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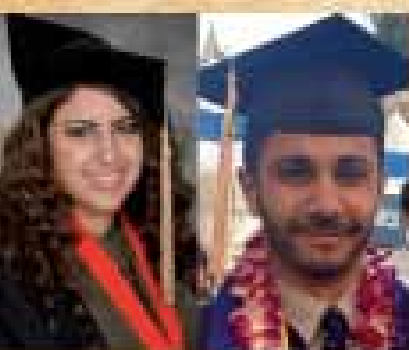
A COPTIC CHRISTIAN BI-MONTHLY MAGAZINE

Covina, CA

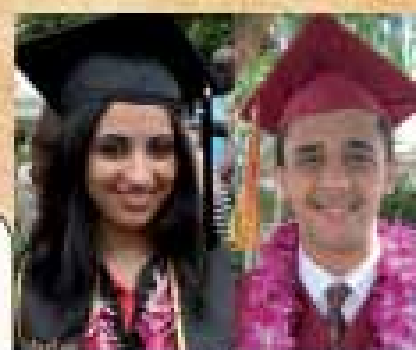
JOHN



FAMILY CONVENTION 2015



2015



Congratulations Graduates!

**A CHRISTIAN COPTIC ORTHODOX
BI-MONTHLY MAGAZINE
PUBLISHED BY**



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*Verse
of the Month*



**"The apostles continued with one accord in
prayer and supplication with the women and
Mary the mother of Jesus" (Acts 1:14).**

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**SCHEDULE of MEETINGS and EVENTS
for the MONTH of NOVEMBER & DECEMBER 2014**

SUNDAY	WEDNESDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
+ English Liturgy 8:00 - 11:00 a.m. ***	+ Liturgy 8:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m.	+ Liturgy 8:00 - 10:00 p.m.	+ Liturgy from 8-10 am + Vespers; Bible Study 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.
+ Arabic Liturgy 8:00 - 11:15 a.m.	+ <u>Thursday Morning</u> + Senior Citizen Club 11:00 - 4:00 a.m.		+ Beginners' Deacons- Meeting 5: 00-6:00 p.m. + Elementary Meeting 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.
Servants' Meeting 12:00 - 1:00 p.m. 2 nd & 4 th Sunday.	+ THURSDAY Family Meeting 7:30 - 9:00 p.m. (Fr. Augustinos)	+ Arabic Youth Meeting 8:00 - 10:00 p.m. (Fr. Gawargious)	+ College Youth Meeting 7:00-8:00 p.m. +Catechumens' meeting by Fr. Daniel 7-8 p.m.
TUESDAY English- Bible Study 7:30 pm			High School & J. High Meetings 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.

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1. Feast of the Apostles (July 12)

On Sunday, July 12, the church celebrates the Feast of the Apostles commemorating the martyrdom of the two apostles St. Peter and St. Paul. May the blessings and intercession of the Apostles be with us.



2. Other Famous Feasts during July & August:

(1) July 1: Martyrdom of St. Moses the Black.

(2) July 9: Martyrdom of the apostle Thaddaeus.

(3) July 10: Departure of St. Cyril of Alexandria

(4) July 14: Departure of St. Shenouda (Archimandrite).

(5) July 15: Departure of St. Bishoy.

(6) July 22: Departure of St. Ephram, the Syrian.

(7) July 25: Martyrdom of Apostle St. James son of Alphaeus and the author of the letter of St. James.

(8) July 31: Martyrdom of St. Abanoub

(9) August 6: Martyrdom of St. Markorius.

(10) August 29: Martyrdom of 30,000 Copts in Alexandria.



3. Fast and Feast of St. Mary: (August 7- 22)

On Thursday, August 7, the church starts the fast of St. Mary the holy Virgin for two weeks until her feast on 22nd. Starting from the second week there will be daily Liturgies with vespers and revival meetings.



4. Feast of Transfiguration: (August 19)

On Wednesday, August 19, the church celebrates the Feast of Christ's transfiguration; the liturgy from 8 to 10 a.m.



5. The Diocese' Youth Summer Retreats in the Coptic Village at Big Bear, California:

+ Junior High for boys: from June 30- July 2 (Fr. Gregory).

+ Junior High for girls: From July 12 to 14 (Fr. David).

+ High School for boys: from June 28- 30 (Fr. Michael)

+ High School for girls: from July 9-11 (Fr. Mark).



6. H.H. Pope Tawadros II:

+ H. H. Pope Tawadros will visit America for the first time on October 2015, God willing.

+ His Holiness will bless St. John Church in Covina twice, once on Friday, October 18 in the Arabic Youth Meeting. The second day is Saturday, October 19, for the Vespers and a

sermon. All are invited to have the blessing. The rest of his program in Los Angeles will be announced later on.

7. H. G. Bishop Serapion:

+ Bishop Serapion attended the Pentecost and the meetings of the Holy Synod in Egypt.

+ On June's Clergy meeting, His Grace talked about the Pope's visit to U.S.A.



8. Graduation Celebration: (Saturday, July 18)

On Saturday, July 18, St. John Church celebrates her Annual Graduation Party to honor her children who graduated from College, and Post-graduates, High School, Junior High and to deliver them gifts.



9. Senior Citizen's Cruise:

St. John church seniors will have their second cruise on November, 2015 to the Bahamas, St. Thomas, Puerto Rico,

For more information and reservation Call Maher Saleh (626) 222- 6558.

10. Kids' Camp: (July 24)

St. John's Kids Camp will be held from July 24-26 at the Coptic Village in Big Bear.

11. St. John's Grand Festival (Sept. 25):

St. John Church in Covina, CA will hold her 26 Annual Grand Festivals on the occasion of the Feast of the Cross. It is for 3 days from Friday, September 25 to Sunday 27.

The goal of the festival is to show the activities of the youth, women and senior citizens. And to raise funds for the church, to pay off the debts and complete the icons.

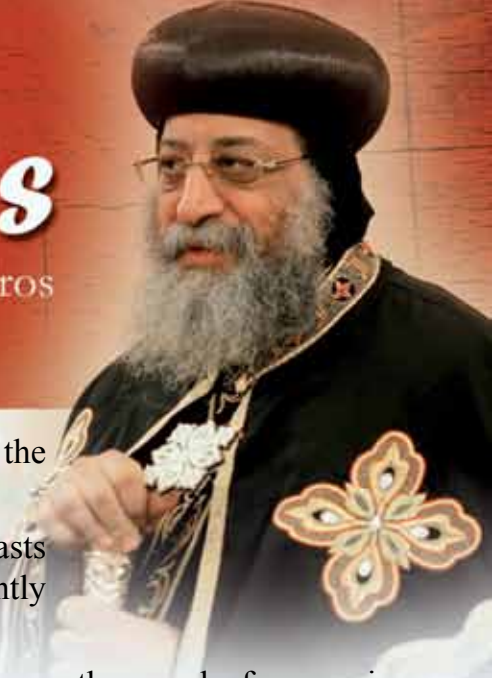
12. St. John Church Summer Club:

The church started her summer club for youth and children from June 15, until August 6. It will be opened for three days, Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday every week from 6:00- 9:00 p.m. The goal of this club is to spend good time enjoying sports, spirituality and Christian fellowship.



Church Feasts

By H.H. Pope Tawadros



The feast days are always joyful. Everyone rejoices, children and adults. Feast means a day of great joy. From our Coptic Orthodox Church perspective, we consider every day in our life as a feast, and therefore, we read every day in the Synaxarium, this traditional sentence, “We celebrate today, the feast or the memory of so and so”. Through this our church is spreading joy around every day and this is one of the features of the church which is rarely found elsewhere. Now, let us go on a tour about our feasts....

First: Our feasts are three kinds:

(1) Annual Feasts: Once a year; they are originally about our Lord Jesus Christ and then about the Saints.

(2) Monthly Feasts: According to the Coptic rites, three feasts are repeated every Coptic month:

- 1) Day 12:** Remembrance of Archangel Michael.
- 2) Day 21:** Remembrance of our mother St. Mary.
- 3) Day 29:** Remembrance of the Annunciation, Nativity and Resurrection (29 of Baramhat, Kiahk and Bermouda).

(3) Weekly Feasts: Sunday every week; we call it the Day of Resurrection. That is why we sing every Sunday saying, “This is the Day which the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it” (Ps.118).

Secondly: Three Major Lord's Feasts on Sunday:

1. Palm Sunday: The Lord's triumphant entry into Jerusalem before the Holy Week begins.

2. Easter or Sunday of the Resurrection. We celebrate it for fifty joyful days without fasting.

3. Pentecost: The Feast of the coming of the Holy Spirit, which is considered the Christian Church birthday. It is the day which separates the

Holy Fifty Days and the Apostles' Fast.

Thirdly: Three Feasts connected to the nightly Liturgies:

1. Christmas: Because the angel of annunciation proclaimed the good tidings to the shepherds at night. And the star appeared to the Magi at night.

2. Epiphany: A new birth and new life through baptism.

3. Easter or the Feast of Resurrection: Because it happened in the very early dawn, and therefore, the Liturgy continues Saturday until after midnight.

