

Mighty Angels



Behold, from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed
(Luke 1:48)

Mighty Angels

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My blessed Children

Peace and grace

During this month we fast the blessed fast of St. Mary the mother of God. St. Mary has a special place in our hearts. God chose St. Mary for her humbleness and purity. As a young child, she lived with her parents in all obedience and love. After she was presented to the temple, she served there with all respect to the house of God. She loved the poor and the needy and she gave them her food.

She respected the priests of the temple and she honored them as the servants of God. She spent her time in the temple, praying and memorizing the Holy Scripture. For all these reasons, when God was looking for a girl to be the mother of His begotten Son, He did not find better than St. Mary in the whole earth. So He honored her and elevated her to be higher than the angels and the archangels.

As the Bible says, all generations will call her blessed. Let us learn from her example and ask her intercessions during these holy days of her fasting. May her prayers and blessings be with us all Amen.

Bishop Youssef

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The Assumption of the blessed Virgin, St. Mary

While St. Mary was praying at the Holy Sepulcher, the Holy Spirit came to her and told her that the time was near for her departure. The holy Virgin stood praying and was surrounded by the disciples and virgins of the Mount of Olives as Our Lord came, surrounded by thousands and thousands of angels. St. Mary was in heavenly joy, she stretched out her hands, blessed the disciples, and the virgins. She then delivered up her pure soul into the hands of her Son and God, Jesus Christ, Who ascended her soul up to the heavens. The virgins and disciples then wrapped her pure holy body in fine linens, and carried it to Gethsemane to be buried.



St. Thomas did not attend the burial, but on his way back to Jerusalem, he saw angels carrying St. Mary's pure body and ascending with it to heaven, then one of the angels said to him, "Hurry and be blessed by the pure body of St. Mary" When St. Thomas arrived in Jerusalem, the Disciples informed him of St. Mary's departure, He said to them "I will not believe, unless I see her body", They took him to the tomb, to uncover the body but they did not find it, St. Thomas then told them how he had seen the pure body ascending to heaven, carried by angels.

The Holy Spirit then told them, The Lord did not leave her Holy body on earth.

The Lord then promised his disciples and apostles that they would see the holy Virgin in the flesh once more. They were waiting for the fulfillment of the Lord's promise, until the sixteenth day of the month of Misra, when the Lord fulfilled the promise of seeing St. Mary. They saw her sitting at the right hand of her Son and her Lord, surrounded by the



angelic Hosts, as David prophesied and said, "At your right hand stands the queen" (Psalm 45:9).

May her intercession be with us and Glory be to God forever, Amen.






Adventures with Sam

Today  and his   agreed to go and attend the Saturday Midnight Praises in the .



There they discovered many symbols for  for example the  of Aaron the Priest which

 without planting or , as the Virgin  gave birth to  without being married. Also

the  which Moses the Prophet saw, the  was aflame but never consumed or injured it, just

as the Virgin  bore the incarnate  in her womb for  months. And also the golden

symbolizes . The  carries the burning and live coal just as  carried the divinity of 

her womb. And many other symbols my   that you would learn if you went to the Saturday

Midnight Praises.



The Feasts of the Virgin Mary

The Annunciation of her Birth (7 Misra)

The angel of God announced the birth of Saint Mary to her father, Joachim. He and his wife were filled with joy and promised their daughter to the Lord.

The Birth of Saint Mary

The Church celebrates this event on **1 Bashans**

Her Entry into the Temple

This is celebrated by the Church on the **3rd of Kiahk**; it is the day on which she entered to worship in the temple, in a place especially for virgins. Saint Mary was 3 years old.

The feast of her miracle

This is on **21 Baouna**, and we commemorate the miracle performed by the Virgin for St. Matthias the Apostle. It is also the building of the first church in the name of the Holy Virgin in Philippi.

The departure of Saint Mary

This commemoration is on **21st of Touba**. The Church also commemorates the miracle which occurred on that day. The disciples surrounded her, except for Saint Thomas who was preaching in India.

The Assumption of her body

The Church celebrates this occasion on **16 Misra**. This feast marks the end of the fast of the Virgin Mary which lasts for two weeks.

The monthly feast of Saint Mary

This is on the **21st** day of each Coptic month and commemorates her passing on 21 Touba.

Her appearance at El- Zeitoun

This occurred on April 2, 1968 (**24 Baramhat**) and continued many times. In addition to all this, we celebrate for the whole month of Kiahk with praise, honoring Saint Mary

Her entry into Egypt with our Lord Jesus Christ

This is celebrated by the Church on **24 Bashans**. This is one of the feasts of our Lord, but we consider that Saint Mary was associated with it because of her presence with Him.



