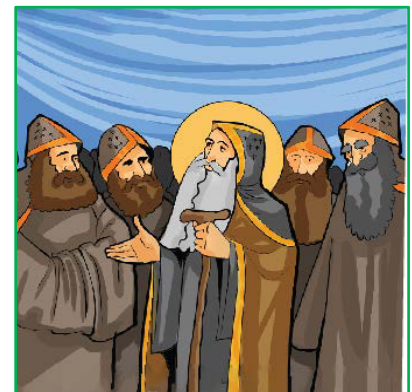


St. Anthony continued to do what the angel showed him. The clothes of the angel became the garments of monks, and weaving became their work even until this day.



Monks and ascetics are called **cross-bearers** because they rely on the Cross as a source of comfort, strength, victory, and a way of life. **They live the Cross through patience, endurance, and long-suffering.**

Many people gathered around St. Anthony to learn from his life and teachings, and they became his disciples.

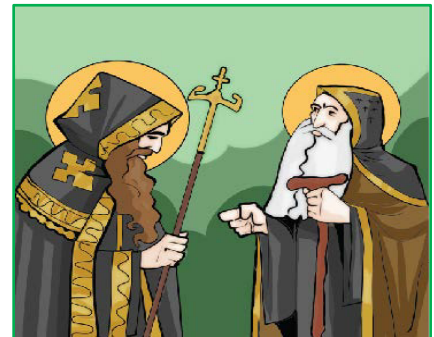


St. Anthony also had an important role in defending the faith. He left the wilderness twice and went to Alexandria.

The first time was during the time of Emperor Maximinus, when there was a great persecution against Christians. St. Anthony visited the prisoners to encourage and strengthen the believers, then he returned to his cave.



The second time was when a man named Arius tried to change the true faith of our Church. He claimed that our Lord Jesus Christ is not equal with the Father and is not eternal.



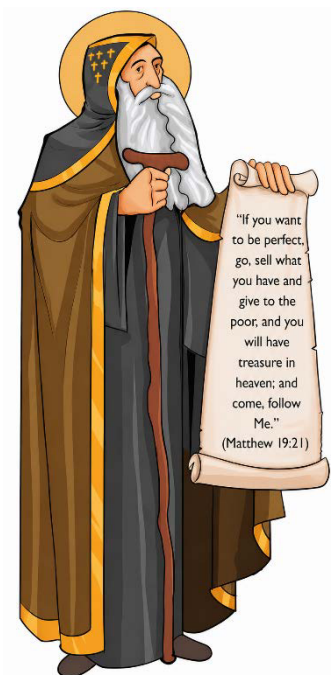
St. Anthony supported Pope Athanasius to defend the true faith, then he returned to his cave.



One day, St. Anthony thought he was the first person to live in the wilderness. But God guided him to another great saint who was already living there. This saint was **St. Paul, the First Hermit**. He went to meet him, learned from him, and later buried him when he departed to heaven.