Fourth: The Feasts connected with the “Laqqan” or washing of the feet:

1. Epiphany: It refers to the washing of the second birth through baptism (Titus 3:5).

2. Covenant Thursday: The washing of the feet here, refers to what the Lord Jesus did before instituting the sacrament of Communion, the New Passover and cleansing through redemption.

3. The Apostles' Feast: Washing here refers to consecration for the mission.

Fifth: The three Feasts that come on Thursday:

1. Jonah's Feast: It comes two weeks before the Lent.

2. Great Thursday of the Covenant: It is the day of the New Passover and establishment of Eucharist.

3. Thursday of the Feast of Ascension: Since the ascending of our Lord Jesus to heaven took place after 40 days from the Sunday of the Resurrection, so it always comes on Thursday.



How did the Holy Spirit Descend?

By H. H. Pope Shenouda



1. The Holy Spirit descended on the disciples *in the form of divided tongues as of fire*. Thereupon “they were all filled with the Holy Spirit” (Acts 2:4).

They began also to speak with the tongues of the entire multitude gathered there on that great Day of Pentecost (nearly from 15 nations). They spoke the wonderful works of God among all those people (Acts 2:9-11). St. Peter delivered a sermon through which the people were cut to the heart, gladly received his word and about three thousand were baptized that day (Acts 2:37, 41).

2. Afterwards, the Holy Spirit was received *by laying on of the hands* of the apostles, as in the case of the people of Samaria. When the apostles heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them, “who, when they had come down, prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit”, *“Then they laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit”* (Acts 8:15, 17).

The Ephesians also *“When Paul had laid hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke with tongues and prophesied”* (Acts 19:6).

3. Then the *Holy Anointment* became the means of receiving the Holy Spirit.

By the wide spreading of Christianity in various parts of the world, the laying of the hands of the apostles became impracticable. So, the anointing was the substitute which is now effected by the Holy Myron. St. John the Apostle referring to this anointing, said *“But you have an anointing from the Holy One...”* (1 Jn. 2:20), and, “But the anointing which you have received from Him abides in you...” (1 Jn. 2:27) [See also 2 Cor. 1:21].

4. As for the priesthood, it was given to the apostle by *the Holy breath of the Lord Christ*.

It is stated in the Bible that the Lord Christ breathed on them and said to them “Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained” (Jn. 20: 22, 23). It was then the Holy Spirit that was in them who forgave or retained the sins, but, through them.

However, the apostles received the Holy Spirit *afterwards in the Sacrament of Holy Orders (priesthood) by the laying on of the hands*.

We know this from the words of St. Paul the Apostle to his disciple Timothy Bishop of Ephesus, *“I remind you to stir up the gift of God which is in you through the laying on of my hands”* (2Tim. 1:6). And concerning the ordination of others, he warned him, *“Do not lay hands on anyone hastily”* (1 Tim. 5:22).

We observe also in appointing Barnabas and Saul, that apostles, *“having fasted and prayed, and laid hands on them, they sent them away. So, being sent out by the Holy Spirit* they went down to Seleucia...” (Acts 13:3, 4). The sending out by the Holy Spirit was thus effected by the laying on of the hands.

The seven deacons also were appointed in the same way, *“whom they set before the apostles; and when they had prayed, they laid hands on them”* (Acts 6:6).

From all the previous examples we see that: the laying on of the hands was accompanied by certain prayers which are now called the ordination ritual...

We observe further that the disciples received the Holy Spirit directly from God because there was none of higher rank than them to receive the Spirit from him. But since the apostles have become

“stewards of the mysteries of God” (1 Cor. 4:1); the situation differs... *Those stewards of God’s mysteries are now the means of giving the Holy Spirit.*

This is done by the laying on of their hands and by their prayers as in the case of ordaining the bishops, priests and deacons. But in the case of giving the Spirit to the believers in general, this is effected first by the laying on of the hands, then by using the holy anointment. This became the way of giving the Spirit that dwells in them to the others...

Nowadays, we practise the Sacrament of the Holy Myron (Chrism) after baptism.

The ritual of this sacrament requires that the baptized person be crossed with the Myron in various parts of his body. Then the hand of the bishop or priest is laid upon his head and he breathes on his face, saying, ‘receive the Holy Spirit’... As for women who are baptized, the bishop may lay his hands on the woman in prayer to receive the Holy Spirit and crosses only the apparent parts of her body...

It was the Holy Spirit who spoke on the mouths of the ministers.

The Lord Jesus Christ said this to His disciples when sending them out, “... *it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father who speaks in you*” (Mt. 10:20). And St. Peter tells us, “*for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit*” (2 Pt. 1:21). So we say in the Creed about the Holy Spirit “who spoke in the prophets”.

We read also in the book of Acts that on the Day of Pentecost, the *apostles “began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance”* (Acts 2:4). And the prophecy of Agabus regarding St. Paul the Apostle began with the words, “*Thus says the Holy Spirit...*” (Acts 21:11)

St. Paul the Apostle says also, “... that we might know the things that have been freely given to us by God. These things we also speak, not in words which man’s wisdom teaches, *but which the Holy Spirit teaches*” (1Cor. 2:12, 3).



“For just as the sufferings of Christ flow over into our lives, so also through Christ our comfort overflows.” (2 Corinthians 1:5).

The Chicago Tribune published a story once about 15-year-old young man named John. He had suffered from a high fever and flu-like symptoms for several days, so finally his mother took him to the hospital. It was there that John was diagnosed with leukemia.

The doctors explained the disease to him and said he would have to undergo intense chemotherapy for the next three years. They told him about the side effects that would follow...baldness and a bloated body...and John became very depressed.

To lift his spirits, John’s aunt called a local floral shop to send him a flower arrangement. She told the clerk it was for her teenage nephew who had leukemia.

When the beautiful flowers arrived at the hospital, John read the card from his aunt. Then he saw a second card attached that said: “John - I took your order. I work at Brix florist. I had leukemia when I was 7 years old. I’m 22 years old now. Good luck. My heart goes out to you. Sincerely, Laura Bradley.” For the first time since his diagnosis, John’s face lit up.

John Maurer was in a hospital filled with sophisticated medical equipment and technology. He was being treated by some of the best doctors and nurses around. But it was a simple sales clerk in a flower shop that took the time to care. She was the one person who gave John hope to carry on.

Is there someone in your life suffering from some sort of affliction who needs comfort? If so, seek to show them love, compassion, and encouragement. You could be the one person who can make a difference in the life of another who is suffering without hope.

Pray that the Lord would help you to bring comfort and encouragement to someone who needs it more than ever today.

What is the Greatest Discovery?

By Fr. Antony Coniaris



Are You a Noun or a Verb?

Scripture: "The kingdom of God is like a treasure in a field which a man found and covered up; then in his joy he goes and sells all he has and buys that field" (Matt. 13:44).

Jesus speaks in this verse of a man who suddenly found a great treasure in a field. When he saw what it was, he covered it up. With great joy he went and sold all he had and bought that field. If you ask any group, "what do you think that treasure was?" Some possible answers:

1. Penicillin which has saved so many lives.
2. The man who found that a round wheel rolls easier than a square one.

3. The discovery of America by Columbus, etc.

But are these the most important of all discoveries?

When Jesus tells the story of the man who found treasure hidden in a field, He is trying to tell us that the greatest treasure of all is God: Jesus Himself.

Why is Jesus the greatest of all treasures?

Here are some answers:

1. Jesus gives us forgiveness of sins.
2. He gives us heaven and everlasting life.
3. He is the light of the world and the bread of life.
4. He shows us God's great love for each one of us.
5. He tells us that we are God's children.
6. He sends God the Holy Spirit to live in us.
7. He destroys death for us.
8. He is the Good Shepherd.
9. He is the way, the truth, the resurrection and the life.
10. He is Emmanuel, i.e. God with us, etc.

How can we claim the greatest of all treasures: Jesus? The man in the parable went and sold all that he had to buy the treasure that he found. If we, too, are to claim the greatest treasure of all, Jesus, as our own, we must sell all that we have. In other words, we must place Jesus first in our lives. We must give ourselves to Him completely. He will not only show us, but will also give us all His great treasures.

When some asked, "How is your French?" he replied, "My French is excellent, all except the verbs!" It often happens that our Christianity is excellent, "all except the verbs."

The nouns of our Christian faith are wonderful "Master, Savior, Redeemer." What are some other nouns of our Christian faith? Here are some answers:

1. God
2. Bible
3. Church
4. Jesus
5. Liturgy

Nouns, pronouns, adjectives are nice words. With them you can describe a thing in all its beauty. But nouns don't do anything; they just sit there. You can't have a full sentence with just nouns. You need verbs. Verbs make things happen.

Christianity is not just nouns; it is also verbs. Some people feel that God is a verb, not a noun. He loves. He creates. He saves. He gives. He blesses. He helps. Jesus just told us that the greatest Christian commandment is a verb: to love God and man with our whole being.

What are some other Christian verbs? Here are some answers:

1. To forgive
2. To pray
3. To obey (Jesus)
4. To visit (the sick, etc.)
5. To feed the hungry
6. To give a cup of cold water to the thirsty
7. To serve
8. To give
9. To share
10. To save souls
11. To set good example
12. To spread the Bible.



