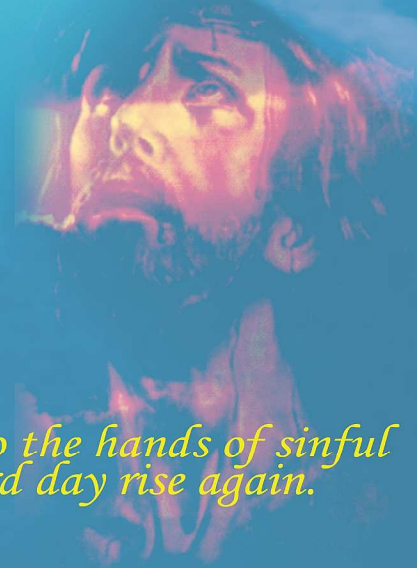
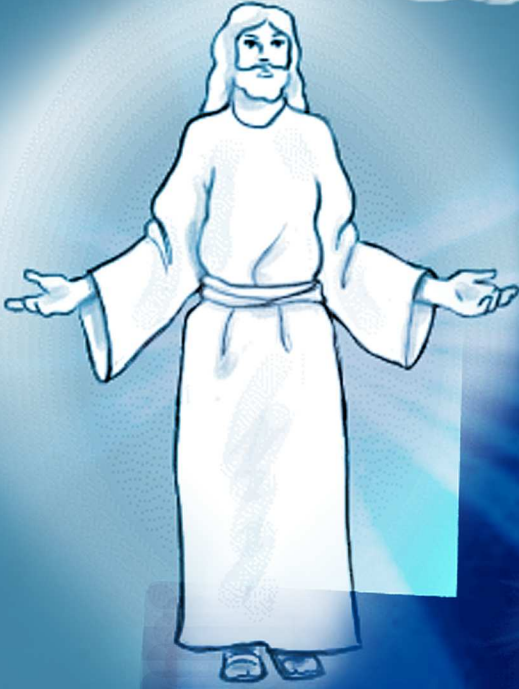


Mighty Angels



The Son of man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again.

(Luke 24:7)

Mighty Angels

March 2010

Volume 6 -No. 1

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Bible Character	Page 3
Conversation with Abouna	Page 5
A New Start	Page 7
About our Church	Page 9
The Easter Journey	Page 11
Coptic	Page 15
Quiz for Prize	Page 16
Did you Know?	Page 18

Christ is Risen – Indeed He is Risen



My beloved children

The Holy week and the Feast of Resurrection tell us how precious we are to God and how much He loves us all. He sent His son to save us and rescue us from Satan.

To do this, He had to suffer, shed His blood, and die. He did all of this because He loves us. But the life of our Lord did not end by His death because He rose from the dead on the third day. He is the Resurrection and life.

He destroyed the power of death and He gave us this power also over death. So, in Him we are powerful and strong for even death has no power on us. All those who believe in Him will be raised when He comes to take us with Him to heaven.

Therefore while we are celebrating the crucifixion and resurrection of our Lord, let us give thanks to Him and exalt Him for His love for us and for the victory over death that He gave us. Let us rejoice in this glorious feast because our God is a loving and mighty God.

*Bishop Youssef
Bishop, Coptic Orthodox Diocese of
the Southern United States*

Bible Character

David's Story



Hi kids this is Uncle Bob and I wanted to share with you the great story of David, but I can't do it alone so I thought you would like it if I brought a guest and he's not just any guest - he's one of David's sheep! His name is Wooly.



Hi kids, I'm Wooly! And I can't wait to tell you all about David! He's one of my favorites! Did you know that David took care of his father's sheep? Well he did, and he was the youngest out of seven boys! Each day, David went out to the pasture, he carried a small bag that had some small rocks to defend himself and his sheep from any not good people.



Hey Wooly, you forgot something!

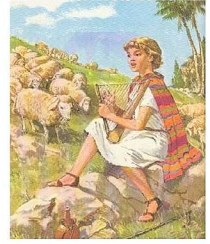


What did I forget Uncle Bob?





You forgot to tell the kids that he also took his harp with him to play some songs for the sheep!



Oh, Yea! They were beautiful too. I think some of his songs are in the Holy Bible! Right Uncle Bob?



Yea, they are in the Book of Psalms!



Well one day the prophet Samuel came to visit David's home and asked to see David in particular. And when he saw David he poured sacred oil on his head and it is also a sign from God to Samuel that God chose David to become king. But David did not know why Prophet Samuel chose him out of his seven brothers, but David trusted that God would help him, and that he would never leave him. Hey, Uncle Bob, shouldn't we learn from David to always trust God and help our parents?



