

# ST. JOHN

## MONTHLY MAGAZINE

VOLUME 5, NO 41

May 1993

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MONDAY  
MAY 24  
1993



### THE FEAST OF ST. JOHN THE BELOVED

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# The Schedule of Meetings & Occasions

During May 93

## SUNDAYS

English Liturgy . . . . . 7:45 - 10:45 A.M.  
Arabic Liturgy . . . . . 8:00 - 11:30 A.M.

## WEDNESDAYS

Liturgy . . . . . 8:00 A.M. - 10:30 A.M.  
Prayer Meeting . . . . . 8:00 P.M. - 9:00 P.M.

## FRIDAYS

Liturgy . . . . . 8:00 - 10:30 A.M.

### The Deacons Meeting

Instructions & Alhan for deacons 7:00 - 8:30 P.M.

### Friday Youth Meeting

Arabic Youth Meeting . . . . . 7:30 - 9:30 P.M.

## SATURDAYS

The Youth leaders and Sunday School Teachers,  
Service Preparatory Meeting . . 5:30 - 7:00 P.M.

Vespers & Arabic Bible Study 7:00 - 9:00 P.M.,

\* followed by **Confessions**, Tasbeha (praises).

### Saturday Youth Meeting

The English Youth Meeting . . . 7:30 - 9:00 P.M.

\* The Midnight Praise

## FEASTS

### **I. THE FEAST OF ASCENSION**

Vespers, Wednesday, May 26, 7:00 - 8:30 P.M.

Festal Liturgy, Thursday, May 27, 8:00 - 10:30 A.M.

### **II. The Feast of St. John the Beloved**

Liturgy, Monday, May 24.....8:00 - 10:30 A.M.

### **III. The Feast of Lord's Entry to Egypt**

Festal Liturgy, Tuesday, June 1st., 8:00-10:30 A.M.

### **IV. THE FEAST of PENTECOST**

Liturgy, Sunday, June 6.....8:00 A.M.- 12:00

# The Clue

By Gina Farag of Chicago

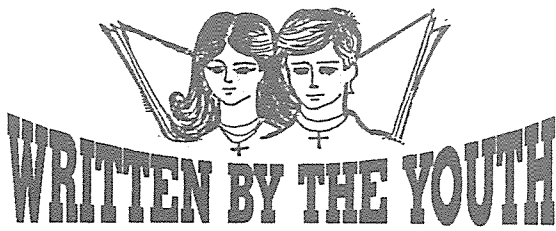
Once upon a time, in a Sunday School, a little boy was told that he must obey God's rule. The child couldn't believe that a God existed; all the stories about Jesus his mind resisted. Then one day he decided that he needed a clue, so he asked the Lord to prove himself true.

He prayed in hope to hear the Mighty Lord's voice. The Lord whispered in the wind and thundered with noise, but to those sounds the boy wouldn't open his ear and he still doubted that God was real.

The little boy asked to feel the Lord's touch, so a delicate snowflake tickled his nose and against his cheek rubbed a velvety red rose. But from all of this the boy was not aware, of Jesus' touch everywhere.

Finally the boy asked to see his Master, and as we all know, of God's love and patience nothing is vaster. That's why a rainbow shined against a rich indigo sky and the sun melted into the ocean with a spectacular good-bye. But the little boy was looking for God in a different place, that's why he never saw God's "face".

The little child grew up to be a reckless young man, searching for that something, his life had no plan. And when he grew bitter and old, life around him was hollow and cold. He died lonely and without a friend. For he would not know the God whose love was unconditional and without end!



# Partners With God

by Peter Iskander

## In Praise of Love

By Maged Makar

What virtue has equalled you,  
 or surpassed you ?  
 You are the Law summed up in a word.  
 You are merciful and kind. You are patient.  
 You do not envy. You are meek and humble.  
 You do not rejoice in evil.  
 You are pure and holy. You are unselfish.  
 You do not seek your own,  
 but the comfort and happiness of others.  
 You give others the benefit of the doubt.  
 You will give until the end.  
 You are the bond of perfection  
 and the way of the saints.  
 Sweet is your voice for it is the voice of God.  
 You do unto others as  
 you would have them do unto you.  
 You feed the poor,  
 and provide for the needy.  
 You are kind even to those who wrong you.  
 You forgive seven times seventy times.  
 You are zealous for the salvation of others,  
 and have guided many to repentance.  
 He who walks in you walks in the light.  
 He who abides in you abides in God,  
 and he who sees you has seen the living