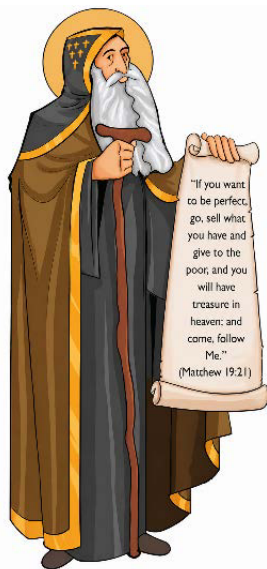
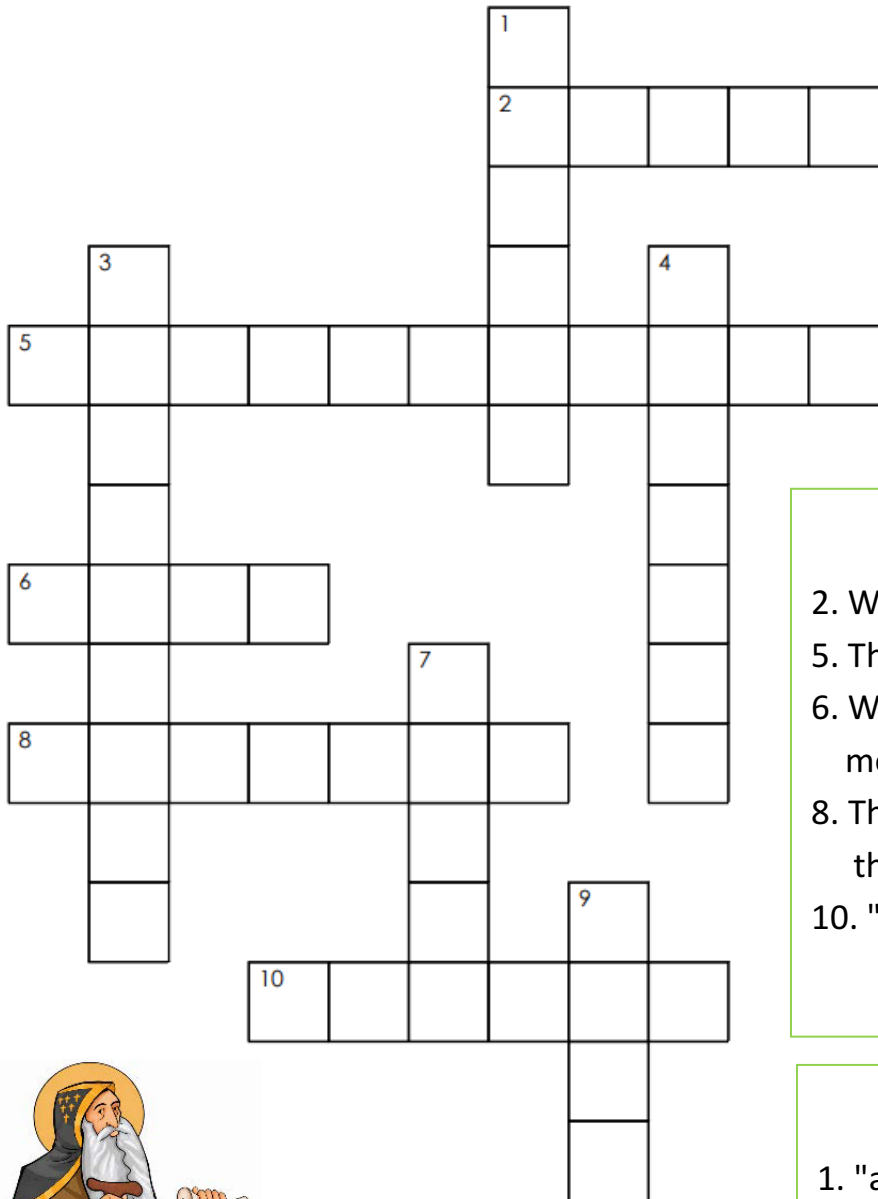
St. Anthony lived as a monk for more than 80 years. He established the first monastic system in the world, and many disciples learned from his teachings. For this reason, he is called the **Father of Monks**.

He lived for about 105 years, then departed to be with our Lord Jesus Christ on the 22nd day of the Coptic Month of Tobe (January 30). May his prayers be with us all. Amen.



Activity

St. Anthony the Great Father of Monks



Across: →

2. Where was St. Anthony born?
5. They rely on the Cross.
6. Who did St. Anthony give his money to?
8. The angel taught St. Anthony this work.
10. "and come, _____ Me."

Down: ↓

1. "and you will have treasure in _____."
3. St. Anthony visited them to strengthen the believers.
4. The garments of the angel had _____.
7. Appeared to St. Anthony.
9. St. Anthony lived as a _____ for 80 years.

The Cross Leads Me to Eternal Life

St. John the Beloved

Synaxarion of the 4th day of the Coptic Month of Tobe (January 12)

Learning about the life of St. John the Beloved teaches us to stay close to the Lord Jesus Christ and to be a light to the world.

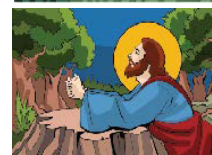
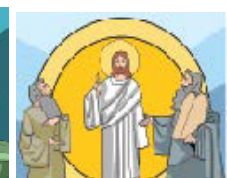
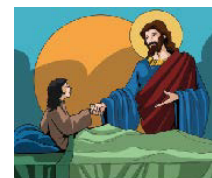
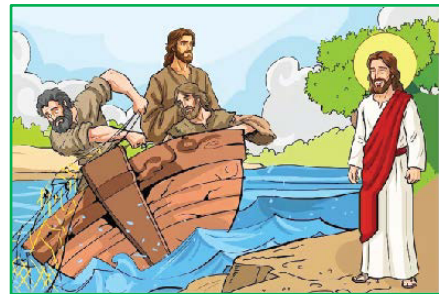
St. John was the son of a fisherman named Zebedee. He had a brother named James, and both of them were fishermen. His mother was a virtuous woman who followed and served our Lord Jesus Christ. (Matthew 4:21–22)