How to build a lasting and successful marriage (10)

by Fr. Gawargious Kolra



22- Successful marriage needs good knowledge about raising children:

“Children are a heritage from the Lord. They are like arrows in the hand of a warrior. Happy is the man who has his quiver full of them”. In the house of every God-fearing parent, they will be like olive plants around their table. These facts are recorded by the Psalmist (Ps128 3).

The responsibility of the parents about raising their children is great. Raising God-fearing children does not only please the Lord, but also makes the parents' hearts joyful. King Solomon said: **“Correct your son, and he will give you rest; Yes, he will give delight to your soul”** (Prov. 29:17). He also added that he who loves his son disciplines him promptly (Prov. 13:24).

In successful marriage, the parents teach their children to respect, love and fear the Lord, as **the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom.** A wise son makes a glad father, but a foolish son is the grief of his mother (Prov. 10:1). King Solomon said to the children: **“My son, hear the instruction of your father, and do not forsake the law of your mother”** (Prov. 1:8). When the parents discipline their children, they will not walk in the council of the ungodly, nor stand in the path of the sinners, nor sit in the seat of the scornful. Their delight will be in the law of the Lord, and in His law they meditate day and night (Ps. 1:1).

In successful marriage, the parents who **love and fear the Lord, practice all spiritual activities with their children;** regular prayers, daily Bible studies, fasting, confession, regular attendance of all church services, and regular taking of Holy Communion. The parents are **good example for their children.** The law of the Lord is engraved on the tablets of their hearts. Their children will be blessed and they will be like trees planted by the waters. They will trust God, and will not fear when tribulations come. They will not be anxious in the time of hardships and persecutions. Righteous parents teach their children that **the power of prayer can solve the problems of life.** The husband and wife pray fervently together for their children. They love each other, live in harmony and say loving and good compliments to each other in the presence of their kids. The parents must also have good relations with their in-laws and respect them especially in front of their children.

In successful marriage, the parents must be **cautious in giving big allowances to their children,** especially in young age. They watch their spending and kindly teach them how to manage their money. Uncontrolled spending usually leads to crooked children, as money comes easily and spent without guidance. The parents must spend quality time with their children, in order to teach them social issues.

Stormie Omartian wrote in her book **“The Power of a Praying Parent”** that the parents must pray together, asking God to give them wisdom and patience in order to raise their children in His love and fear. Each one of them should know exactly the difference between fatherhood and motherhood, and they should have one way of disciplining their children. Prayer can help each one of the parents gain a clear perspective of what it means to be a good father or a good mother. **They open the door to the Holy Spirit guidance on how to handle the parenting challenges that arise.** In order to be a good father or a good mother, each of them must get to know and love our heavenly Father and learn how to imitate Him. The more time they spend in the Lord's presence, being transferred into His likeness, the better influence they will have when they spend time with their children.

She added that although the children are greatly attached to their mother, **the father must realize how important he is to his children.** He must not feel that he is only to provide materially for them, but the importance of his influence as a father must never be underestimated. He **must never provoke his children to wrath,** but bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord (Eph. 6:4). He must pray asking the Lord to give him skills of communication with his children, and not to be passive, hard, abusive, neglectful or uninvolved. He must pray, asking God to let him be kind, loving, softhearted, affectionate and patient with his children.

Miss Omartian added that the mother must pray asking God to give her patience, kindness, gentleness, and discernment that she can do all things through Christ who strengthens her (Phil. 4:13). **She should recognize that she cannot successfully raise her children without Him.** She must ask God to give her wisdom and strength to train, discipline and realize each child's needs and know how to meet them. Both spouses must pray together to

be a godly example for their children, asking the Lord to help them and be a partner with them to bring the children up, in order to be faithful believers.

In successful marriage, **the parents live together in harmony**, and try to avoid miscommunication or fights, especially in front of their children. They do not argue for every problem. They face any challenge of life with love and submission to one another in order to **have a very peaceful life**. They recognize that their children are not only a gift from God, but also a trust, and they will give account of them on the judgement day if they fail to raise them with Christian morals. Being accountable and guarantors for their children, they do their best to have a peaceful marital life, considering that any violence will destroy the peace of their children, especially in their young ages. It is **not right to let another person like a worker or anyone of the grandparents raise their children**. They must teach them to live a holy life trying to please the Lord. They must also observe the TV channels and watch attentively the computer and other electronics used by their kids. They kindly **teach them that they are temples of the Holy Spirit**, who is dwelling in them, whom they have from God, and that senses and their bodies are not their own, but the Lord's.

Sophie Koulomzin, a Russian professor at St. Vladimir's Orthodox Theological Seminary, said in her book: **"Our Church and Our Children"** that our churches today face a challenge. It needs to discover **an approach to religious** education that is rooted in the total church tradition; including knowledge of God, the life of grace within the church, and relationships with others. The education also must deal in a personal way with the individual at whatever level he exists; speaking his language, understanding and sharing his needs and concerns, loving him as he is. She added that the task and the challenges are tremendous and can only be met if **the parents live fully the life of the church**.

In successful marriage, the parents teach their children **the sense of the reality of divine presence**, that is what the Lord asked for when He healed people. When He healed the blind man, He asked him: "Do you believe in the Son of God?" (Jn. 9:35). The Lord wanted him to recognize that the power that entered his life was God's power. **Parents must express the presence of God in the environment of the child**. Icons, pictures, vigil lights, words, tastes, sounds, etc. become part of the child's experience. A good example is a three-year-old child, who after saying his short prayer with his mother, looked out of the window, waved to the sky and said: "By-by God". Maintaining the sense of the reality of God is easier at an earlier age.

In successful marriage, the parents are **smart porters**, as they consider that **their children are clays**, and they begin to mold and fashion them **from their childhood**. They try to make them vessels of honor, and sanctified to

meet their Master's use. It needs great effort and God's guidance. **The parents work together** hand in hand having their joint plans towards raising their children. They sacrifice with joy, physically, emotionally and financially. When they find themselves not well trained to communicate with their children, or do not have enough experience in raising the children at their different stages, they **attend parenting classes**, in order to learn the different needs of their children, and how to meet them. There are many Christian books that can help the parents to raise their children perfectly according to God's plans.

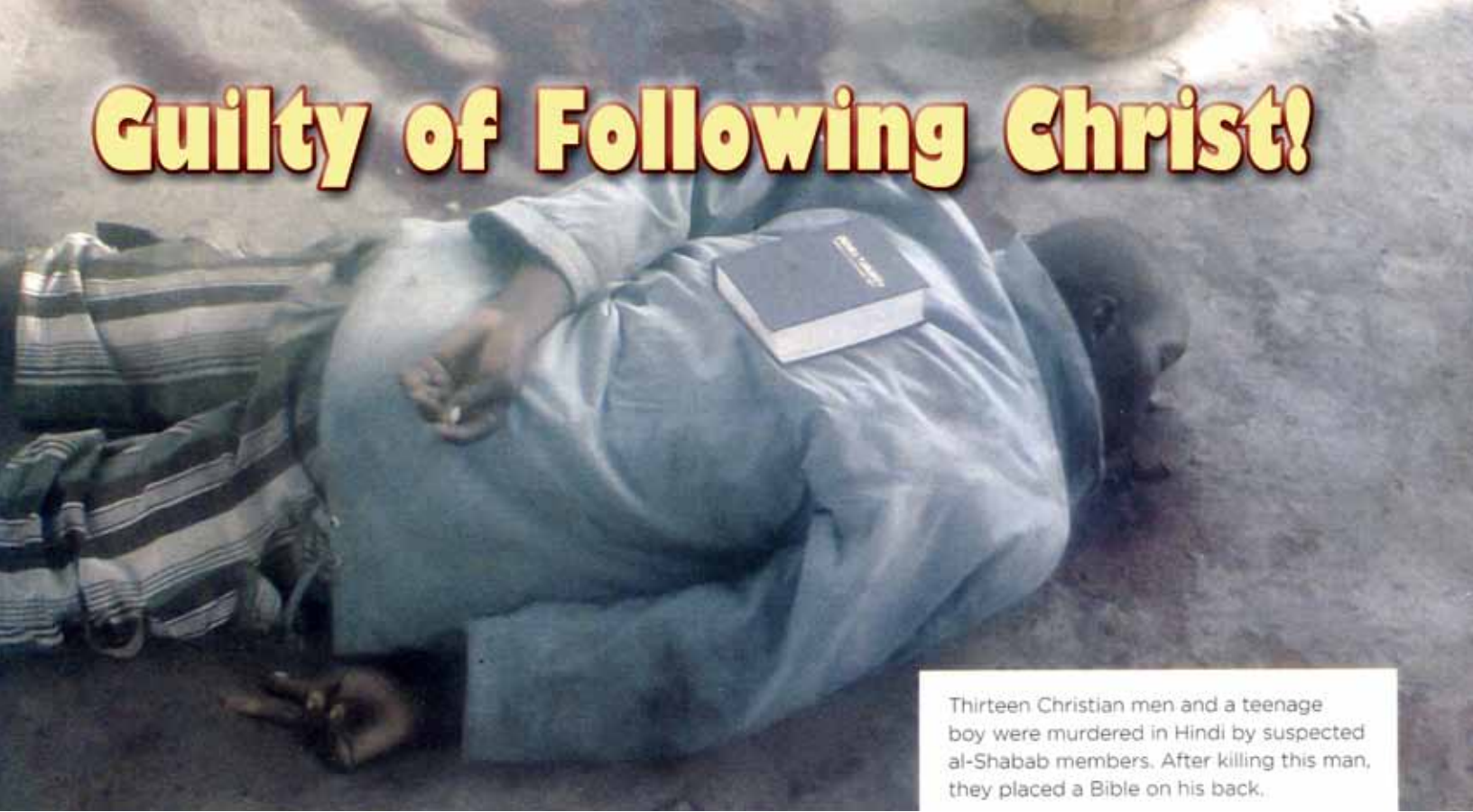
Charles Boyd, David Boehi & Robert Rohm said in their book **"Different Children Different Needs"** that the parents must understand the unique personality of each of their children. The parents must know the stages that their kids go through, what are their needs and readiness for learning, and what are their interests and capacities. Parents usually need enlightenment and guidance in understanding the meaning of their relationship with their children. The basis of this relationship is a **responsible love**, which includes authority, respect and understanding for the child's personality.