# God.

“We are God’s fellow workers” (I Cor. 3:9)

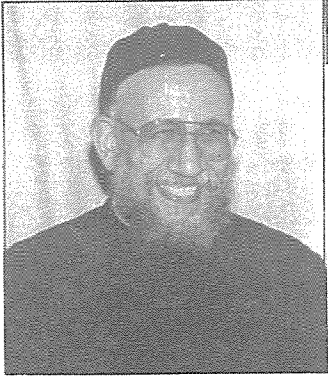
The priest of a country church, while out calling one day, stopped to see a farmer he hadn’t visited for quite a while. He was pleasantly surprised to see many improvements to the farm. Instead of dilapidated buildings and sparse crops, he saw that the barns, sheds, and equipments were well maintained and that the fields were abounding with grain. Everything looked prosperous and beautiful.

The priest wanted to compliment the farmer on what he had accomplished, but he also wanted to acknowledge that it was the Lord’s blessing. So he said, “Bill, you and the Lord have certainly worked wonders with this farm!”

“Yes”, Bill replied, “but you should have seen the place when the Lord had it all by Himself!”

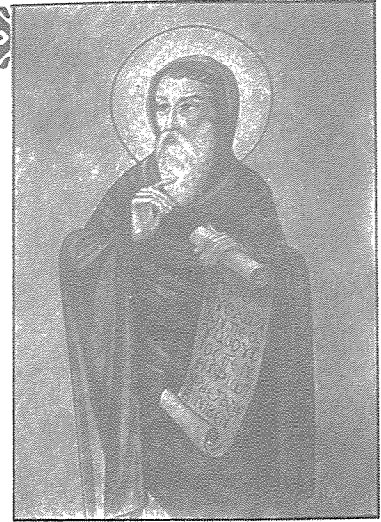
That farmer wasn’t being irreverent. He was merely acknowledging that although God doesn’t really need our help, He gives us the privilege of being partners with Him.

In 1 Corinthians 3:9 the apostle Paul declared, “We are God’s fellow workers.” What an honor to be cooperating with the Creator of the universe! And what a responsibility! Whether it’s the work we do in our church or in our daily occupation, let’s remember that we are partners with God.



*Message of the Church Fathers:*

# Ascension And Our Life



*Edited by:*

*Fr. Matthias F. Wahba*

*Priest of San Francisco Church*

*By: St. Athanasius the Great*

St. Paul says, *"Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth should bow and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord; to the glory of God the Father"* (Philipians 2:9 -11).

## **Exalted With Him**

The Lord, as mentioned before, was exalted as a man for us; likewise He is said to take as what He always had as God, that even such a grant of grace might reach us. Our salvation is "to the glory of God the Father"; for it is the Father's glory that man, made and then lost, should be found again, and should become God's temple.

The powers in heaven, both angels and archangels, who were ever worshipping the Lord, are now worshipping Him in the Name of Jesus. This is our grace and high exaltation, that even when He became man, the Son of God is worshipped, and the heavenly powers will not be astonished by seeing all of us, who are one body with Him, introduced into their realms.

## **We Follow Him and Are Purified**

Following the Ascended Lord, we may, even here, as on the threshold of Jerusalem which is above, meditate beforehand on the glory of eternal life. The Apostles followed the Saviour, who was their leader, saying, *"See, we have left all and followed You"* (Mark 10:28). He consecrated for us a new and live way through His glorious flesh in heaven (Hebrews 10:20), and He says, *"I AM the way"* (John 14:6); therefore He purifies our souls, as Jeremiah the prophet says, *"Stand in the ways and see, and ask for the old paths, where the good way is, and walk in it; then you will find rest for your souls"* (Jer. 6:16).

In old times, *"the blood of bulls and goats and the ashes of a heifer, sprinkling the unclean, sanctified for the purifying of the flesh"* (Heb.9:13), but now, through the grace of Christ, every man who follows Him is thoroughly cleansed.

Following the Lord is not accomplished by words only but by deeds, as St. Paul says, *"Seek those things which are above, where Christ is sitting at the right*



*hand of God. Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth...Put to death your members which are on earth: fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry “ (Colossians 3:1, 2, 5).*

**We Live In Heaven**

*“Our citizenship is in heaven”, says St. Paul, “from which we also eagerly wait for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ” (Phil. 3:20); “For here we have no continuing city, but we seek the one to come” (Heb. 13:14).*

Heaven truly is high, and its distance from us is infinite; for “the heaven of heavens is the Lord’s” (Psalm 115:16). But for us, there is not need to build a tower whose top is in the heavens, as those who found a plain in Babel; for their tongues were confused, and their works were destroyed (Genesis 11); for our sake the Lord has consecrated a way to heaven through through His blood, and has made it easy.