Conversation with Abouna Boulos

I was born November 27th, 1965...my name was Medhat Farid Mikhael
My Dad was a police officer, my Mom was a manager in the ministry of agriculture...both of them now in heaven.

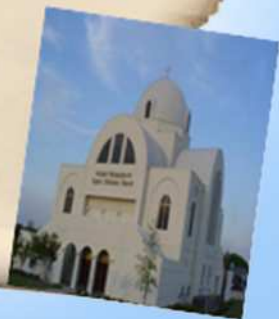
My oldest brother is a pharmacist, and the older brother used to be a structure engineer till he was ordained as a priest in Nashville, TN (Abouna Serapion)...we grew up living in Shobra – Cairo.

I completed medical school in Egypt and practiced medicine there for 6 years till I came here in 1997. I was raised in St. Anthony church – Shobra - Cairo



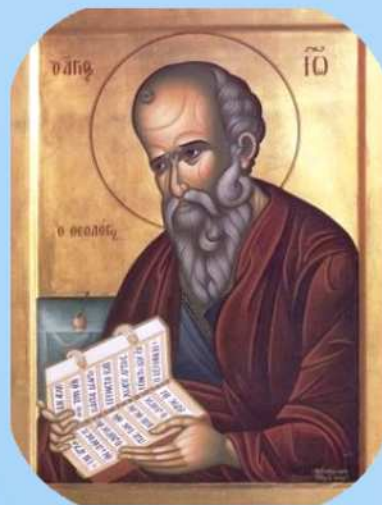
St. Philopateer Church, Dallas

+
I was ordained on February 16th 1997
I was guided and influenced by my Sunday school
teachers especially when I was in middle school
(including H.G.Bishop Youssef) and
my first father of confession (The late Abouna
Bishoy Younan) and my Mom, and my brothers.
To improve your spiritual life, you should learn
how to pray especially with the Agpeya...I feel
always when we learn how to pray we will be
better in everything.
Also, listening to the advice of our parents or
teachers will help us to go safe in every way.
Keep obedient to God and parents...this is a great
blessing to your whole entire life.



Church Saints

St. John was the youngest of the apostles. He and His brother James had been followers of John the Baptist. One day Jesus saw John and James helping their father, Zebedee, mend their fish nets. He called them and said, "Come, follow Me." and from that moment on, they followed Him. They were very devoted to Jesus that one day they wanted to call down a fire on a town that refused to receive Him. Jesus named them "Sons of thunder."



St. John
The Beloved

Their mother Salome asked Jesus to give them a place of honor in heaven, and they said that they could drink of Jesus' cup of suffering. Jesus did not promise those places of honor, but a special share of His friendship, love and suffering.

John was also called the "beloved disciple", because he loved Jesus much. He was present when Jesus raised Jairus' daughter, he witnessed the transfiguration on the mountain and the agony in the Garden. At the Last Supper, John was privileged to rest his head upon the heart of the Jesus. His courage and love drew him to the cross at Calvary where Jesus entrusted His mother to John saying, "Women, there is your son John there is your mother." John preached in Palestine for many years. Later he was taken a prisoner to Rome. When he was ninety years old, he wrote the "Gospel of John" in the New Testament.



During the trial of our Lord, Peter denied Him three times out of fear, but afterward he repented and spent the rest of his life telling others about Jesus.

May his blessing be with us all. Amen

Let's Take a Journey!

Each month, we will travel to a different country! Guess where we're going to go today?



Are you ready to take a look at GREECE?

Greece is located in southern Europe and is a peninsula that projects out into the Mediterranean Sea. It has hundreds of small islands around it but the largest one is called Crete.



The capital of Greece is Athens. Greece only has 10,688,058 people that live there. That's a lot less than the other countries we've visited!



Greece has a lot of mountains. The largest one is called Mount Olympus and is 9,754 feet tall!



Greece Flag

The majority of the people in Greece are Greek Orthodox, 98% to be exact! That's almost everybody! The Greek Orthodox Churches look very similar to the Coptic Churches, they have icons and an altar too.



Did you know that the ancient Greeks were the creators of the Olympic Games in 776 B.C. The games were held in the village of Olympia, that's why we call it the Olympics.



Come back and see us again for next month's trip

To Saint Mary



Beloved Daughter

We prayed much day and night for God to send us a child. We vowed to give our child as a servant of the Alter. God heard our prayers and sent his Archangel Gabriel to announce the birth of our child which you gave great joy, and truly you have given joy to all the Savior when you gave birth to the parents,

Joachim and Anna

The Lady of Us All

When you learned from the Archangel Gabriel that I was with child in the sixth month, you came and visited me, and upon greeting, my home and hearing your joy, to the child in womb leaped with joy. You continued, O Theotokos, to serve me for three months.