Parental love should not be felt by the parent as a gift given to the child, for which he can expect gratitude. When the parents complain that their children are ungrateful, there is doubt about the quality of their parental love. Parents must know that the changing love of the children for parents is related to a process of growing away from the parents.

Sophie Koulomzin also said that there may be **quarrels between the brothers**, and we need to know that it may be symptoms of inner needs which must be recognized and dealt with. It may be a way of obtaining love, or a form of jealousy. In successful marriage, the parents will solve it by Christian education, which will help to adopt a creative, constructive and a good way of dealing with these problems. The parents discuss the problem with each one of the kids separately and calmly, to know what happened and why. The parents can know if the child feels that he is rejected, and this needs more attention; then his sense of inferiority will be relieved. **The parents must discover and recognize the gifts and the abilities of the child that have been ignored**. The parents must be well trained to do this job successfully to their children. For example, a bossy child could be given more responsibilities, and a child that feels neglected should be given more attention.

In successful marriage, the parents teach their children the meaning of the verse **"Thy will be done"** and not "My will be done". The parents help their children to know the will of God in our life, and that not everything we want can be easily taken, and that not everything we need will be received instantly. They must know that living in godliness with contentment is great gain (1 Tim. 6:6).

Guilty of Following Christ!



Thirteen Christian men and a teenage boy were murdered in Hindi by suspected al-Shabab members. After killing this man, they placed a Bible on his back.

The young boy clung to his father as militants dragged them from their home and into the Kenyan night.

"Where are you taking my father?" the boy asked during the struggle.

Moments later, while still hugging his father's leg, he watched his lifeless body drop to the ground.

"What will you do with us now?" he asked his father's killer.

The boy's father was among 13 men and one teenage boy who were slaughtered after nightfall on July , 2014, by about a dozen heavily armed men who went to house searching for Christians in the village of Hindi. The attackers passed by the houses of Muslims, but they tied up all the Christians men before shooting them or slashing their throats. One believer, who had refused to renounce his faith, was found face down with a Bible placed on his back.

More than 3,000 people fled the area during the attack, which reportedly was prompted by the alleged theft of Muslim land's and Kenya's military presence in Somalia. The killings in Hindi are representative of the growing number of violent attacks by Islamic militants in the predominantly Christian Republic of Kenya.

Kenya's coastal region, where Hindi is located, has faced increased attacks in recent years by radicalized Muslim youth and al-Shabab, a jihadist terrorist group based in neighboring Somalia. The militant

organization is seen as a serious threat to Kenya, especially after its September 2014 attack on the Westgate Mall in Nairobi. Sixty-seven people were killed in the attack and another 175 were injured.

Al-Shabab claimed responsibility for both the Hindi attack and an attack about two weeks earlier in Mpeketoni that left more than 60 people dead. Kenyan gunmen have also been linked to the attacks, increasing concerns about al-Shabab's influence in the region.

While only men were targeted in the Hindi attack, many Christian women and children were traumatized by the killings. A VOM worker explained how the militants raided the home of a woman named Freida during their search for Christians. "The attackers knocked on our door using a neighbor who asked them to open the door," the VOM worker said. "When she heard her neighbor's voice, she opened the door to find her neighbor's hands tied behind his back, standing with several people."

The woman was then asked if she was Muslim. Hoping to save her family and herself, she answered yes. The militants demanded proof, asking her to recite a verse from the Quran. When she failed the test, they tied her husband's hands killed her neighbor in front of her family and took her husband away. The woman quickly ran to another neighbor's house to alert the family of the attack. She then fled into the bush along with her children and neighbors.



Jesus Wept & Said Do Not Weep

(John. 11:35; Luke 7:13)



Fr. Augustinos Hanna

The shortest and deepest verse in the Holy Bible is, "Jesus wept" (Jn. 11:35). It is amazing that the almighty God incarnate weeps! This short verse contains treasures and lessons:

1. Jesus wept when He saw the two grieved sisters Mary and Martha weeping for the death of their beloved brother Lazarus. He practiced what He taught us, "Weep with those who weep" (Rom. 12:15).

We are one body and have to be sensitive and full of compassion to feel the bitterness of others and try to help them. It is said that when we share in joy it increases and when we share in sorrow it decreases.

2. Jesus wept despite He knew that He will raise Lazarus from the dead after few minutes! He showed us that our knowledge does not contradict our compassion.

3. Jesus wept to show us His Humanity, because no human does not weep. So when we read that Jesus wept or got tired or thirsty we know that this is His human side; but when He said, "Lazarus, come forth", we see His Divinity.

4. Jesus wept, because He saw what did sin and death have done to His great masterpiece and turn him into dust and ashes!

5. Jesus wept, to teach us how to baptize our prayers in tears.

7. Jesus wept, to show us His love to Lazarus and his family, and this was the impression which the people said, "See how He loved him" (Jn. 11:36).

But to the widow of Nain, who had lost her only son, our beloved Lord Jesus, full of compassion and sympathy, said, "Do not weep!"

Weeping is the universal language of mankind. There is weeping everywhere. You and I were born weeping and crying. The Bible calls our world the "Valley of tears". It is true that each and every one of us was born crying while the family members around him or her were laughing and so happy. And on the contrary, when one of us leaves this world, he will be happy and laughing while the family and friends weep!

Today, the Lord Jesus is repeating His same words, to all of us, "Do Not Weep".

Do Not Weep because the young man did not die, he is alive. He is sleeping, or got promotion and moved from earth to Paradise.

When a friend asked John Quincy Adams, in his 80th eightieth birthday about his health, John Adams replied, "John Quincy Adams is well. But the house in which he lives at present is falling down. It is tottering upon its foundation. Time and the seasons have nearly destroyed it. Its roof is pretty well worn out. Its walls are much shattered and it trembles with every wind. I think John Quincy Adams will have to move out of it very soon. But he himself is quite well."

Do not weep, for this event must have been God's will, and God's will is always the best, the most wise and the most perfect will. Who but the Giver of Life can know when life should be taken? Who but the Good Shepherd can know when one of His sheep is tired and must be made to "lie down in the green pastures?" Who but our living Heavenly Father can know when the time is ripe for His children to come home for their much-needed rest?

Do Not Weep, says our Lord. "For I am the Resurrection and the Life, whoever believes in Me shall never die but shall have eternal life".

To those who don't know Christ, death is a catastrophe. But to those who believe in Christ and live according to His way of life, death is a glorious dawn, a joyful home-coming.

Many of us, no doubt, have watched a ship disappear over a horizon or a flight above the clouds. Perhaps there was someone dear to you aboard that ship or flight. But as you left the shore front, or the airport, you did not say, "That's the end of my loved one, there's nothing more ahead for him."

You know that at some distant port, preparations were being made for the happy hour of arrival. Though the departure farewell had been sorrowful, the reunion at the other port would be joyous. So don't say "I have lost my husband, my father, he is not lost."

Do not weep, said the Lord Jesus to the grieving widow because He has much surprises for us in store. He was planning to "turn her mourning into dancing" (Psalm 30:11). He did not tell her "Don't weep" and kept silent doing nothing except verbal kind words; but He followed with saying, "Young man, I say to you arise." (Luke 7:14). "And the dead young man sat up and began to speak. And He presented him to his mother" (Lk. 7:15).

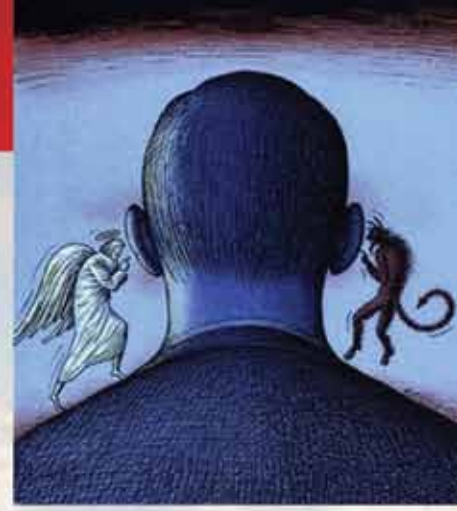
Weeping may endure for a night, but joy comes in the morning" (Ps. 30:5).