St. John was one of the disciples of St. John the Baptist, and he heard him confess that Christ is the Son of God. (John 1:35–36, 40)

One day, while St. John and his brother St. James were fishing, our Lord Jesus Christ passed by and called them. From that moment, they left everything and followed Him. They were among the first of the 12 disciples who followed the Lord Jesus Christ. (Matthew 4:21–22)

St. John followed the Lord Jesus Christ's teachings and witnessed many of His miracles. Some of these miracles were witnessed by only 3 disciples: St. Peter, St. John, and St. James his brother. These included:

- The raising of Jairus' daughter (Mark 5:37–42)
- The Transfiguration (Matthew 17:1–2)
- The prayer of our Lord Jesus Christ in Gethsemane (Matthew 26:36–37)



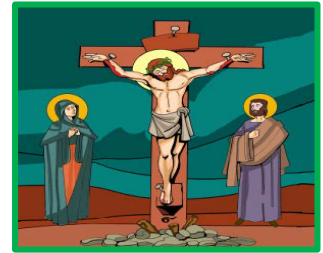
In the Holy Bible, St. John the Beloved wrote:

- The Gospel of St. John
- 3 Epistles (1, 2, and 3 John)
- The Book of Revelation

St. John stayed close to our Lord Jesus Christ, especially when others left Him:

1. During the trial and crucifixion of our Lord Jesus Christ:

When the Lord Jesus Christ was crucified, many fled, but St. John remained near the Cross. The Lord Jesus Christ spoke to him and to His mother, St. Mary, saying, **“Behold your mother.”** (John 19:27) From that time, St. John took St. Mary into his home, and she lived with him.



2. At the tomb:

On the morning of the Resurrection, St. John went very early to the tomb with St. Peter. He ran ahead and saw the linen cloths lying there, yet he did not enter at first.



3. At the Sea of Tiberias:

St. John was the only disciple who recognized our Lord Jesus Christ when He appeared to them by the Sea of Tiberias.



After the Ascension of our Lord Jesus Christ, the disciples and apostles began preaching to the people and telling them about Him. St. John preached in Jerusalem and the surrounding areas.

- He preached with St. Peter after the miracle of healing the lame man at the gate of the Temple.
- He went with St. Peter to the city of Samaria, where they laid their hands on the people so they might receive the Holy Spirit.
- He also preached before the Sanhedrin.

St. John traveled from Jerusalem to Asia Minor and lived in Ephesus. He preached in many cities, and many people believed and were baptized. He ordained bishops and priests to continue teaching the faith.

“For I received from the Lord that which I also delivered to you.”

(1 Corinthians 11:23)

During his preaching, he faced many difficulties and persecutions. He was arrested and tortured, and he was exiled to the island of Patmos, where he wrote the Book of Revelation (around the year 95 A.D.).



St. John's Love Brings a Sinner Back to the Lord Jesus Christ

St. John loved sinners and always sought their return to our Lord Jesus Christ, as seen in the story of the young man who became a leader of thieves.

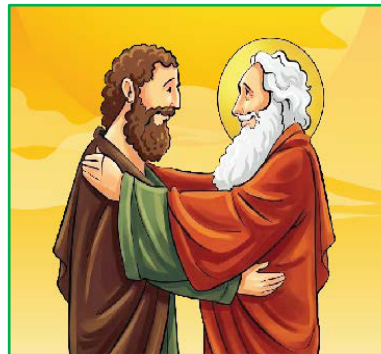
There was a young man who did not believe in the Lord Jesus Christ. St. John preached to him, and the young man believed and repented. St. John entrusted him to the bishop of the city and asked him to care for him.



After some time, the young man returned to sin and became the leader of thieves. When St. John returned, he asked the bishop about him, and the bishop told him everything that had happened.



St. John was deeply saddened and began searching for the young man. Despite his old age, he rode on a donkey to the mountains where the young man lived. The thieves caught him and brought him to their leader, who was that same young man.



When the young man saw St. John, he recognized him and ran away in shame. But St. John ran after him, even in his old age, and called out to him with love, asking him to stop and return.

The young man stopped, spoke with St. John, and repented of his sins.



This story teaches us how much St. John loved sinners and never gave up on them.