Yes Woolly! We should also learn that God is always with us no matter what, and that He is always watching us. Hope you enjoyed it kids, see you next time! Bye!



Conversation With Abouna

Birth Name: Safwat Samy Eskander

Date of Birth: December 12, 1954

My name is Fr. Eleia Eskander and I serve as the priest for St. Mary's Coptic Orthodox Church in Atlanta, Georgia. I grew up in Egypt in St. George's Church in El Manial, Cairo, Egypt. I was a deacon and Sunday school teacher. I have a bachelor's degree in Geology. I moved to the United States in 1982 where I lived in Dallas, Texas. I served at St. Mary's community in Dallas, Texas from then till before the building of the church. I served at St. Mary's Church as a deacon and Sunday school servant until I was ordained as a priest in December 2000.

I have two kids - my daughter, Sarah, is 23 years old in her last year of Architectural school, and my son, Bishoy, is 20 years old in Veterinarian school. Both are Sunday School servants.

There were several people who strengthened me throughout my life. My parents and also as I was growing up, my Sunday school teacher, were a big influence in my life.

Also my father of confession in Egypt, Abouna Eleia Raouf, and in America, His Grace Anba Youssef.



Our spiritual life is the most important thing in our lives as our Lord Jesus Christ should be our number one priority because we should be perfect and Holy as our Lord is perfect and Holy. To improve our spiritual lives, one should be close to church, have a father of confession, and also go to Sunday school.

Sunday school is a very important part of our spiritual lives. In it we learn the about the Bible, saints' lives, and how to get closer to Christ by reading the Bible daily and praying. This is a must for every Christian.



My message to all children is to love one another as Christ asked us to do, so that people will know that we are Christians. "By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."
John 13:35

Our life should be centered on loving one another as Christ loved. Jesus will make us grow spiritually. This will make us gain the first fruit of the Spirit which is love. Loving Christ is not just saying "I love Christ" but also by walking in His commandment as Christ said, "If you love Me, keep My commandments."
John 14:15

Loving Christ means to keep His commandments - walking in the law of Christ and loving one another such as my parents and siblings at home, and friends at school.



A New Start



Sarah is a 9-year-old girl that's very good at writing exciting stories, but she was always scared that someone wouldn't like her stories and make fun of her.

One day, at school, the teacher asked Sarah to read her story in front of the class.

Sarah was very scared. So, before she got up, she prayed a short prayer in her head, "Jesus, please help me."

She walked up quietly to the front of the room. She read her story out loud fast and quickly went back to her desk.

Behind her, there was a mean girl named Angelah that didn't like Sarah. While their teacher Mrs. Smith was talking, Sarah heard Angelah say to her friends, "Wow, Sarah's so weird. She writes all these strange stories that aren't even cool!" All of Angelah's friends started laughing.

Sarah was about to cry. She had worked so hard and stayed up really late to work on this story! She wanted it to be perfect!



Suddenly, the bell rang for recess and everyone in the classroom ran to get outside first.



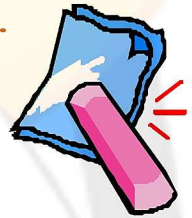
But Sarah didn't. She stayed at her desk and started crying.

Mrs. Smith slowly walked over to Sarah's desk.

"What's wrong sweetie?"

"Angelah said that all my stories are weird and not cool!"

"Oh well, sweetie, I thought your story was amazing! And even if you did have a couple things that we could fix, that doesn't mean that it was bad. Everybody makes mistakes. We can always fix your mistakes and you can talk to Angelah about how you felt. Maybe she didn't mean to hurt your feelings."



That made Sarah feel a lot better!

Mrs. Smith went back to her desk, opened her drawer, and pulled out 3 pencils.

"Here Sarah. I want you to have these. I want you to remember that no matter what, you can always erase your mistakes. When Jesus died and rose from the dead, He gave us a new start. So, if you ever make a mistake you can always erase it and remember that Jesus erased our sins!"