Job once said, "I caused the widow's heart to sing for joy" (Job 29:13); "Greater than Job is here", Jesus Christ did much more than Job; He raised the dead and spread great joy, not only to the widow but also to all the crowd of comforters, and to everyone who got to know Him throughout the ages.

When the Lord Jesus tells us, "Do not weep", He strengthens within us the virtue of HOPE. He is called, "The Father of mercies and God of all comfort" (2 Cor. 1: 3). We believe that one day; He will wipe away every tear from our eyes (Rev. 21:4).



Why be Moral?



I was first introduced to this book by a father in our church when I inquired about a simple book to read during Lent. For those of you who do not know much about Father Andrew Stephen Damick, I will write a few words. Fr. Andrew is the priest of St. Paul's Antiochian Orthodox Church in Emmaus, Pennsylvania. He began his life as a Protestant Christian, but through his life eventually found the Orthodox Church, growing in the faith and devoting much of his time to theological and religious studies in order to deepen his knowledge and love of Christ.

He attended Orthodox seminary, where he received his training and upbringing in the Orthodox faith, and today is one of the founding members of the Society for Orthodox Christian History in the Americas.

An Introduction to God: Encountering the Divine in Orthodox Christianity is a book addressed to those new in the faith, those who are searching for God but have yet to find Him, and those who are seeking to reconnect with their roots and early stages with encountering God. The book itself is very short and simple, seeking not to delve fully into the depths of a relationship with God, but seeking to begin one, to ignite a flame that will burn through further reading and meditation of God and His word. Divided into a prologue, five main chapters, and a conclusion, Fr. Andrew presents a very simple yet elegant painting of our Savior and God. He seeks to introduce the reader to God, asking the reader to step into the "circle", to take the first steps to meet God, who in most cases is already waiting for us to receive us. Yet, he cautions the reader that "just because we draw the circle or clear out the obstacles from the circle, does not mean that we have stepped into it, nor does it mean God has chosen to step into it...He is free to not show up". However,

Fr. Andrew quickly affirms, "But it is right for us to hope that, if we can learn to call upon God in the right way, by making ourselves available to Him in humility, then we can have that encounter. From His point of view, He's been waiting in the circle for us to join Him there". Fr. Andrew goes on to address this issue, describing how to approach God in humility, how to begin to love and appreciate Him, how to grow in the faith of the Holy Trinity, and many other important points regarding the divine synergy between a believer in God.

However, for the sake of this article, I would like to focus on just the fifth and final chapter of the book-- "The Mystery of Morality: Why be Moral?" In this chapter, Damick discusses a concept he calls "Santa Claus" ethics, contrasting that with the ethics of Christ. The "Santa Claus" ethics title is derived from the famous children's song, "Santa Claus is Coming to Town", and has the following lyrics: He knows if you've been bad or good, so be good for goodness' sake. Damick writes that "God is portrayed as an arbitrary judge who has set up certain rules and will zap you if you disobey them. If you get 'saved', then God will not zap you." Unfortunately, this is the warped and distorted prism that outsiders sometimes use to view Christianity. To many, it seems that Christians are simply following an arbitrary set of rules, attempting to live "moral" lives out of fear of hell fire and condemnation. In light of this common view, it is easy to see why many living in the western world have come to clearly reject God and Christ. For why would one want to live in constant fear of damnation for something that may never in fact come to fruition? Why would one want to live a strict, hindered life when they could enjoy the money, passion, lusts, and desires that this world has to offer? "You only live once" has become the idiomatic cry of our generation.

How does the Orthodox believer respond to this questioning? Quite simply, the statements above are not the ethics of Christ, and our theology and dogma are central to proving that Christ is something much greater than a set of rules or a moral compass to guide our lives. As Damick writes, our dogma centers on the belief that “Jesus Christ is the incarnate Son of God [who] became human in every sense though without committing any sins. He was and is a real, particular touchable physical human man. He is fully God and fully man, one Person.” Furthermore, in becoming man, Christ is our “template, our standard, and it is Jesus Christ who is imprinted on every human person from the moment of conception”. In Colossians 1, St. Paul writes that Christ--

“Is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation...For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. *All things were created through Him and for Him.* And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist...For it pleased the Father that in Him all the fullness should dwell, and by Him to reconcile all things to Himself...And you, who once were alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now He has reconciled in the body of His flesh through death, to present you holy, and blameless, and above reproach in His sight—if indeed *you continue in the faith, grounded and steadfast, and are not moved way from the hope of the gospel which you heard.*”

Consequently, Christ is the image of God, and He took on our humanity. We in turn, having been created by God in or according to His own image (Genesis 1:27), ought to resemble and be like none other than Christ Himself. This leads Damick to the reasonable conclusion that “the way we live our lives relates to our original creation as human persons. Our proper destiny chosen before our creation was that we would be like Christ, that we would be by grace what He is by nature.” This is the heart of Christianity that we desire to be like Christ, the ultimate human. For in doing so, we become what humans were intended to be and through this become truly human again. Thus, rather than a shackle of bondage, or a prison of rules and laws to obey, Christ instead has become our true Savior and the key to living freely. In Orthodoxy we be-

lieve that by drawing closer to Christ (James 4:7-8), we are moved and transformed by His Divine energies that encompass us.

But what is the point of this transformation and why does it matter to the Orthodox faithful as well as those outside of the faith?

As Fr. Andrew writes, “this means that the way we live our lives—not only in terms of what we might think of as ‘moral acts’, but every-thing—relates to our original creation as human persons.” And what this translates to practically is “not merely following rules or inching up close to some arbitrary line we won’t cross. Rather, for the Orthodox Christian, morality is inherently relational and focused on a goal. It’s not a question of which lines we cannot cross, but rather of what our whole direction in life is. Are we aimed toward intimacy and intense communion with God in Christ, or are we aimed in another direction?” Thus, through Christ, we have found the ultimate example and pinnacle that humanity can reach when we let go of the hindrances of this world and direct our thought, energy and love towards worshipping and loving God, and therefore loving His people. Christ Himself, prior to the Institution of Communion, taught us the most sincere way to love and serve one another when He washed the feet of His disciples, humbling Himself and becoming a servant to all. Christ declared to them, “If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash another’s feet. For I have given you an example, that you should do as I have done to you... If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them” (John 13:14-17). There, we have clearly defined to us what it means to love God and to love His people: humbling ourselves and withholding nothing to serve our fellow brothers and sisters. If Christ got down on hands and knees, and washed the dirt and grime off of His own disciples, how much more should we who are not even masters, due so to our family, friends, loved ones, acquaintances, and even our enemies (Matthew 5:43-48)?

To conclude with the words of Father Damick, “The world needs to hear about how to love God and keep His commandments, so that everyone and the whole creation may be brought back into harmony with God and may receive the divine life. If we do not bring the message of God’s design for the world, then we do not love the world”.



The Messengers of Death



A giant was once traveling along a highway when a stranger stepped before him. "Halt!" cried the little man.

- "Who are you to give me orders?" laughed the giant as he began to walk past the stranger.

- "I am death" declared the man. "My orders are obeyed by everyone in the world." Quickly the giant swung his mighty arm, sending Death to the ground unconscious. Satisfied that his opponent could do him no more harm, the giant walked away.

When Death finally awoke he was unable to move. "If I do not get about," he thought "the world will soon be over-crowded." Just then a young man approached whistling a tune. When he saw the stranger lying in the road, he stopped to assist him. Tenderly he bathed Death's wounds and gave him a drink from the canteen. Soon the little man was able to stand.

- "You do not recognize me?" Death inquired.

- "I do not know you," said the young man.

- "I am Death. I spare no one. I make no exceptions. However, in order to show my gratitude I will not call your name until I have sent my messengers to give you fair warning." The young man was pleased that he would live safe from the fear of Death. He continued to live a happy and care-free life.

But youth and heath did not last long. As the years passed illnesses and pains tormented him by the days and give him little rest by night. "I may be sick, but I will not soon die," thought the man. "Death has not yet sent his messengers. I only wish the pain and suffering were over." One illness followed another. His days were uncomfortable and the road to recovery long.

Finally his health was restored, and the man began to live joyfully again. "I will live a long time," the man thought. "Death has not yet sent his messengers."

Then shortly after his heath had returned, the man heard someone call his name. When he turned he saw Death standing beside him. "Follow me! Your hour of departure from this world has come."

- "What!" cried the man. "You promised to send your messengers before you arrived. No one has warned me."

- "I am surprised you did not recognize my servants," Death replied. "I sent fever to slow you down. Next Arthritis came attacking you joints and warning you that any step might be your last. Later Gout gave you aches and pains all over your body. Finally I sent Sleep to remind you each night that Death was near."

The man yielded to his fate and went away with Death.

Statement on the Supreme Court Ruling on Same-Sex Marriage

June 27, 2015 COLLEYVILLE, TX.

After the Supreme Court ruling on same-sex marriage, **His Grace is releasing the following message.**

"Woe to those who call evil good, and good evil; Who put darkness for light, and light for darkness; Who put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!" (Isaiah 5:20)

The Supreme Court decision on Friday, June 26, 2015, sanctioning same-sex marriages in all fifty states is the result of years of desensitization, which has sadly now culminated in the poorest spiritual and social aberrance in the history of the American judicial system. The moral conscience of our society has gone awry.