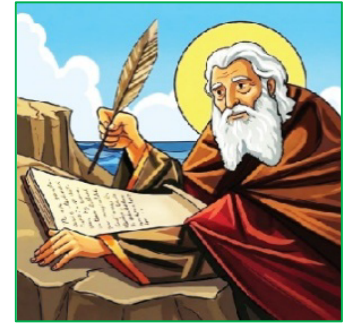
It also shows us that through repentance, the Cross leads us back to Christ and to eternal life.

God always accepts those who return to Him with a sincere heart.

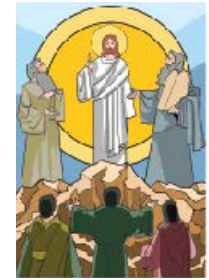


St. John the Beloved

Fill in the blanks
using the word bank below.



1. St. John was the son of a fisherman named _____.
2. His brother's name was _____.
3. St. John and his brother were _____ by profession.
4. St. John was first a disciple of St. John the _____.
5. When the Lord Jesus Christ called them, they _____ everything and followed Him.
6. One miracle they saw was the raising of _____' daughter.
7. Another event they witnessed was the _____.
8. They also saw the Lord praying in the Garden of _____.
9. The 3 disciples who witnessed these miracles were
St. _____, St. _____, and his _____ St. James.
10. St. John loved _____ and always wanted them to return to our
Lord Jesus Christ.
11. The young man _____ in the Lord Jesus Christ after St. John
preached to him.
12. The young man later returned to _____ and became the leader of thieves.
13. Even in his old age, St. John rode on a _____ to search for the young man.
14. St. John searched for the young man in the _____.
15. When St. John called him with love, the young man _____ of his sins.



repented

Jairus

left

John

Peter

donkey

sin

Zebedee

James

Transfiguration

sinners

Gethsemane

Baptist

believed

mountains

fishermen

brother

Memorization

1. "Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us." (Romans 8:37)

2. Psalm 125 of the Eleventh Hour of the Agpeya (Vespers)

When the Lord brought back the captivity of Zion,
we became as those who were comforted.

Then our mouth was filled with joy,
and our tongue with exultation.

Then they shall say among the Gentiles,
"The Lord has done great things among them."

The Lord has done great things for us,
we became joyful.

O Lord, You shall bring back our captivity,
as the streams in the south.

Those who sow in tears shall reap in joy.
They went on and wept as they were carrying their seeds,
but they shall surely come with exultation,
carrying their sheaves.

ALLELUIA.



Coptic



Our Lord spent about 4 years in Egypt as a baby. He spoke to the people in Egypt in their language, which was the Coptic language at that time.

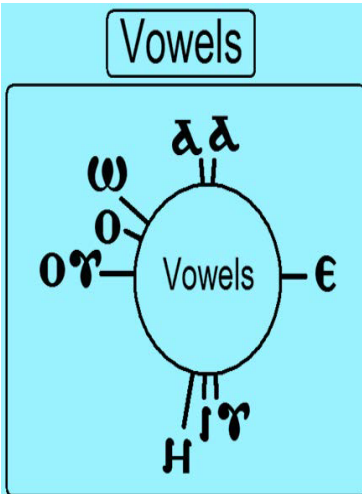
THE COPTIC ALPHABET

	 Alpha A	 Veeta B, V	 Gamma G, N, Gh	 Delta D, Th (the)	
 Eyy E	 Number 6 So-oo Not a true letter The number 6	 Zeeta Z	 Eeta EE	 Theeta TH (think), T	 Yota I, Y
 Kappa K	 Lavla L	 Mey M	 Ney N	 Eksee KS	 O O
 Pee P	 ro R	 seema S-Z	 tav T	 Epsilon V, I, (oo)	 Fey F
 Key K, Kh, Sh	 Epsee PS	 Oo Oo	 Shai SH	 Fai F	 Khai KH
	 Hori H	 Ganga G, J	 Cheema CH	 Tee Tee	

The Coptic Alphabet has 32 letters

- 24 consonants
- 7 vowels (**Α Ε Η Ι Ο Υ Ω**)
- 1 letter used only as a number (**Ϟ**)

Pronunciation



Some Consonants

Ն **Կ** **Տ** **Շ** **Վ** **Ր** **Հ**
n **k** **t** **s** **f** **r** **z**

Practice

վաբ	վեր	վր	վր
վօբ	վօր	վմբ	վօբ
կետ	կատ	կօր	բեվ
բան	չակ	չհկ	նօր

Practice

տօր	չհ	նօ	նօ
չատ	կատ	չեն	վետ
վմ	վատ	վօր	տա
վր	վր	նաչ	բր

Practice

ΝΑΡ	ΝΟΥΡ	ΡΟΥΨ	ΡΕΝ
ΖΗΡ	ΡΑϞ	ΡΕϞ	ΡΟΥϞ
ΡΗϞ	ΡΩϞ	ϞΑΤΕΚ	ΝΑΝΕ
ΖΩΡ	ΖΟΥΡ	ϞΟΥ	ϞΟΥϞΟΥ

Jinkim ◌

When placed over a letter, it makes this letter a **separate syllable**.