About Our Church

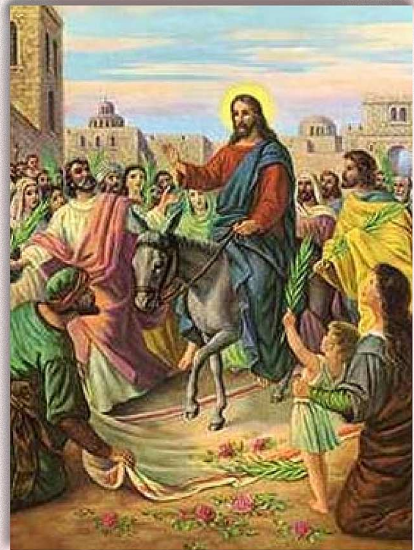
Palm Sunday



Hi kids! I'm going to tell you about Palm Sunday! Have you ever heard of Palm Sunday? Have you been to church on Palm Sunday? That's the Sunday right before Resurrection (Easter)! It's the 7th Sunday of the Holy Lent. On Palm Sunday, we celebrate the day Jesus entered Jerusalem

riding on a donkey. The people that day were so happy to see their king. They spread clothes on the street and they cut off palm branches off the palm trees and spread them out on the street so Jesus and His disciples could walk.

Now at church, we bring palm branches and make crosses, and decorate the church with them.



Palm Sunday is also called Hosanna Sunday. It's one of the seven major feasts.

When Jesus entered Jerusalem on a donkey, all the people were praising God. They sang this hymn:

"Hosanna in the Highest. This is the King of Israel. Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord."



At church, we have a procession. During the procession Abouna and all the deacons stop in front of 12 different places inside the church. They read special prayers at each while holding crosses. Do you know why they carry crosses? They do that Jesus went through pain on the cross. That's Passion Week or Holy Week.

Let's go through the stops Abouna and the deacons make on Palm Sunday!

FIRST STOP: The Main Altar

SECOND STOP: St. Mary's Icon

THIRD STOP: The Annunciation Icon

FOURTH STOP: Archangel Michael's Icon

FIFTH STOP: St. Mark's Icon

SIXTH STOP: The Apostles' Icon

**SEVENTH STOP: St. George
or any Martyr's Icon**

**EIGHTH STOP: St. Anthony
or any Saint's Icon**

NINTH STOP: In front of the North Door

TENTH STOP: The Baptismal Font (Laquan)

ELEVENTH STOP: South Door

TWELVTH STOP: John the Baptist's Icon

Well, I hope you enjoyed learning about Palm Sunday.



Easter Journey



"Hi! I am Tom your tour guide during this trip. Today we're starting our journey in Jerusalem. Let's walk over to that Donkey under that tree. He looks like he might have a good story to tell us".



"Hello Mr. Donkey, my name is Tom the tour guide, what is your name?"

"Hello Tom! My name is Don the Donkey!"



Gabby asked "Don? Do you have a good story to tell us?"

"Well in fact I do! And it all started right here under this tree."

One day a long time ago...as I stood tied under this tree getting shade from the bright sun, the Lord of Lords himself sent two of His disciples to get me so that He may ride me during His entrance into Jerusalem. While they tried loosening the hard knots, a couple of men standing close by, asked what they were untying me for. The two disciples answered saying "The Lord has need of it". I felt very honored and somewhat prideful, though I am ashamed to say, and the feeling grew even more.



Benny asked, "What made this feeling of pride grow so much?"

Well... when the Lord mounted on me and entered the city of Jerusalem thousands of people stood, many spreading their clothes and palms from trees in front of us on the street! And those who stood there cried with loud voices, "Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the Kingdom of our Father David! That comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!

"And guess what kids? We celebrate this today also, we call it Palm Sunday!"



After we entered Jerusalem, Jesus went into the temple, then the hour was late and he went out to Bethany with His 12 disciples, and I of course curious followed to see what would happen during His journey.

"Come on kids, let's go look at the dry withered Fig tree over there, let's see what happened to it..."



"Hello Mr. Fig Tree! I am Tom the tour guide. What's your name?"

"Hello Tom! I am Frank the fig tree".



"You don't look so great, what happened?"

"Yes I am withered and no fruit comes out from me..."





Benny asked, "Tell us your story!"



"Well, one day when it was not the season for my fruit to grow, Jesus came to me, hoping to find some figs to eat, and found nothing but leaves."

So in response to my lack of fruit, Jesus said to me—"Let no one eat fruit from you ever again". So after Jesus cursed me, I withered and no fruit was ever grown from me again...and that's how I became a fig-less fig tree."



"OK kids let's move on in our tour. OK look what we have here...a rooster. Let's go talk to that rooster, sitting on that branch. It looks old and wise, so maybe it has a good story to tell us."



"Hello Rooster! I am Tom the tour guide, what is your name?"

"Hello Tom! I am Ronny the Rooster!"

"Ronny, you seem like you're wise, and have gone through a lot, do you have a tale to tell us?" asked Tom.