Advocates for same-sex marriages parade their high regard for the concept of marriage, but neglect to acknowledge that in most religions, marriage is not merely a political right, but a spiritual union between one man and one woman consecrated by God. God is the Author of marital law.

It is perplexing that many leaders of various religious institutions have kept their peace regarding this matter. People have chosen to remain silent, not because they applaud this decision, but lest they are perceived to be intolerant is a risk many do not wish to take. Thus, conservative Christians are commonly attacked or ostracized for taking a stand against same-sex marriages or other deviances.

After this infamous ruling of the Supreme Court, we are praying for our country that the Lord may enlighten the eyes and hearts of our leaders to not be in opposition to God's will, but rather to return and follow the teachings of the Holy Scripture so that God may bless our country with prosperity and peace.

All Christians ought to dedicate a special fast and offer solemn prayers and supplications for all people of our nation so that God may lead all of us to repentance and the sincere desire to do what is good and pleasing in His eyes.

Bishop Youssef

Bishop, Coptic Orthodox Diocese of the Southern United States



Do you really believe that Jesus Christ is going to come back to this earth again? I do. And I don't see any other hope of the world because we're heading toward a catastrophe.

The Bible says, *"Scoffers will come in the last days... saying, 'Where is the promise of His coming?'"*

All things continue as they were from the beginning of creation.' For this they willfully forget: that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and... the world that then existed perished, being flooded with water. But the heavens and the earth which are now preserved by the same word, are reserved for fire until the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men" (2 Peter 3).

In other words, a judgment is going to come on this earth, and it will be a judgment of fire.

For years people believed that the threat of a nuclear holocaust was diminishing, but nuclear tests have again raised fears that an incident can still plunge us into a global catastrophe. Scientists say that we're closer now to world destruction than at any other time in the past. The end of the world as we know it is a possibility scientifically.

The Word of God speaks of the cer-

tainities of the end of the world. Jesus said, "But as the days of Noah were, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be." What were the days of Noah like? And is there a parallel for today? The people of Noah's day were very wicked; "Every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually." Marriage was abused. People were corrupt. Violence prevailed. There was a lot of religion, but it was corrupt. They were preoccupied with things and didn't have time for God. So God warned them, "Unless you repent and change your ways, you're going to face the judgment." In the middle of all that corruption Noah dared to walk with God. Noah believed God, and true faith determined how Noah lived. By that faith Noah built a ship in the middle of the desert, and he and his family were saved when the water of destruction came.

And true faith should determine how you live. Do you know Christ as your personal Lord and Savior? Do you worship God in your home? Do you have regular Bible reading, study and prayer?

Today the only bright spot on the horizon of this world is the promise of the coming again of Jesus Christ, the Messiah. We can't go on like this much longer, either morally or scientifically. The technology that was supposed to save us is ready to destroy us.

Yet we're not to wait in terror, because as Christians, we have the hope of the return of Christ. When is He going to return? Jesus said, *"Of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, but My Father only."*

When is the end of the world coming? It is coming for you the moment you die, and that could be at any time for any of us. You may be expecting to live for many more years, but you don't know for sure. We never know. God said, *"Prepare to meet your God."* What have you done spiritually in your life to prepare for the moment when your heart stops beating? The Bible says that to see the kingdom of God you must believe in Christ the Savior, get baptized, repent and do good works.

You need to make a commitment to Christ today.

What do you have to do now? First, you have to repent of your sins. You may not have the strength to change your way of living. Repentance means that you say to God, "I have sinned. I am sorry for my sin. I am willing to change my way of living. But I can't do it alone. Lord Jesus, please come into my heart and help me live for You.

Second, you come by faith. That means that you put your whole trust in Him and say, "Lord, I give myself to You."

You may be a good person. You must come in childlike faith to the Lord Jesus Christ, who died on the cross for you, who rose again, who is waiting for you to make that commitment. Confess your sins, as Jesus ordained to God through a loving father of confession (John 20:22, 23) and seek guidance. Abide in Christ until the last breath through all the means of grace, especially studying your Bible daily, prayer, attending church and having communion and involving in service.

Are you ready to meet God? In faith, make your future secure today!

THE LORD HARDENED PHARAOH'S HEART!



The theme of “hardening” occurs twenty times between Exodus 4 and 14. But the most troublesome aspect of these verses is that God Himself is said to have hardened Pharaoh’s heart in ten out of twenty occurrences. The fact troubles many readers of the Scriptures, for it appears God authors evil and then holds someone else responsible as if the person had initiated the evil. Did God make it impossible for Pharaoh to respond and then find Pharaoh guilty for such grotesque behavior?!

God twice predicts he will harden Pharaoh’s heart; these two prophetic notices were given to Moses before the whole contest began (Ex 4:21, 7:3). However, if these two occurrences appear to take a stand against Pharaoh, it must be remembered that all God’s prophecies to his prophets have a suppressed “unless you repent” attached to them. Few prophecies are unconditional. These include God’s covenant with the seasons in Genesis 8:22; his covenant with Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and David; his New Covenant; and his covenant with the New Heavens and the New Earth in Isaiah 65-66. In general, only his promises connected with nature and our salvation have no dependence on us; all others are much like Jonah’s message to Nineveh. Even though Jonah never even hinted at the fact that their imminent destruction (only forty days away) could be avoided by repentance, the king assumed such was the case and Jonah’s worst fears were realized: the nation repented and the barbarous Assyrians did not get what was coming to them!

In Pharaoh’s case, Pharaoh initiated the whole process by hardening his own heart ten times dur-

ing the first five plagues (Ex 7:13, 14, 22, 8:15, 19, 32, 9:7, 34, 35, and in 13:15). It was always and only Pharaoh who hardened his heart during these plagues! Rather than letting the work of God soften his heart during these plagues and concluding that Yahweh is the only true God, Pharaoh made this evidence the basis for hardening his heart. Meanwhile, the plagues must have had some impact on the general population of Egypt, for when the Israelites left Egypt, they were accompanied by “many other people” (Exod. 12:38). Even Pharaoh’s own magicians confessed, “This is the finger [the work] of God” (Ex 8:19), and they bowed out of the competition with the living God.

It appears that Pharaoh reached the limits of his circumscribed freedom during the fifth plague, for after that time, during the last five plagues, God consistently initiated the hardening instead of Pharaoh (Ex 9:12, 10:1, 20, 27, 11:10; 14:4, 8, 17).

God is not the author of evil. There is no suggestion that He violated the freedom of Pharaoh’s will or that God manipulated Pharaoh in order to heap further vengeance of the Egyptian people. God is not opposed to the cooperation of pagan monarchs, *Pharaoh could have cooperated with God just as Cyrus did in the Babylonian exile*; God was still glorified when that king decided on his own to let Israel return from Babylon. If Pharaoh had acted as King Cyrus would later do, the results of the exodus would still have been the same.

It is Pharaoh, not God, who is to be blamed for the hardening of his own heart.



Blind Faith versus Intelligent Faith



By Dr. Emil Goubran

Blind faith is one based essentially on feelings and emotion with little knowledge and understanding of the word of God.

Understanding is important in the relationship with God as Psalm 47:7 say “For God is King of all the earth; sing praises with understanding”. God wants us to use our minds and have a relationship with Him based on knowledge and understanding.

One of the scribes asked Jesus, “Which is the first commandment of all? And Jesus answered him, the first of all the commandments is, “Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God is one Lord; and you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.” This is the first commandment” (Mark 12:28-30 MKJV). The mind is a component that must be involved in the relationship between man and God.

Additionally, we have to understand our faith to be able to respond to others as the Word of God commands us: “But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and be ready always to give an answer to everyone who asks you a reason of the hope in you, with meekness and fear” (1Peter 3:15 MKJV). What this means is that our faith has to be based on knowledge and understanding to be an intelligent faith and not a blind faith.

Blind faith will not be able to respond to the challenges and may be shaken or even lost when faced with difficult questions. This is clear in God’s words to His people through the prophet Hosea when He said; “My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge” (Hosea 4:6 MKJV). On the other hand, an intelligent faith is able to discern good from evil, right from wrong, light from darkness, true from false and is able to provide good answers and defense when challenged by opponents.

The Spirit of God in the intelligent believer, who worships the Lord with his mind, will provide the necessary knowledge and wisdom to be able to respond to those with opposing views. Jesus said “For I will give you a mouth and wisdom which all your adversaries shall not be able to gainsay nor resist (Luke 21:15 MKJV).

In addition to knowing and understanding the Word of God, using science as a tool to observe and investigate, to understand and comprehend God’s mighty work is actually another tool to respond to those who demand scientific evidence. For in the scientific evidence we will see the glory of His creation; “The heavens declare the glory of God; and the expanse proclaims His handiwork” (Psalm 19:1 MKJV).

When Thomas demanded to see the evidence of the nails in the Lord’s hands, the Lord said to Thomas “Blessed are they who have not seen and have believed” (John 20:29 MKJV). What the Lord says is that the evidence may not always be available at the time, therefore when the evidence is not available we have to trust the word of God and accept it by faith. This meaning came in the epistle to the Hebrews that says “Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen” (Hebrews 11:1 MKJV).