For not only has He afforded us consolation respecting the distance, but has also come and opened the door for us. For indeed, it was shut from the time when He cast Adam out of the delight of Paradise, and set the Cherubim and the flaming sword, that turned every way, to guard the way to the tree of life (Genesis 3:24). Now it is wide open and He that sits upon the Cherubim, having appeared with greater grace and loving kindness, led with Him into Paradise the thief who confessed (Luke 23:40-43); and having entered heaven as our forerunner (Hebrews 6:20) opened the gates to all.

# Faithful are the Wounds of a Friend

By Mary Habib

Imagine going to a doctor who withheld critical information from his patients because he didn't like to give bad news. The Lab work identifies your problem as life-threatening, but curable if treated immediately. Now imagine this: with lab work in hand and an understanding of the serious nature of your condition, the physician answers, “you are fine”.

Although we don't like to hear bad news from a doctor, we would not respect him if he withheld the truth from people who need to become right with God.

Father, let Your love overcome our lack of courage. Give us the wisdom to inflict wounds of love when they are needed.



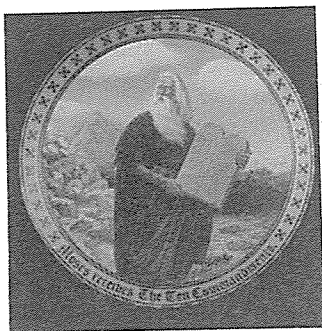
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# Moses as a Type of Christ

Fr. Augustinos Hanna

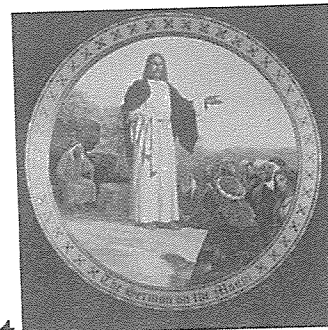
By this comparison, we can study in brief (just in 2 pages and in 10 minutes) all the following:

- (1) The life of the great prophet Moses.
- (2) The Book of Exodus, and some other holy books in the Bible.
- (3) The life of the Lord Jesus Christ and His supremacy over all.
- (4) The science of types (typology) through knowing the parallels, similarities and differences.
- (5) Gathering a great deal of Biblical information that we discover for the first time in our life.
- (6) Gaining many spiritual lessons and benefits.



Moses

1. Moses was a deliverer of his people from the bondage of Pharaoh's slavery.
2. Moses was persecuted in his childhood, by Pharaoh, and was thrown to drown in river Nile (Exodus 2).
3. Moses was saved from drowning by a miracle, through Pharaoh's daughter.
4. God appeared to Moses through the burning bush (Exod.3:2-7).
5. Moses first miracle was turning the water of the Nile into blood, which is a symbol of death (Ex. 7:17).
6. Moses received the word of God, the ten commandments written by the finger of God (Ex.20).
7. Moses made the passover and ordered the children of Israel to kill the lamb and put its blood on their doors and eat it roasted in fire without breaking its bones (Exod.12).
8. Moses crossed the Red Sea with Israel and baptized them in the cloud (the Holy



Jesus Christ

Jesus is the Savior of the whole world from the slavery of satan.

Jesus was persecuted in His childhood, by king Herod in the massacre of the children of Bethlehem. (Matthew 2).

Jesus was saved miraculously from the slaughter by the angel of the Lord and the flight into Egypt.

The burning bush was a type of Christ's incarnation through the virgin Mary and the unity between Godhood and manhood.

Jesus first miracle was turning the water into wine in the wedding of Cana of Galilee, which is a symbol of life, joy, love and the Holy Spirit (Jn.2).

The Lord Jesus Christ is the Incarnate Word of God and the true law-giver (John 1:1-3 & Matt. 5-7).

The Passover lamb was a great type to the sacrifice of Christ on the cross. He is the Lamb of God that bears the sin of the world (Jn. 1:29, also 1 Cor.5:7). The Lamb's flesh stands for the Eucharist, and the fire stands for the judgment He bore for us.

Crossing the Red Sea was a type of the Christian baptism (1 Cor. 10:1-4 & John 3:3-5).



Spirit) and the sea (the water- Ex.14).