"Well actually, the night before Jesus died, something special happened to me that would change my life forever."



"What could it be? Tell us!" asked Benny.



"I was listening in on the disciples through the window in the upper room, when I heard something very interesting."



"What? What did you hear?"



"Well, I saw Jesus and his twelve disciples sitting around a table having supper. Jesus was talking about how one of his disciples was going to betray him. All of a sudden, the faces of the disciples looked scared! Then Peter, one of the disciples, stood up and said "Jesus! I would NEVER betray you!" Then Jesus said "Peter, before the rooster crows, you will deny me three times. So it happened that Judas betrayed Jesus with a kiss, handing



him over to the Pharisees. I of course, followed Peter to see if he would deny Jesus tree times before it was my daily time to crow. So, three times people accused Peter of knowing Jesus and being one of his disciples and, Peter in fear of being killed, denied him just as Jesus said he would. And right after I crowed, Peter looked at me, realized what he did, and cried bitterly asking for mercy from God. Jesus was then crucified on the cross, died and got buried."



"Ok kids, we have had such an interesting trip so far, but maybe this person can make it even better."

"Hello sir, my name is Tom the tour guide. I am leading this group of kids in a journey, maybe you have a good story to tell us?"



"Hi, yes, in fact I do, and I am Simon."

"Tell us this story please Simon!"



"Well, one day I was in a big crowd because Jesus was carrying the cross to get crucified, the Roman soldiers saw me hurrying home, and said, "You there! Come and help him carry the cross. And so I went and helped Jesus. It was a long, hard, and painful way. It was full of stops but we finally made it and

Jesus delivered his soul to save us all."



"I am so glad Jesus saved us!"



"Oh, look at that man working in that field over there! Maybe he has a cool story for us."

"Hello! I am Tom the tour guide! What's your name?"

"Hi Tom! I am Joseph"

"Hi Joseph! We were wondering if you had a story to tell us."



"Well actually I do! A long time ago, when they decided to kill Jesus, I was very sad. So after they killed Him, I came from my house in Arimathea to ask for Jesus' body. Luckily Pilot gave me permission. So I went and took down Jesus' body, wrapped It in linen cloth, and laid him in a tomb cut from a rock where no one had been laid before. The women who came with Jesus from Galilee came after me, and when they saw how Jesus was buried, they made spices, and perfumes to put on his body."

"Oh wow! So you buried Jesus' body?"

"Yes I did Tom!"



"Come on children lets go talk to the young woman sitting over there"

"Hello, I am Tom the tour guide, do you have any interesting experiences to share with us?"

"Hi, I am Mary Magdalene and actually I do...I witnessed Jesus' resurrection!"



"Oh! Tell us all about it!"



"Well Jesus had just died and was buried, and I went with spiced to visit him. But as I got closer to the tomb, I saw that the stone was rolled away and it was empty inside!"



"Oh no! What happened to Jesus???"



"Well I had no idea so I went running to Simon Peter, and John to tell them what I had seen! So they both ran together and they also saw that it was empty! Then they went home not knowing what else they could possibly do.

But I stood by the tomb crying...and I saw two angels and they asked me why I was crying! So I told them that the reason I was crying, was because I didn't know what had happened to my Lord Jesus Christ! So then a man dressed in all white came near to me asking me why I was crying and who I was looking for!

"Who was the man though?"



"Well I couldn't tell at the time so I thought he was the guard and that maybe He had taken Jesus' body away...so I asked Him if he was carried my Lord away and if he did, where he took him so that I would've taken him back! But as it turns out it was Jesus himself! He had risen from the tomb after three days!"



"Oh, that is a miracle, I am glad Jesus rose from the dead to prove to the Jews that He is truly the Christ!"

"Me too! Thank you Mary! That was a great story!"

"You're welcome Tom!"



"Look over there! It's Queen Helen! Maybe she can tell us a cool story about Jesus!"

"Hi queen Helen! I am Tom the tour guide! We were wondering if you had a story to tell us!"

"Well hello Tom! I actually do have a story to tell!"

"Tell us! Tell us!"



"Ok. Well, when my son, Constantine was the emperor, I wanted more than anything to find the cross to Jesus! So I decided to do anything to find it! When I finally did find it, I needed to make sure that it was the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, so St. Macarius, bishop of Jerusalem told me that it would be the cross that had written on the top of it "This is Jesus, King of the Jews." I wanted to see a miracle just to make sure that it was the cross of the lord. By the will of God, the procession of a dead man was passing by at the time, I placed the other two crosses on the body of the dead man, but he did not rise. When I placed the third cross on his body, he rose up right away! I was very joyful!"