Elizabeth



Our Mother I stood by your side and did not leave you at the time of the Crucifixion. I saw your sorrow and tears for our Lord and Savior. He was your while on the cross that I as my mother, from that time I took you with me for 14 years.

John the Beloved



The Mother of My Master

I was not present at the time of your departure, but I viewed the body and ascended into Heaven. An angel called out to me to come and take the blessing your pure obeyed... And when I returned, my brothers, the disciples they informed me of your body, and I replied that I did not believe. They took me to the tomb and when they did not find the body, they were greatly amazed and I explained to them what I had seen.

Thomas the Disciple



Step-by-Step Drawing



Step 1



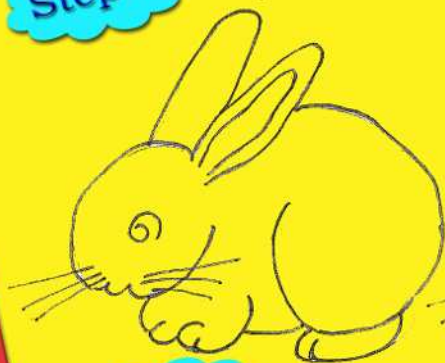
Step 2



Step 3



Step 4



Step 5



Step 6





CAMEL



When camels are thirsty, they can drink as much as 25 gallons of water in ten minutes. They have three stomachs which can hold 5 gallons of water each.



Camels store fat in their humps. Baby camels are born without a hump. They will not develop a hump until they start eating solid food.

St. John the Baptist's cloths were made of camel's hair. (Matt 3:4)

The Wise Men rode camels when they followed the star to see Baby Jesus. (Matt 2:1-12)

The camels mentioned in the Bible were Arabian Camels, the type with only one hump. (Genesis 24:61-64)



Camels have three eyelids to protect themselves from the blowing sand.

The camel's ears are lined with fur to filter out sand and dust.



The Queen of Sheba traveled with a caravan of camels when she went to seek the wisdom of Solomon. (1 Kings 10:2)

•Camels have leather pads on their feet that prevent them from sinking in the sand.

•The camel moves both legs on the same side of the body at one time.



Virtues & Morals

Sharing with others

One day, Jesus was teaching a great multitude of people out in the country. He spoke to them about the kingdom of God and healed those who had need of healing.

Later in the afternoon, the twelve disciples came to Jesus and said, "Send the multitude away so they can go to the villages to buy bread."

But Jesus said, "You give them something to eat."

The disciples were surprised because there were about 5,000 men there plus women and children.

Philip, one of the disciples, said, "Two hundred denarii worth of bread is not sufficient for them, that every one of them may have a little."



Jesus said, "How many loaves do you have? Go and see."

Andrew, another of Jesus' disciples, said, "There is a boy with five barley loaves and two small fish. But what are they among so many?"

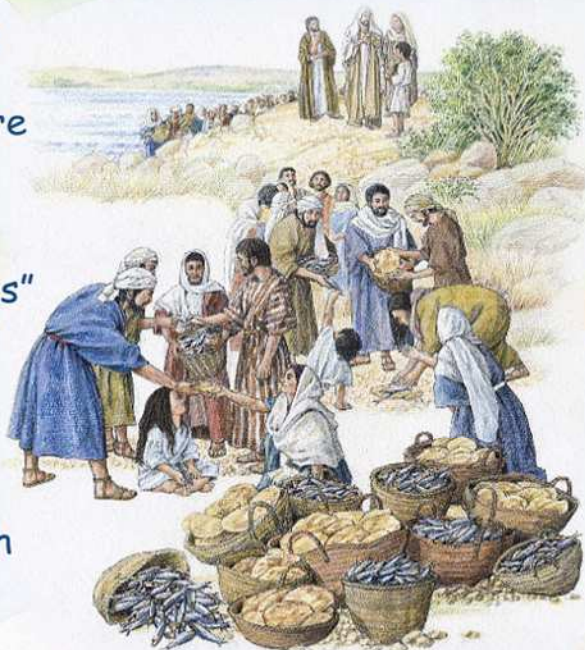
The little boy gave his lunch to Jesus. Then Jesus had the people sit in groups of fifty on the green grass. Taking the five loaves and two fish and looking up to heaven,



Virtues & Morals

he blessed and broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples to set before the people. Everyone ate and was filled.

Jesus said to His disciples "Gather up the fragments that remain, so that nothing is lost" The disciples picked up twelve baskets full of leftover of bread and fish by those who had eaten.



To share with others means:

To be unselfish and unselfish.

When there is not enough for everyone give up what is yours.

Giving to causes that are worthy and help people.

By praising him through the Liturgy, and hymns

To give to the needy and be charitable.



MEET MY MOM



Match the listed Bible characters with their moms. You can use the references to help you.