There is a lot of scientific evidence in support of the Word of God. However, we have to keep in mind that science is an investigative tool that has its limitations. We should not be troubled when we are confronted with what appears to be a conflict with scripture. Today’s apparent conflict may be tomorrow’s unshakable support to the bible as science advances and produces more accurate data and new evidence. We have to trust that it is only a matter of time before science catches up with the truths of the scripture.



A Jewish Boycott



A short time ago, Iran 's Supreme Leader Grand Ayatollah Ali Khomeini urged the Muslim World to boycott anything and everything that originates with the Jewish people.

In response, Meyer M. Treinkman, a pharmacist, out of the kindness of his heart, offered to assist them in their boycott as follows:

"Any Muslim who has Syphilis must not be cured by Salvarsan discovered by a Jew, Dr. Ehrlich. He should not even try to find out whether he has Syphilis, because the Wasserman Test is the discovery of a Jew.

If a Muslim suspects that he has Gonorrhea, he must not seek diagnosis, because he will be using the method of a Jew named Neisser.

"A Muslim who has heart disease must not use Digitalis, a discovery by a Jew, Ludwig Traube.

Should he suffer with a toothache, he must not use Novocain, a discovery of the Jews, Widal and Weil.

If a Muslim has Diabetes, he must not use Insulin, the result of research by Minkowsky, a Jew. If one has a headache, he must shun Pyramidon and Antipyrin, due to the Jews, Spiro and Ellege.

Muslims with convulsions must put up with them because it was a Jew, Oscar Leibreich, who proposed the use of Chloral Hydrate.

Arabs must do likewise with their psychic ailments because Freud, father of psychoanalysis, was a Jew.

Should a Muslim child get Diphtheria, he must refrain from the "Schick" reaction which was invented by the Jew, Bella Schick.

"Muslims should be ready to die in great numbers and must not permit treatment of ear and brain damage, work of Jewish Nobel Prize winner, Robert Baram.

They should continue to die or remain crippled by Infantile Paralysis because the discoverer of the anti-polio vaccine is a Jew, Jonas Salk.

"Muslims must refuse to use Streptomycin and continue to die of Tuberculosis because a Jew, Zalman Waxman, invented the wonder drug against this killing disease.

Muslim doctors must discard all discoveries and improvements by dermatologist Judas Sehn Benedict, or the lung specialist, Frawinkel, and of many other world renowned Jewish scientists and medi-

cal experts.

Oh, and by the way, don't call for a doctor on your cell phone because the cell phone was invented in Israel by a Jewish engineer.

Meanwhile I ask, what medical contributions to the world have the Muslims made?"

The Global Islamic population is approximately 1,200,000,000; that is ONE BILLION TWO HUNDRED MILLION or 20% of the world's population.

They have received the following Nobel Prizes:

Literature:

1988 - Najib Mahfooz

Peace:

1978 - Mohamed Anwar El-Sadat

1990 - Elias James Corey

1994 - Yaser Arafat:

1999 - Ahmed Zewai

Economics: (zero)

Physics: (zero)

Medicine:

1960 - Peter Brian Medawar

1998 - Ferid Mourad

TOTAL: 7 SEVEN

The Global Jewish population is approximately 14,000,000; that is FOURTEEN MILLION or about 0.02% of the world's population.

They have received the following Nobel Prizes:

Literature:

1910 - Paul Heyse

1927 - Henri Bergson

1958 - Boris Pasternak

1966 - Shmuel Yosef Agnon

1966 - Nelly Sachs

1976 - Saul Bellow

1978 - Isaac Bashevis Singer

1981 - Elias Canetti

1987 - Joseph Brodsky

1991 - Nadine Gordimer World

Peace:

1911 - Alfred Fried

1911 - Tobias Michael Carel Asser

1968 - Rene Cassin

1973 - Henry Kissinger

1978 - Menachem Begin

1986 - Elie Wiesel

1994 - Shimon Peres

1994 - Yitzhak Rabin

Physics:

1905 - Adolph Von Baeyer

1906 - Henri Moissan

1907 - Albert Abraham Michelson

1908 - Gabriel Lippmann

1910 - Otto Wallach

1915 - Richard Willstaetter

1918 - Fritz Haber

1921 - Albert Einstein

1922 - Niels Bohr

1925 - James Franck

1925 - Gustav Hertz

1943 - Gustav Stern

1943 - George Charles de Hevesy

1944 - Isidor Issac Rabi

1952 - Felix Bloch

1954 - Max Born

1958 - Igor Tamm

1959 - Emilio Segre

1960 - Donald A. Glaser

1961 - Robert Hofstadter

1961 - Melvin Calvin

1962 - Lev Davidovich Landau

1962 - Max Ferdinand Perutz

1965 - Richard Phillips Feynman

1965 - Julian Schwinger

1969 - Murray Gell-Mann

1971 - Dennis Gabor

1972 - William Howard Stein

1973 - Brian David Josephson

1975 - Benjamin Mottleson

1976 - Burton Richter

1977 - Ilya Prigogine

1978 - Arno Allan Penzias

1978 - Peter L Kapitza

1979 - Stephen Weinberg

1979 - Sheldon Glashow

1979 - Herbert Charles Brown

1980 - Paul Berg

1980 - Walter Gilbert

1981 - Roald Hoffmann

1982 - Aaron Klug

1985 - Albert A. Hauptman

1985 - Jerome Karle

1986 - Dudley R. Herschbach

1988 - Robert Huber
Leon Lederman

1988 - Melvin Schwartz

1988 - Jack Steinberger

1989 - Sidney Altman

1990 - Jerome Friedman

1992 - Rudolph Marcus

1995 - Martin Perl

2000 - Alan J. Heeger

Economics:

1970 - Paul Anthony Samuelson

1971 - Simon Kuznets

1972 - Kenneth Joseph Arrow

1975 - Leonid Kantorovich

1976 - Milton Friedman

1978 - Herbert A. Simon

1980 - Lawrence Robert Klein

1985 - Franco Modigliani

1987 - Robert M. Solow

1990 - Harry Markowitz

1990 - Merton Miller

1992 - Gary Becker

1993 - Robert Fogel

Medicine:

1908 - Elie Metchnikoff

1908 - Paul Erlich

1914 - Robert Barany

1922 - Otto Meyerhof

1930 - Karl Landsteiner

1931 - Otto Warburg

1936 - Otto Loewi

1944 - Joseph Erlanger

1944 - Herbert Spencer Gasser

1945 - Ernst Boris Chain

1946 - Hermann Joseph Muller

1950 - Tadeus Reichstein

1952 - Selman Abraham

Waksman

1953 - Hans Krebs

1953 - Fritz Albert Lipmann

1958 - Joshua Lederberg

1959 - Arthur Kornberg

1964 - Konrad Bloch

1965 - Francois Jacob

1965 - Andre Lwoff

1967 - George Wald

1968 - Marshall W. Nirenberg

1969 - Salvador Luria

1970 - Julius Axelrod

1970 - Sir Bernard Katz

1972 - Gerald Maurice Edelman

1975 - Howard Martin Temin

1976 - Baruch S. Blumberg

1977 - Roselyn Sussman Yalow

1978 - Daniel Nathans

1980 - Baruj Benacerraf

1984 - Cesar Milstein

1985 - Michael Stuart Brown

1985 - Joseph L. Goldstein

1986 - Stanley Cohen

[& Rita Levi-Montalcini]

1988 - Gertrude Elion

1989 - Harold Varmus

1991 - Erwin Neher

1991 - Bert Sakmann

1993 - Richard J. Roberts

1993 - Phillip Sharp

1994 - Alfred Gilman

1995 - Edward B. Lewis

1996- Lu Roselacovino

TOTAL: 129!

The Jews are NOT promoting brainwashing children in military training camps, teaching them how to blow themselves up and cause maximum deaths of Jews and other non-Muslims.

The Jews don't hijack planes, nor kill athletes at the Olympics, or blow themselves up in German restaurants.

There is NOT one single Jew who has destroyed a church.

There is NOT a single Jew who protests by killing people. The Jews don't traffic slaves, nor have leaders calling for Jihad and death to all the Infidels.

Perhaps the world's Muslims should consider investing more in standard education and less in blaming the Jews for all their problems.

Muslims must ask 'what can they do for humankind' before they demand that humankind respects them.

'If the Arabs put down their weapons today, there would be no more violence. If the Jews put down their weapons today, there would be no more Israel.'

Recently, the UK debated whether to remove The Holocaust from its school curriculum because it 'offends' the Muslim population which claims it never occurred.

It is now more than 65 years after the Second World War in Europe ended.

Now, more than ever, with Iran, among others, claiming the Holocaust to be 'a myth,' it is imperative to make sure the world never forgets.

How many years will it be before the attack on the World Trade Center 'NEVER HAPPENED' because it offends some Muslim in the United States?



Political Corruption infects Catholic Media!