9. Moses gave the children of Israel the manna in the wilderness (Exod 16).
10. Moses stroke the rock by God's rod and water came out of it (Ex.17).
11. Moses raised his hands in prayers, in a cross-like manner and defeated Amalik (Ex.17).
12. Moses was an intercessor to his people (Ex.32:32 & Psalm 106:23).
13. Moses cast the tree into the bitter waters of Marah, and the waters were made sweet (Ex. 15:22-26).
14. At Elim, Moses fed his people on 12 wells of sweet water and 70 palm trees (Ex.15:27).
15. Moses fasted forty days.
16. When Moses came down from Mount Sinai with the two tablets of the Testimony in his hands, the skin of his face shone with light (Ex 34:29 also on the mount of Transfiguration - Matt.17)
17. Moses lifted the bronze serpent on a pole that everyone who is bitten,when he looks at it, should live (Num. 21:8).
18. Moses could see the glory of the Lord, only from within the cleft of the rock (Ex. 33:22).
19. Moses was a prophet and he prophesied that the Lord will raise up for Israel a prophet like him (Deuteronomy 18:15).
20. Moses was "very humble, more than all men who were on the face of the earth" (Num.12:3).
21. Moses, as the representative of the law, could only lead the children of Israel to the border of the promised land but he could not enter them into it (Deut.34).
22. Moses was "faithful, in the house of the Lord, as a servant" (Hebrews 3:3,5)
23. Moses made the Tabernacle which was full of types to Christ in many accurate details.

The manna was a type of Christ who descended from heaven and gave us His body to eat and live forever

Christ is our rock. His side was pierced on the cross, and blood and water came out of it (Jn.19).

By the life of prayer and the cross of Jesus we can conquer satan and overcome carnal lusts (the flesh).

Christ is the greatest Mediator and Intercessor. (Romans 8:34 & Heb.7:25).

That specific tree was a type of the cross of Christ turns the bitterness of sin, curse and death into the sweetness of salvation and eternal glory.

At the church, the Lord Jesus feeds His flock in the whole world by the 12 apostles and the 70 disciples (Mark 16:15,16 & Luke 10:1).

The Lord Jesus Christ fasted forty days.

The Lord Jesus is the light of the world, true light of true light. He is the sun of righteousness, and on the mountain of Transfiguration and also in the road to Demascus He appeared in a bright light shining better than the sun (Matt.17 & Act 9).

The Lord Jesus explained that type saying, "And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness even so must the Son of Man be lifted up that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life (Jn.3:14).

The glory of God, is better seen through the "cleft of our rock" the pierced side of Christ on the cross which shows His glorious love.

The Lord Jesus Christ is that great Prophet, King, and Priest, whom Moses spoke of (Acts 7:37).

The Lord Jesus was perfect in all virtues and was humble and meek more than all. (Matt.11:28, 29 & Phil.2:5-11).

But the Lord Jesus Christ is the only One who can enter everyone who believes in Him to the heavenly promised land because He is the representative of grace.

But Christ as a Son over His own house and was counted worthy of more glory than Moses - The Lord Jesus was the fulfillment of all these symbols, in materials, colors and service.

# The Last Appearance

By Fr. Gawargios

Before the expiration of the forty days, the apostles returned to Jerusalem. The Lord made it clear that His Companionship with them was past and would now be in heaven. He opened their minds to understand the scriptures (Lk. 24:45). The more they would search the Old Testament, the more they would understand. They have to draw from the treasury of the Law, the Prophets and the Psalms; all that referred to Him.

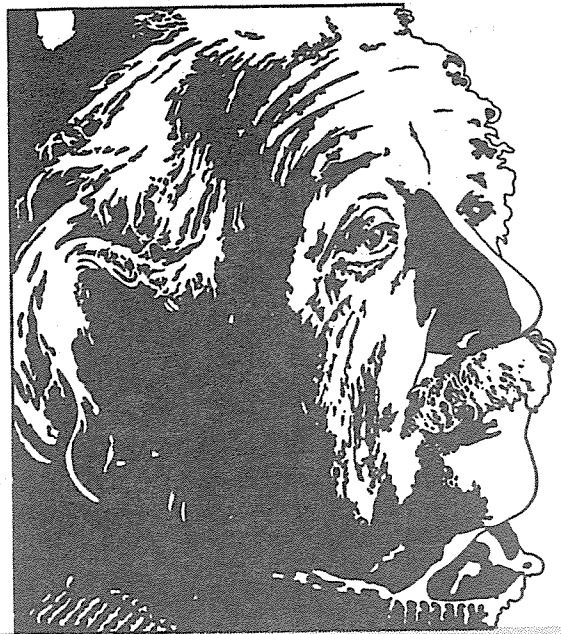
Every thing looked different in the light of Resurrection. They were in previous darkness, although the Lord told them several times, His sufferings, death and resurrection. While on earth He exercised the triple office of priest, prophet, and king, as He prepared to leave them for heaven, He deputed the triple office to His apostles: The priestly office in bidding them to renew the memorial of His death and by conferring on them the power to forgive sins (Jn. 20:23); the prophet or teaching office, by promising to send them the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of truth (Jn 20:22) Who will recall to their minds all things He had taught them and would keep them one in faith; and the kingly office, by giving them a Kingdom, over which they had the powers of binding and loosening (Mt. 18:18)