ABEL

MARY (Luke 1:57-60)

ISAAC

ELIZABETH (Luke 1:29-31)

JACOB

EVE (Genesis 4:1-2)

JOSEPH

HANNAH (1Samuel 1:20)

SAMUEL

REBEKAH (Genesis 27:11)

JOHN

SARAH (Genesis 21:3)

JESUS

RACHEL (Genesis 30:25)



Coptic Language

Beloved friends, welcome again to our Coptic language. Last 5 issues we learned 25 letters and we will try to learn 5 more this month.

You may try to do a quick revision for the past 25 letters. Here are the new 5 letters:

Name	Letter	Pronunciation	Example
So	Ⲑ ⲑ	So	<u>S</u> oft.
Phei	Ⲫ ⲫ	Ph	<u>P</u> harmacy
Kei	Ⲭ ⲭ	K -SH - KH	Book - <u>S</u> hade - <u>k</u> hen
Epsilon	Ⲯ ⲟ	I - Oo - V	<u>P</u> in - <u>m</u> oon - Inv <u>i</u> te
Ti	Ⲱ ⲱ	Ti	<u>T</u> iparius.

Now we have 30 letters my friends. Let us try to do some practice to learn

how to read some words by using those letters, do not forget to see the previous 25 letters.

Word	Meaning	Pronunciation
Ⲑ	Number 6	So
Ⲫⲛⲟⲩⲧ	God	Efnooti
Ⲭⲉⲣⲟⲩⲃⲓⲙ	Cherub	Sheroobim
Ⲭⲣⲓⲙⲁⲥⲑ	He is born	Avmasf.
Ⲱⲱⲟⲩⲣⲏ	The censer	Ti shori

Let us have a small quiz and send your answer to receive a prize from Mighty Angels...

Here it is :

Read the following words and pronounce them in English:

Ⲭⲉⲧⲉⲭⲏⲕ Ⲭⲟⲗⲁ Ⲡⲁⲧⲣⲓ ⲛⲓⲥⲧⲁⲩⲣⲟⲥ ⲧⲏⲉⲟⲧⲟⲕⲟⲥ ⲛⲉⲛⲠⲁⲧⲣⲓⲁⲣⲭⲏⲥ

You may seek help from others to know what these words mean. Send us your answer before Oct. 4th 2009. **Practice for the month:**

It will be nice if you tried to look in the Liturgy book during the Liturgy and try to follow the Psalm of Communion (150) (Praise God) from the Coptic part directly



Know your Church

The Censer

A censer is a small metal dish used to burn incense in our church. There are 12 bells. The bells represent the 12 disciples.

The bowl on the bottom that carries the coal represents St. Mary because St. Mary carried in her womb the Divine Fire.

Also the three chains of the censer remind us with the Holy Trinity (The Father, The Son and The Holy Spirit).



We use the censer in our church during services like the Vespers and the Liturgy. You notice that when Abouna is going around the church with the censer, the incense goes up into the air and evaporates. That symbolizes our prayers going up to heaven to God.

That's why when Abouna is going around the church, we should pray so our prayers will go up to God like the incense as king David said in one of the psalms "Let my prayer rise like incense before you, The lifting up of my hands like the evening sacrifice."



Did you know?

Theotokos is the Greek word meaning “Mother of God ”

Theotokia is the Greek word meaning glorification for the mother of God.



The first to draw a picture of the Virgin was St. Luke. He was a doctor and a painter. He wrote the Gospel of St. Luke and the Acts of the Apostles.



There are 3 large stars on the Virgin's veil, one on the right shoulder, the next on the head, and the third on the left shoulder. These signify that the Virgin Mary is a virgin before, during and after the birth of the child Jesus.



In the icons of St. Mary, there are stars, angels, and clouds around her because she is the second Heaven.

She has a crown on her head because she is a queen.



St. Mary's life on earth was sixty years.

12 years in the temple,

30 years in the house of the righteous

St. Joseph,

And 14 years in the care of

St. John the Beloved.



19



Verses to Memorize

I Immanuel



Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and bear a son and they shall call His name Immanuel. (Matthew 1:23)

J

Joy

the joy of the Lord is your strength
Neh. 8:10

And they worshiped Him, and returned to Jerusalem with great Joy (Luke 24:52)

Rod & Todd

Who do you act like, Rod or Todd?



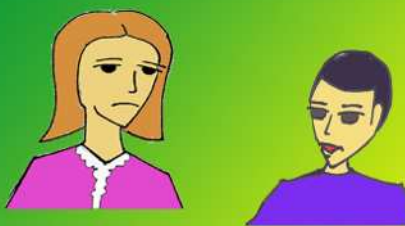
I'm not going to play with Jack again; He played with James today instead of me



Todd understand that sometimes his friends want to play with someone else



Rod spreads rumors



Todd does not repeat unkind things