



Πατριεπισκοπος ἡρεμῆχμῖ ἡορθοδοξοσ  
ἡτε ἡθωω εφροπ ἔτσαρησ  
Coptic Orthodox Diocese of the Southern United States

*“For those who have served well as deacons obtain for themselves a good standing”  
(1 Timothy 3:13)*

**Requirements for ordinations to the rank of Psaltis**

The Coptic Orthodox male members of the parishes of this diocese who are presented for ordination to the ranks of psaltis (chanter) must meet the following minimum requirements:

**Psaltis (Chanter):**

1. The candidate must be at least 6 (six) years old.
2. The candidate must display proper Christian behavior including:
  - a. Regular confession, church attendance and communion
  - b. Proper attire and general appearance, such as clothes, hair etc.
  - c. Is not under the sway of bad habits such as smoking or drinking alcohol
3. The candidate must demonstrate proficiency in all the congregation and sanctuary responses of the Divine Liturgy.
4. The candidate must demonstrate an 80% attendance rate in the weekly Divine Liturgies.

**Blessed be the obedient son**

*H.G. Bishop Youssef  
Bishop of the Coptic Orthodox Diocese of the Southern U.S.*



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**Requirements for ordinations to the rank of Anagnostis**

The Coptic Orthodox male members of the parishes of this diocese who are presented for ordination to the rank of anagnostis (reader) must meet the following minimum requirements:

**Anagnostis (Reader):**

1. The candidate must fulfill all minimum requirements for the psaltis.
2. The candidate must be at least 16 (sixteen) years old.
3. The candidate must be involved in the service of the church.
4. The candidate must display good reading ability in the Katameros in at least one of the following languages: Coptic, Arabic, English.
5. The candidate must demonstrate proficiency in the following:
  - a. Prayers:
    - i. Thanksgiving, Psalm 50 (51)
    - ii. “Let us praise with the angles saying...”
    - iii. “Graciously accord, O Lord, to keeps us...”
    - iv. The Trisagion
    - v. “Hail to you we ask you...”
    - vi. “We exalt you the mother of the True Light...”
    - vii. The Creed
    - viii. “Holy, Holy, Holy...”
    - ix. “Have mercy on us O God and have mercy on us...”
  - b. Hymns:
    - i. The fourth ode (canticle)
    - ii. The regular Verses of the Cymbals
    - iii. The regular doxologies
  - c. Responses:
    - i. Must be able to serve the Offering of the Incense alone with the priest.
    - ii. Must know well all the sanctuary deacon responses of the liturgy of St. Basil.
  - d. Midnight Praises
    - i. Must demonstrate proficiency in the weekly Midnight Praises.
6. The candidate must demonstrate an 80% attendance rate in the weekly services: liturgies, vespers, and midnight praises.

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