Moreover, the Lord cleared up the doubt concerning His presence with them when He assured His church, saying: "Be assured, I am with you always, to the end of time" (Mt 28:20). This promise was without limit; it will endure until the end of the world. God had told Abraham that He would be with him; Moses and Aaron were told that he would be in their mouths; Josue and Moses were promised that God would be with them; and Solomon was assured that God would be with him in the building of His house. When Jeremiah pleaded ignorance, he was assured that God would put words into his mouth. But in these cases the Divine presence lasted only during the lifetime of the

persons to whom it was given. No such limitation of Divine protection and presence was mentioned in the case of the Apostles. "The gates of hell will not prevail against My Church" He told the apostles once. Confirmation of that promise was given again in the Divine words: "I am with you through the days that are coming until the consummation of the world."

Let us remember His Divine promise specially when we are subjected to sufferings and tribulations. Life is a struggle ; unless there is a cross in our life, there will never be an empty tomb; unless there is the crown of thorns, there will never be the halo of light; unless there is a Good Friday; there will never be an Easter Sunday . What the Resurrection offered was not immunity from evil in the physical world, but immunity from sin in the soul .

Let the light of Resurrection fill our hearts and enlighten our way.



Come explore  
the words of  
Jesus with us.

"No one can read  
the Gospels without  
feeling the actual  
presence of Jesus.  
His personality pul-  
sates in every word."

-Albert Einstein  
The Saturday Evening Post  
26 October 1929





## St. Dimyanah and Forty Virgins

**DIMYĀNAH AND HER FORTY VIRGINS.** Dimyānah, or Damiana, is one of the most highly revered and cherished female saints and martyrs of the Coptic church. She was martyred with forty virgin companions in the third century during the reign of Emperor DIOCLETIAN (284–305). Their story is detailed in the Arabic SYNAXARION under the date of 13 Tūbah, the date of their martyrdom for standing firm by their Christian faith against their persecutors. She was the sole daughter of Marcus, Roman governor of the districts of Parallus (al-Burullus), Za'farān, and Wādī al-Saysabān in the northern Delta of the Valley of the Nile. She was born at an unknown date in the third century in a Christian family, and at the age of one year she was taken by her father to the monastery of al-Maymah to receive the blessings of the holy fathers. When she reached the age of fifteen, her father wanted her to get married, but she refused and informed him that she had already made a vow of becoming the bride of Jesus Christ, a decision that delighted her pious father. She asked him to build a special place for her retirement with her virgin companions, where they spent their days in reading the scriptures and in prayer.

Diocletian brought Marcus to Rome and requested him to offer incense and libation to his idols. After some hesitation, to save his life, Marcus decided to accept the imperial command by worshiping his idols, and thus was left free to return to his province. On hearing this, Dimyānah went to her father and chided him for abjuring the faith of the creator of all the world to idolatrous beliefs. She also told him that she would have rather seen him dead than apostatizing. Marcus was deeply moved by his daughter's protest and returned to Diocletian to declare the reality of his Christian faith. When the emperor failed to deflect him from Christianity to the idols of Rome, he ordered him decapitated.

Diocletian discovered that Marcus' affirmation of his Christian faith had been encouraged by his daughter. So he sent one of his generals with a battalion of a hundred soldiers to her residence in Egypt. These were armed with instruments of persecution, but they tried first, without avail, to win her to the state religion by means of persuasion. Ulti-

mately, the general ordered four of his men to place her between two iron sheets equipped with pointed spikes and squeeze her between them until her blood ran. Her forty virgins watched this atrocity, crying. When she was confined to prison, the angel of the Lord appeared to her and remedied her wounds. Consequently her body was dipped in boiling oil and lard and her flesh was torn by instruments of torture, and every time the Lord returned her safe and sound. When in the end the general despaired from forcing her to apostatize, he ordered her and all her companions decapitated, and thus all of them won the crown of martyrdom.

