

The Last Friday of The Great Fast

A. Notes on The Rites

The Rite of the last Friday of The Great Fast is a hybrid of the Rites of The Great Fast weekdays, and The Great Fast Sundays.

B. Midnight Praises

The praises are conducted as described in the Midnight Praises of The Great Fast Sundays

C. The Morning Raising of Incense (Matins)

The service is conducted as described in the Morning Raising of Incense of The Great Fast Saturdays, while observing the reading of the Prophecies and the litanies after “Ⲫⲧ ⲛⲁⲓ ⲛⲁⲛ” as described in the Morning Raising of Incense of The Great Fast weekdays.

D. The General Unction of the Sick Prayer

1. The "Unction of the Sick" (prayer of the sick) is prayed in the second section of the Church (just outside the door of the Sanctuary).
2. All seven prayers are prayed as described in the Book of Coptic Offices.
3. All those present are anointed with the oil of the Unction.

E. The Liturgy

1. The priests and deacons put on their service garments.
2. The hours of the Agpia are all prayed, starting with Terce until compline (and veil in the Monasteries)
3. The Oblations are offered

4. The hymn "Ἀλλελουϊα καὶ ἐφύφησεν" (Alleluia, the thought of man...) is chanted (p. 43 DSB)
3. After the Thanksgiving prayer, "Ὁσως Ἄμην" (saved Amen) is chanted in the quick tune, followed by "Ἡερεσεν" (His foundations...), (p. 231 DSB), and "Ὁρωσ ἡμᾶς" (Mother Zion...) (p. 622 DSB)
4. The priest says {Κλινώμεν τὰ γόνατά} (We bow our knees) three times while doing prostrations, and the deacons and congregation respond accordingly, then they all descend from the sanctuary while the congregation chants "ἰησὺ" (Lord Have Mercy). The priest recites the Absolution of the Ministers.
7. The service is continued as described in the Sundays of The Great Fast observing to chant the hymn of Ὑεταλο after the Synxarium.