



Named after the god Tegot, Tut or Tuhout, who is the god of wisdom, science, art inventions and divine mysteries for the Egyptians.

Gregorian Calendar equivalent:  
*September 11 to October 10*



**S**ince life for man is the most valuable possession he has, martyrdom also has become the most honored and great act that a human being can do to prove his faith and express his love to God. Therefore, God has greatly exalted the position of His martyrs. Indeed, they are worthy of this reward, for they having loved the Lord deeply, offered their life as a gift to their Loved One. They all suffered tortures and pains for the sake of the Holy name of God, yet they sacrificed their lives cheerfully for the Lord considering themselves as unworthy to suffer for His name. Martyrs are those who can sing with St. Paul saying, *“For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain”*(Philippians 1:21).

As we start a new Coptic year, we celebrate our martyrs reminding ourselves with their virtues and their abundance in their faith in Christ even to the last breath. Those who did not care about their bodies or their earthly lives, but in everything they cared for Christ Jesus and the life of communion with Him.

They were always steadfast before all their tribulations, rejoicing in all their afflictions. Thus, as we meditate in their lives, we gain hope and comfort knowing that by following their example, we will receive the crown of life. *“Whose faith follow, considering the outcome of their conduct”*(Hebrews 13:7).



The month of Thout is a very special month, for it offers us a complete meal that feeds us with all meanings of martyrdom. Through its events, we can understand that martyrdom is a living act that we do in our daily life by keeping the commands of God, bearing the hatred of the world to us, and standing firm before the trials of the adversary.

At the beginning of the month, we celebrate the feast of great saints. Among the saints is St. John the Baptist. By the middle of the month, we celebrate the feast of transferring the relics of St. Stephen the first martyr. And finally, our Church arranged the feast of the discovery of the Holy Cross to fall in the first month of the year to confirm to us that the journey of our life with Christ starts by carrying the cross, sharing with Him its pains, overcoming the present world, and waiting on His glorious Second Coming.



*Thout 2  
Martyrdom of  
St. John the Baptist*



*Thout 17  
Feast of the discovery  
of the Holy Cross*



*Thout 15  
Transfer of the Relics  
of St. Stephen*

*Submitted by:  
St. John the Baptist Church, Miami, FL*