Dimyānah's story is recited in the liturgies of the Coptic church on the day of her commemoration, and the traditional site of her residence, now a nunnery, is a pilgrimage area for throngs of Copts every year.

[See also: Pilgrimages.]

AZIZ S. ATIYA

## Mother's Day

In the mother's day, St. John Church congratulates all our true Christian and brave mothers. We dedicate this Biblical story to their children to show them how great their mothers are, and to what degree they should honor, respect and love them.

**“Bethsheba (King Solomon's mother) went to King Solomon, to speak to him...And the King rose up to meet her and bowed down to her, and sat down on his throne and had a throne set for the King's mother; so she sat at his right hand....”** (1 Kings 2:19).

We hope to teach our sons and daughters to offer their mothers the due respect they deserve, and follow these Biblical moralities, ethics and protocol.

Remember that all the great leaders in the world, like Abraham Lincoln, Napoleon, Edison and St. Augustine, said that they owe their mothers the glory of their success and prosperous life.



# Sing to the Lord A New Song

Throughout the sacred history of the people of God, men and women have expressed their devotion and praise to God through singing and music. For many composers, the words and music came during times of intense trials, and for others during times of joy and thanksgiving.

David, *“the sweet psalmist of Israel”* experienced both. He called the Lord: *“O God of my praise”* (Psalm 109:1).

On the run from King Saul, he wrote:

*“I love You, O Lord, my strength. The Lord is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer; my God, my strength, in whom I will trust. My shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold. I will call upon the Lord, who is worthy to be praised, so shall I be saved from my enemies”* (Psalm 18:1-3).

When David experienced the great salvation of the Lord, he expressed his feelings fervently by singing, *“I waited patiently for the Lord; and He inclined to me, and heard my cry. He also brought me up out of a horrible pit, out of the miry clay and set my feet upon a rock, and established my steps. He has put a NEW SONG in my mouth-praise to our God”* (Ps. 40:1-3).

He wrote *“A Song of Love”* in Psalm 40, one of his Messianic Psalms which he addressed to Christ, the King of Kings: *“Your throne, O God, is forever and ever”* (one of the greatest and longest hymns

in the Coptic Church, called *“Picothronos”* and sung on Good Friday). And in the same Psalm he said, *“My heart is overflowing with a good theme; I recite my composition concerning the King; my tongue is the pen of a ready writer...etc.”*.

So David expresses his great devotion and emotions towards the Lord, through his tongue and his pen, and a whole Orchestra of musical instruments. Once more, when he *“prepared a place for the Ark of God, he spoke to the leaders of the Levites to appoint their brethren to be the singers accompanied by instruments of music, stringed instruments, harps, and cymbals, by raising the voice with resounding joy....Thus all Israel brought up the ark of the covenant of the Lord with shouting and with the sound of the horn, with trumpets and with cymbals, making music with stringed instruments and harps”* (1 Chronicles 15:16, 28).

There is an echo of the same idea in our church when we sing Psalm 150, during the holiest moments of the Liturgy, the distribution of Holy Communion. This Psalm says, *“Praise the Lord in His sanctuary.... with the sound of the trumpet, praise Him with the flute and harp! Praise Him with the timbrel and loud cymbals, praise Him with stringed instruments. Let everything that has breath praise the Lord”*.

It is great to sing, not only the ancient songs and praises of the forefathers, but also we are required by the Holy Spirit to sing to the Lord our own new songs which show our gratitude and love in our own fresh words.

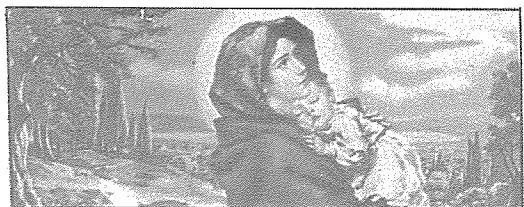
*“Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever”* (Heb.13:8), and He is the

one who said that, *“the sons of this world are wiser in their generation than the sons of light”* (Luke 16:8). Also He is the one who said, *“Therefore, every scribe instructed concerning the kingdom of heaven is like a householder who brings out of his treasure things New and Old”* (Matthew 13:52).

Whether you are celebrating the work of God in your life or confronted by trouble, fear, doubt and disillusion, try praising God in *“Psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord”* (Ephesians 5:19 & Colossians 3:16 & James 5:13).