When placed over a **consonant**, The letter will be pronounced as if there is an “e” before it.

Ḥ will be pronounced “en”

Ḷ will be pronounced “ef”

When placed over a **vowel**, the vowel will retain its pronunciation but as a separate syllable.

αϞί

ΘΕὸ ΤΟΚΟϞ

ἸΤΕ

ḶουϞ

ΡΕῦḶΧḶḶ

ἘΠΙϞΚΟΠΟϞ

ὠουϞ

ночы

ночы пенннв

ночы пеніωт

hi

Hi Sayedna

Hi Abouna

ουχαι

ουχαι
δεη πβοις



Bye

Bye
(in the Lord)

ἸΕΝ ΦΑΝ ἈΦΙΩΤ

In the Name of the Father

ΝΕῤ ΠΩΗΡΙ

and the Son

ΝΕῤ ΠΙΠΝΕΥΜΑ ΕΘΟΥΑΒ

and the Holy Spirit

ΟΥΝΟΥΤ ἸΟΥΩΤ ἈΜΗΝ

One God Amen



ἌΩ ΠΕ ΠΕΚΡΑΝ ?

What is your name ?



ἌΩ ΠΕ ΠΕΡΑΝ ?

What is your name ?

ΠΑΡΑΝ ΠΕ .. My name is

ΝΑΝΕ ΤΟΥΤΙ

Good morning

ΝΑΝΕ ΡΟΥΖΙ

Good evening

ΝΟΥΡΙ ἘΖΟΥΤ

Good day

ΝΟΥΡΙ ἘΧΩΡΖ

Good night

My Family (1)



ΠΑΤΗΡ	My father
ΤΑΜΑΥ	My mother
ΠΑΔΟΝ	My brother
ΤΑΔΩΝΙ	My sister

ἄλλεργιτ The beloved




My Family (2)






ΠΑΥΗΡΙ	My son
ΤΑΥΕΡΙ	My daughter
ΠΑΖΑΙ	My husband
ΤΑΪΖΙΛΙ	My wife

ΝΟΨΡΙ	Hi		
ΟΥΧΔΙ	Bye	ΠΑΙΩΤ	My Father
ΝΔΝΕ ΤΟΥΡΙ	Good Morning	ΤΑΜΑΥ	My mother
ΝΔΝΕ ΡΟΥΖΙ	Good Evening	ΠΕΝΝΗΒ	Sayedna
ΝΟΨΡΙ ΕΖΟΟΥ	Good day	ΠΕΝΙΩΤ	Abouna
ΝΟΨΡΙ ΕΧΩΡΖ	Good night		

ΝΟΨΡΙ ΠΕΝΝΗΒ ΰΜΕΝΡΙΤ
 ΝΟΨΡΙ ΤΑΜΑΥ ΰΜΕΝΡΙΤ
 ΟΥΧΔΙ ΠΑΙΩΤ ΰΜΕΝΡΙΤ
 ΟΥΧΔΙ ΠΑΖΔΙ ΰΜΕΝΡΙΤ
 ΝΔΝΕ ΡΟΥΖΙ ΤΑΣΩΝΙ ΰΜΕΝΡΙΤ

Indefinite article (a, an)		
	Masculine	ΟΥ
	Feminine	ΟΥ
	Plural	ΣΑΝ

Definite Article (The)		
	Masculine	ΟΙ ΟΙ ΟΙ
	Feminine	ΑΙ ΑΙ ΑΙ
	Plural	ΟΙ (ΟΙΝ)

Some masculine nouns		
ΚΑΙΣΙ Land	ΟΙΚΑΙΣΙ the land	ΟΥΚΑΙΣΙ a land
ΥΗΡΙ Son	ΟΥΗΡΙ the son	ΟΥΥΗΡΙ a son
ΙΩΤ Father	ΟΙΩΤ the father	ΟΥΙΩΤ a father