"Wow! So you found the cross of Jesus?"

"Yes I did!"



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Making “the sign of the cross” in Coptic

Ⲭⲉⲛ ⲫⲣⲁⲛ ⲙⲫⲓⲱⲧ ⲛⲉⲙ ⲡⲱⲏⲣⲓ ⲛⲉⲙ ⲡⲓⲠⲛⲁ ⲉⲑⲭ ⲟⲩⲟⲛⲟⲩⲧ ⲛⲟⲩⲱⲧ ⲁⲙⲛⲏ.

Khen ephran emfioat nem epshiri nem pi ernivma ethoab onoti en o ought Amen.

In the name of the Father, and the son, and the holy spirit, one God. Amen.

ⲫⲣⲁⲛ = ephran = the name, ⲙⲫⲓⲱⲧ = emfioat = of the Father

ⲡⲱⲏⲣⲓ = epshiri = the son, ⲡⲓⲠⲛⲁ ⲉⲑⲭ = pi ernivma ethoab = the holy spirit

ⲟⲩⲟⲛⲟⲩⲧ = onoti = God, ⲛⲟⲩⲱⲧ = en o ought = one

Saying “Christ is risen, Truly he is risen” in Coptic

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ⲁⲗⲏⲑⲟⲥ ⲁⲛⲉⲥⲧⲏ

Ekhrestos anisti

Alithos anisti

Christ is risen

Truly he is risen

Ⲭⲣⲓⲥⲧⲟⲥ = Ekhrestos = Christ,

ⲁⲛⲉⲥⲧⲏ = anisti = is risen

ⲁⲗⲏⲑⲟⲥ = Alithos = Truly,

ⲁⲛⲉⲥⲧⲏ = anisti = is risen

Search, Learn, and Win!



Hi kids!!! Let's see how much you learned in this magazine. What about some simple questions that will help you understand your Bible in an easy way? If you answer these questions correctly and send them to Mighty Angels at the address below, then prepare yourself for one BIG prize!

St. Philopateer Coptic Orthodox Church
Attn: Mighty Angels Magazine Contest
1450 East Campbell Rd.
Richardson, TX 75081

Hint: You will need to open your bible and do some fun research!

Answer the Questions:

1- Mention with the reference the verse from the Old Testament that was a prophecy on Jesus' entry to Jerusalem on Palm Sunday.

2- Who were the two disciples Jesus sent to prepare the Passover for Him? In which Gospel were their names mentioned?

3- Who carried Jesus' cross on the way to Golgotha?

4- Mention two persons Jesus met after His Resurrection but before He appeared to the twelve disciples.



True or False: Use "T" for True and "F" for False:

- 1- The rooster crowed two times before Peter denied Jesus -----
- 2- Jesus appeared to John at the tomb after His Resurrection -----
- 3- Thomas believed in Jesus after he touched the wounds -----
- 4- We fast during The Holy Fifty -----



Fill in the Blanks:

- 1- So when Jesus had received the sour wine, He said, "It is ----- !" And bowing His ----- , He gave up His spirit.

(John 19:30)



- 2- Then, the same day at evening, being the first day of the week, when the ----- were shut where the ----- were assembled, for fear of the Jews, ----- came and stood in the midst, and said to them, " ----- be with you."

(John 20:19)



Who said that?:

- 1- "What I have written, I have written"

- 2- "Lord, remember me when You come into Your kingdom."

- 3- "Peace to you!"

- 4- "Lord, You know all things; You know that I love You."



DID YOU KNOW???

Beavers can hold their breath for 45 minutes under water



All porcupines float in water

Cows give more milk when they listen to music



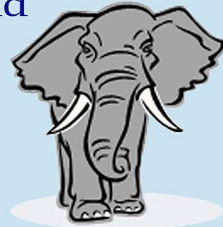
A cat's lower jaw cannot move sideways
A cat has 32 muscles in each ear

Giraffes have no vocal chords



The woodpecker can hammer wood up to 16 times per second

Elephants are the only mammal that cannot jump



A duck's quack doesn't echo

Butterflies cannot fly if their body temperature is less than 86 degrees



A fly always jumps backwards for a quick getaway when you try to hit it



A crocodile cannot move its tongue

Koala bear's fingerprints are very similar to those of humans





Published by:
St. Philopateer Church
Coptic Orthodox Diocese
of the Southern United States
P.O.Box 1005
Colleyville, TX 76034

To view past publications please visit our website at:
<http://www.suscopts.org/mightyangels/index.html>