The Catholic magazine, "America", a weekly publication issued from New York and supposedly represents the Catholic Church, published in the issue of June 8, 2015, page 4, under the title **CURRENT COMMENT: Egypt's Trial**, an entire column of 33 lines, defending Mohamed Morsi and justifying all his horrible crimes against the law, his country and the Christians of Egypt, claiming that he was the first democratically elected leader, and the Criminal Court ruling was condemned by the international community, human rights, criticizing the Egyptian court ruling, and saying exactly the following:

"Mass death sentences have emerged as a disturbing fixture of post-Arab Spring Egypt. The latest ruling, handed down on May 16, could make a martyr of the deposed president, Mohamed Morsy. Mr. Morsy, Egypt's first democratically elected leader, along with over 100 members of the Muslim Brotherhood, were sentenced to death for breaking out of prison during the revolt in 2011 against President Hosni Mubarak. The trial and sentence have been widely condemned by the international community. The European Union's top diplomat said the trial violated Egypt's obligations under international law, and an unnamed official in the U.S State Department expressed "deep concern" over the verdict, stressing the need for "individualized Judicial processes for all Egyptians in the interests of justice." Elliot Abrams, a senior fellow at the Council of Foreign Relations, doubts the death sentences will actually be carried out because of external pressure on President Sisi but warns that even the pronouncement of draconian punishments could drive supporters of the Muslim Brotherhood to violence. The United States seems ready to press reset as well. In late March the Obama administration announced the restoration of \$1.3 billion in military aid to Egypt, citing regional security interests. Buying stability at the expense of human rights may seem like a necessary bargain amid the chaos of the Middle East, but we need not look far to see where such a short-sighted policy ends."

I should say that the author of this column and all the organizations he mentioned are completely ignorant about what is going on in Egypt. They do not know or purposely ignore the significant and serious facts and crimes, which **among them are the following:**

1. The so-called "first democratically elected leader" (Mohamed Morsy), was NOT legally elected at all, but he won the election **by forgery and by one percent** than his opponent Mr. Ahmed Shafik. *And how could anyone explain thirty*

million Egyptian people in the streets of Egypt, just one year after Morsi became president, calling on him to step down. If democracy reflects the will of the people, then he should have stepped down but he didn't.

2. Mohamed Morsy himself was a prisoner condemned for many crimes and a leader in the Muslim Brotherhood terrorist organization who arranged with them to break the prison by force and cause his escape along with more than 100 gang members.

3. Among his crimes, Morsy committed the crimes of treason and espionage and plotting to overthrow the government. His name should be recorded in history as a synonym with Ben-laden, Hamas and Isis leaders.

4. During the one-year presidency of Morsy, hundreds of crimes were committed against the Christians of Egypt; destroying churches, mass murders, kidnapping Christian women and girls and forcing them to convert to Islam.

5. Mr. Morsy broke the Egyptian Constitution and made himself an ugly dictator above the law. He stole the Parliament, the Executive and the judicial systems altogether and appointed all his relatives and Muslim extremist to rule Egypt.

6. Mr. Morsy was an ignorant and corrupt person in politics, economy and morality who caused a huge deterioration of Egypt ten times more than Mubarak.

7. I wonder why my friend, the Catholic author and the honorable organizations he referred to, did not defend Mr. Omar Abdel-Rahmann who got a life sentence in prison inside U.S.A. Why did not defend Ben-laden also who was killed by the Obama administration?! Why did they keep silent toward all the heinous crimes against humanity of the Muslim extremists committed against Christians in Egypt, Syria, Iraq, Libya, Sudan, Iran, Nigeria, Somalia, Kenya and on the American soil and all over the world? Are they encouraging terrorists, Jihadists and the Shariah-law? I hope that everyone in the media will think twice and consult his conscience before he writes a word.



British Embassy
Cairo

HER MAJESTY QUEEN ELIZABETH II HONOR TWO EGYPTIANS FOR OUTSTANDING SERVICES FOR THE BRITISH SOCIETY

Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II has bestowed prestigious honours to Dr Nemat Talaat Shafik, deputy governor of the Bank of England, and His Grace Bishop Angaelos, General Bishop of the Coptic Orthodox Church in the UK for their outstanding service to British society.

Dr Shafik has been made a Dame Commander of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire (DBE) for her services to public administration and the global economy. Originally from Alexandria, Dr Shafik is a highly distinguished economist who has worked previously as Deputy Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund and Permanent Secretary of the UK's Department for International Development (DFID).

His Grace Bishop Angaelos has been made an Officer of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire (OBE) for his services to international religious freedom. Bishop Angaelos was born in Cairo and was consecrated a monk by Pope Shenouda III before beginning his pastoral mission in the UK in 1999. Throughout his ministry he has been a staunch advocate for human rights and religious freedoms.

The honours awarded to Dr Shafik and Bishop Angaelos come as part of the Queen's Birthday Honours list, published on the date of the Queen's official birthday. The honours system recognises people who have made achievements in public life and committed themselves to serving and helping Britain. Honours are awarded to people from all different backgrounds for a wide range of reasons, such as making a difference to their community or field of work, improving life for people less able to help themselves, or displaying moral courage.

British Ambassador John Casson said:

"Today is a day to celebrate how Britain and Egypt working together gets amazing results. Dr Shafik and Bishop Angaelos have led dedicated lives in service of others and it is right that their achievements and contributions to Britain, Egypt, and indeed the whole world are recognised. They, along with many other outstanding individuals honoured for their public service today, are inspirations to young Britons and young Egyptians alike."



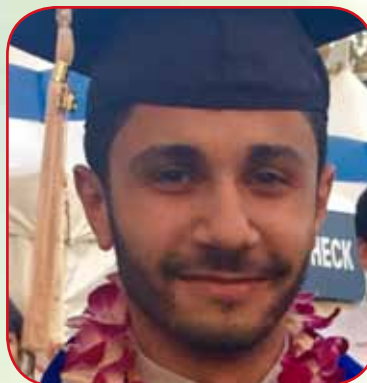
Graduation. 2015

Pharmacist Irene M. Hanna



"Beloved, I pray that you may prosper in all things" (3 Jn. 2). Congratulation Irene on accomplishing your doctoral degree in pharmacy from New England University. We are proud of you. May God bless you always-
Mom Rose, Dad Medhat, Michael, and Teta.

John Paul Karas



Congratulations for your graduation with a Bachelor Degree of Business Administration with honor- **Mom, your brothers and Teta.**

Dr. Marena Boctor



Congratulations to our beautiful daughter Dr. Marena Boctor on her graduation from Loma Linda University with a Doctorate degree in Physical Therapy. May the Lord bless you and guide you in every step of your life-
The Boctor family: Ayman, Hala and Bishoy.

Marian Girgis (B. A. Child life)



"Dear Marian, Congratulations on your bachelors. We pray for more success ahead of you." May God bless you always. **Mourad, Mervet, Michael**

Merai Estafanous



Congratulations on your graduation from High School. We are so proud of you. May the Lord direct your path and continue to bless you and grant you more success and Happiness- Love,
Mom, Dad, Abram.

Rogeh Karas



Congratulations Rogeh for your graduation from High School. May God bless you in College-
Dad, Mom, Andre.

Mounir Ghobrial



"Congratulations Mounir, we're proud of you and what you've achieved. Best luck to you in USC and may God always guide your steps. **Melad, Samia, Ramy & Sarah**"



Joseph Tadros

Congratulations on graduation from High School. May the Lord bless you in college and all your future-**Dad, Mom, Daniel and Mariam**

Matthew Hayashi



Congratulations on graduating from High School. We are proud of you. May God keep blessing your life and watching over you as you enter college- Love, **Dad, Mom, Brothers Brandon and Andrew Hayashi.**

Congratulations

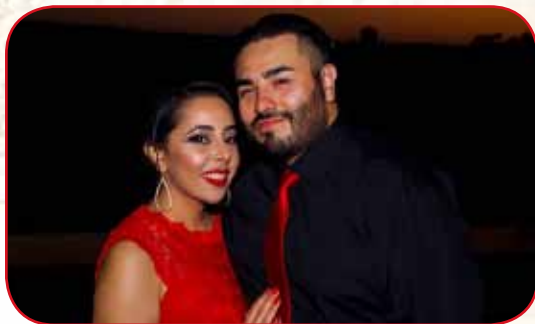
Weddings & Engagements



St. John Church congratulates,

Antony Selim and his bride Sarah

on their marriage. May the Lord Jesus Christ bless their life together in love, harmony and joy; building a new house on the Rock of His word. Congratulations to their two blessed families.



The church congratulates

Jasmine Salama and David

On their engagement, wishing them every blessing to complete their marriage in joy and peace.

The Guerrero and Salama family congratulate their children David and Jasmin for their blessed engagement wishing them joy and happiness with God as their foundation.



Baptism



St. John Church congratulates Dr. Ramy Hanna and Christine on the baptism of their baby boy,

Jonathan Hanna

Praying the Lord to grant him growth in health, stature and grace in His loving care. Congratulations to his grandparents.

* * *

Our beloved Jonathan Hanna had been baptized. Congratulations to his parents Dr. Ramy and Christine. May Christ our Lord bless his life and grant him every blessing in health, strength, knowledge, success and long life-

*Magdy, Suzan, Monica, Maged, Nahed,
Amir and Mark.*



Congratulations on receiving your baby

Sophia W. Said

the holy Baptism. May God bless you for many healthy, blessed years- Daddy, Mommy, Helena & George Said

St. John Church congratulates Amgad Saad and Nermen Makar on the baptism of their baby boy

John Mikhael

Praying the Lord to grant him growth in health, stature and grace in His loving care.