You may not feel like praising Him. Remember that He knows you are hurting. Ask Him to help you begin; and He will not only place a *“New Song”* in your heart, He will also provide comfort, courage and hope to face the near future and the eternal future as well. Never forget that this is a Divine commandment to *“Sing to the Lord a New Song”* (Pslms 98:1 & 149), and to sing with David the prophet and king saying, *“I will sing to the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praise to my God while I have my being. May my meditation be sweet to Him; I will be glad in the Lord”* (Ps. 104:33, 34).

Finally, remember that Satan hates hymns, psalms and spiritual songs, and David used to cast out the evil spirit from King Saul by singing and *“playing his harp”* (1 Samuel 16:14-16 & 19:9).



## To The Parents

Fr. Gewargios Attalla

I was blamed by my father of confession because I could not control myself when my children behaved badly or destroyed anything at home. I was easily frustrated and became angry and usually tried to punish them for every mistake.

Once I returned home in a very hot day, my children were in the summer holidays, remaining at home with the babysitter because the pre-school was closed. On my way home I was thinking about Abouna's blame and advice about how to behave with my kids patiently and how to consider their childhood, trying to be calm with them and to cool down when they make mistakes. I decided in that time to obey Abouna and try to manage with my kids to make them happy. But Satan was planning to destroy my decision.

After few minutes, I reached home. When I opened the door, I found the baby sitter standing and the two boys behind her, standing in a suspicious way. The following conversation happened: *“What is wrong”* I asked in a calm way, and there was no answer I repeated in a loud voice the same question, but I received no answer even from the babysitter. This led to the conclusion that a scandal happened and they were afraid to tell me. I gazed to my elder son and repeated: *“What happened?”*, but he answered *“not me”*. I knew that the younger son made something wrong and while I was looking to him, the babysitter told me. *“Please be calm, the small kid climbed over the book shelves which were fixed on the wall and sat on it.”* When I looked to the room, I found the books scattered on the floor and the shelves were broken. I became very angry and looked to the small kid in a nervous way, but he looked to me and said: *“Give thanks to God, because he saved me and nothing happened to me when I fell from such a high place,”* I cooled down, I recognized that it was Satan's temptation to destroy my plans to be patient and that the Lord sent his angel to speak to me through my son, in order to overcome my anger and to continue in practicing self-control.





# FOOLS...

## In The Book of Proverbs

1. "Fools despise wisdom and discipline." (Prov 1)
2. "The mouth of the fool invites ruin." (Prov 10)
3. "The fool will be the servant of the wise." (11)
4. "The way of a fool seems right to him." (12)
5. "A companion of fools suffers harm." (13)
6. "Stay away from a foolish man, for you will not find knowledge on his lips." (14)
7. "Fools mock at sin." (14)
8. "But a fool is hot-headed and reckless." (14)
9. "A fool despises his father's instruction." (15:5)
10. "A foolish man despised his mother." (15)
11. "Better to meet a bear robbed of her cubs than a fool in his folly." (17)
12. "Reproof is more effective for a wise man than a hundred blows on a fool." (17)
13. "A foolish son is a grief to his father, and bitterness to his mother." (17:25)
14. "Even a fool is thought wise if he / she keeps silent and if holds his/ her tongue." (17)
15. "A fool finds no pleasure in understanding but delights in airing his own opinions." (18)
16. "A man's own folly destroys his life, yet his heart rages against the Lord." (18)
17. "Don't speak to a fool, for he will scorn the wisdom of your words." (23)
18. "Like snow in summer, honor is not fitting for a fool." (26)
19. "A whip for the horse, a bridle for the donkey, and a rod for the backs of fools!" (26:1-12)
20. "Stone is heavy and sand a burden, but provocation by a fool is heavier than both." (27)

21. "Though you grind a fool in a mortar, grinding him like grain with a pestle, you will not remove his folly from him." (Proverbs 27)
22. "He who trusts in his own heart is a fool." (18)
23. "Of what use is money in the hand of a fool, since he has no desire to get wisdom." (17)
24. "He who trusts in a fool is a fool."