Some feminine nouns		
ΩΝΙ Sister	ΑΩΝΙ the sister	ΟΥΩΝΙ a sister
ΦΕ Heaven	ΑΦΕ the heaven	ΟΥΦΕ a heaven
ΜΑΡ Mother	ΘΜΑΡ the mother	ΟΥΜΑΡ a mother

Some plural nouns

ΜΑΤΕΡ Mothers	ΝΙΜΑΤΕΡ the mothers	ΣΑΝΜΑΤΕΡ mothers
ΦΗΟΥΙ Heavens	ΝΙΦΗΟΥΙ the heavens	ΣΑΝΦΗΟΥΙ Heavens

Some more masculine words

ΝΟΥΤ God	ΒΟΙΣ Lord
ΠΝΕΥΜΑ Spirit	ΑΓΓΕΛΟΣ Angel
ΩΙΚ Bread	ΩΟΥ Glory
ΧΩΜ Book	ΚΑΨ Pencil

Some more feminine words

ΣΩΝΙ Sister	ΒΩ Tree
ΧΟΥ Power	ΒΑΚΙ City
ΨΕΡΙ Daughter	ΜΕΤΟΥΡΟ Kingdom

Some more plural nouns

ΙΟΥΤ Fathers	ΜΑΤΕΡ Mothers
ΣΩΝΙ Sisters	ΑΝΗΟΥ Brothers
ΨΗΡΙ Sons	ΨΕΡΙ Daughters

ΧΕ ΠΕΝΙΩΤ ΕΤΘΕΝ ΝΙΦΗΟΥΙ
Our Father who art in Heaven

ἀΡΙΤΕΝ ΝΕΜΠΩΑ ΝΧΟΣ ΘΕΝ ΟΥΨΕΠΘΜΟΤ
Make us worthy to say thankfully

ΧΕ ΠΕΝΙΩΤ ΕΤΘΕΝ ΝΙΦΗΟΥΙ

Our father who art in heaven

ΜΑΡΕΥΤΟΥΒΟ ΝΧΕ ΠΕΚΡΑΝ

Hallowed be Thy name

ΜΑΡΕΣΙ ΝΧΕ ΤΕΚΜΕΤΟΥΡΟ

Thy kingdom come

ΠΕΤΕΘΝΑΚ ΜΑΡΕΥΩΠΙ

Thy will be done

ὠΦΡΗΤ ΘΕΝ ΤΦΕ ΝΕΜ ΘΙΧΕΝ ΠΙΚΑΘΙ

On earth as it is in heaven

ΠΕΝΩΙΚ ΝΤΕ ΡΑΣΤ ΜΗΙΥ ΝΑΝ ὠΦΟΟΥ

Give us this day our daily bread

ΟΥΘΘ ΧΑ ΝΗΕΤΕΡΟΝ ΝΑΝ ἔΒΟΛ

And forgive us our trespasses

Hymns & Rituals



Introduction to the Homily for Pascha

Rite: During the Holy Week of Pascha, some morning hours include the reading of a homily after the reading of the prophecies.

A homily is a sermon by one of the Church Fathers. When there is a homily, it is introduced with the hymn **ΟΥΚΑΤΗΧΗΣΙΣ**.

After it is read, it is concluded with the hymn **ΠΑΡΕΝΕΡ ΞΦΡΑΣΙΖΙΝ**.

These homilies are written by St. Athanasius the Apostolic, St. Shenouda the Archimandrite, St. John Chrysostom or St. Severianus.

Participants can record the hymn with any of the four Church Fathers' name.

A homily of our holy father (...) may his blessings be with us. Amen.	ΟΥΚΑΤΗΧΗΣΙΣ ΗΝΤΕ ΠΕΝΙΩΤ ΕΘΟΥΑΒ (...) ΕΡΕ ΠΕΡΕΜΟΥ ΕΘΟΥΑΒ ΨΩΠΙ ΝΕΜΑΝ ΑΜΗΝ.
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Depending on the author of the homily,
substitute one of the Church Fathers' names below for (...) above:

Abba Athanasius the Apostolic	ΑΒΒΑ ΑΘΑΝΑΣΙΟΣ ΠΑΠΟCΤΟΛΙΚΟC
Abba Shenouda the Archimandrite	ΑΒΒΑ ΨΕΝΟΥΤ ΠΑΡΧΗΜΑΝΔΡΙΤΗC
Abba John Chrysostom	ΑΒΒΑ ΙΩΑΝΝΗC ΠΙΧΡΟCΟCΤΟΜΟC
Abba Severianus	ΑΒΒΑ CΕΥΗΡΙΑΝΟC





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and information on the tests

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