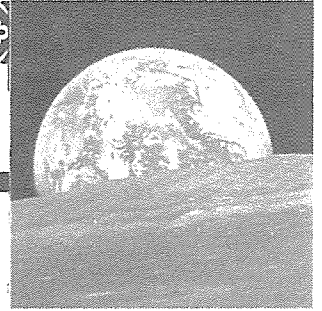
## I was so slow to love You

I was so slow to love You, Lord,  
Your age-old beauty is still as new to me.  
I was so slow to love You!  
You were within me,  
yet I stayed outside  
seeking You there;  
in my ugliness I grabbed at  
the beautiful things of Your creation.  
Already You were with me,  
but I was still far from You.  
The things of this world kept me away;  
I did not know then  
that if they had not existed through You  
they would not have existed at all.  
Then You called me  
and Your cry overcame my deafness;  
You shone out  
and Your light overcame my blindness;  
You surrounded me with Your fragrance  
and I breathed it in,  
so that now I yearn for more of You;  
I tasted You  
and now I am hungry and thirsty for You;  
You touched me,  
and now I burn with longing for Your peace.

**Prayer by St. Augustine**

## NEWS OVERVIEW

### Understanding world events and trends



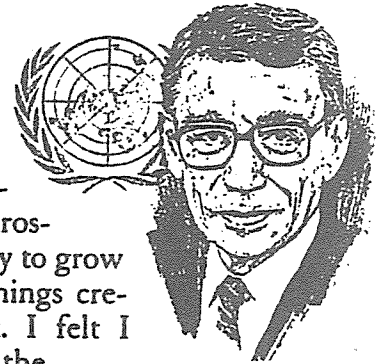
#### Boutros-Ghali

#### DESTINED TO SERVE

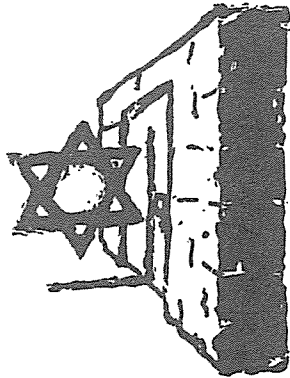
BOUTROS BOUTROS-GHALI, the first African Secretary General of the United Nations, has more than a passing interest in politics. His grandfather, Boutros Ghali, the only Christian prime minister of Egypt, was shot by an assassin in 1910. Cairo crowds hailed his Moslem killer, but the family did not intend anyone to forget the grandfather. They adopted his given name, Boutros (Peter), and anointed the new grandchild with the same given name. The family then built a church in Cairo to honor the martyred patriarch. "On his tomb were

the words 'God is witness that I served my country to the best of my ability,'" says Boutros-Ghali. "For a boy to grow up with such things creates an impact. I felt I would betray the tradition of our family if I didn't play a political role."

—Stanley Meisler in *Los Angeles Times Magazine*



*From Reader's Digest, April 1993*



#### NOT ALWAYS A JEW

Messianic Jews seeking citizenship in Israel cannot now do so under the Law of Return (1950), which has allowed Jews to immigrate to that country as long as they have "not willingly changed" their religion.

Israel's Supreme Court, on December 25 of last year, decided that those Jews who recognize Jesus Christ as the Messiah are not considered to be "Jews" for the purpose of the Law of Return.

The Court based its decision upon Jewish religious law, the *Halacha*, which states that conversion to another religion forfeits any "legal and social standing within the Jewish family, community and people."

This decision overturned a ruling of Justice Silberg in 1970: "Born a Jew always a Jew in *Halacha*."

Justice Menachem Elon added that Messianic Jews "do not belong to the Jewish nation and have no right to force themselves upon it."

• • ALBUQUERQUE JOURNAL Sunday, September 13, 1992 A17

By Mimi Mann

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CAIRO, Egypt — The world's oldest known bound book, a 1,600-year-old Book of Psalms, goes on display today almost eight years after it was discovered in a little girl's grave.

"What a wonderful day for me!" Nasry Iskander, Egypt's chief conservation expert, said on Saturday. "We've gone through so much to save it."

The Book of Psalms, protected by a humidity-controlled showcase designed by Iskander, is the new centerpiece of the ancient manuscript wing of Cairo's Coptic Museum.

Gawdat Gabra, an Egyptologist and Coptic scholar who is the museum's director, has studied the book since it was found in Novem

ber 1984. Its 490 handwritten pages were stuck together, and experts had to go through a painstaking process of separating each parchment leaf.

Egyptian archaeologists discovered the book in a poor Christian cemetery at Al-Mudil, 85 miles south of Cairo and 25 miles north of the Greco-Roman city of Oxyrhynchus.

The book dates to the late 4th century



The Associated Press

The world's oldest bound book, a 1,600-year-old Book of Psalms, will go on display today in Cairo, eight years after it was found in a little girl's grave in an early Christian cemetery south of Cairo.