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"I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who lives but Christ lives in me." (Galatians 2:20).

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NEXT ISSUE:
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DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS:
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IT'S ALL PART OF THE MISSION



"And He said to them, 'Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. He who believes and is baptized will be saved;'" Mark 16:15

Members of the youth at St Demiana and St Athanasius Coptic Orthodox Church go by a different name. They call themselves "St D's" and

recently returned from a mission trip to Thailand. The purpose of the mission was to visit the Coptic Orthodox orphanage in Sangkhlaburi (near the border of

Burma) established and run by Fr Youhanna. Considering that this was St D's first mission trip, the months leading up to the mission were filled with excitement and

anticipation. Many of the youth worried about what they would bring, what they would wear and who they would be sitting next

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HIS HOLINESS POPE TAWADROS TO RESUME WEEKLY SERMON AFTER EXTENDED HIATUS



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His Holiness Pope Tawadros is to resume his weekly sermon the leader of the country's largest Christian denomination, that lasted over a month,

COPTIC CHURCH NEW LAND PLOT



On Wednesday 24 June 2015 HG Bishop Daniel and Rev

Read on page 4

THE DESIRE

by St. John of Kronstadt, the Wonderworker



“May God grant you according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might by His Spirit in the inner man, that Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith.” (Eph. 3:16-17)

We have to admit that most of us do not have Christ in our hearts. Instead, our hearts are occupied with that which is opposed to Christ -- our God and Saviour, that which is opposed to our own good, which hinders the salvation of our souls. And because of this we do not lead a genuine Christian life. What is it that occupies our hearts? God “alone, Who searchest out the hearts and reins” (Ps. 7:9), sees what is in our hearts, its attachments. If the Lord granted us to see the full depths of our hearts, we would turn our eyes away in horror from such an overwhelming accumulation of filth. Let each of us look into his heart and say before the witness of our conscience what it is that occupies our hearts most of all.

Passions, sins, voluntary and involuntary -- are these not our heart’s constant inhabitants? But where does Christ dwell? He dwells in pure hearts, hearts that are humble and contrite, there where He is not grieved by doubt or unbelief, by indifference towards Him Who is God and Saviour; there where men do not prefer the temporal sweetness of sin; where the idols of the passions have been chased out; where crude materiality is not preferred to the Kingdom of God; where Christians often turn their thoughts to the heavenly, as those created for heaven, for eternity; there where they seek God’s truth, where every day and every hour they are attentive to His commandments. Therein is where Christ dwells. And what does He do there? If only we knew (some, of course, do know) what He does in souls worthy of His abiding presence -- what rest, comfort and joy He imparts, what paradisaal bliss He gives them to experience while still on this earth...

Having once embraced Christ, the holy Apostle Andrew

became entirely committed to Him, and no matter what difficulties, sorrows, misfortunes and persecutions -- unavoidable in preaching the Gospel -- came his way, he remained faithful to Christ, enduring everything out of love for Him, even crucifixion. It is of utmost importance that we seek after Christ and that we find Him. Without Christ, who will save us from our sins which ensnare us every day and hour, and from the eternal torments? Only the Son of God has power on earth to forgive sins; He alone has the keys to hell and death, the keys to the Kingdom of Heaven and life.

To find Christ is not difficult. He is everywhere, filling the world with Himself. God says to us through His prophet Jeremiah: “Am I a God at hand, saith the LORD, and not a God afar off?” (Jer. 23:23) As soon as He sees our hearts incline to receive His grace, He immediately enters, bringing with Him peace and comfort. “Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me” (Rev. 3:20), says the Lord. Oh, how often He converses with His faithful servants, as with true friends. Christ Himself is seeking you: if you but incline your heart toward Him, you will surely find Him.

But how are we to know if we have found Christ and are close to Him? Those close to Christ often turn to Him in prayer with faith and love; they often pronounce from their heart His sweetest name, often call upon Him for help; they often read or listen to His word with childlike simplicity and love; they seek frequent union with Him in His life-giving Mysteries; they are satisfied with whatever they have and accepting of what happens to them; they strive according to their strength to fulfill Christ’s commandments... It happens that they also experience trials which are allowed by the loving Master, in order that their hearts be cleansed of every sinful impurity. Those who desire to be with Christ must not run away from trials, but even in times of

joy, they must not forsake the carrying of their cross.

My dear brothers and sisters! Seek Jesus Christ with faith and love. Do not forget that He gave His life on the Cross for our sakes, to deliver us from sin and eternal torment, and to dwell in our hearts, that we might have great joy. Do not forget, we have all been bought with the price of His blood, and we should belong to Him, as to our Redeemer.

Our days are numbered. Every stroke of the clock reminds us to seek Him Who created time and Himself stands above the measure of time. He alone is able to pluck us out from the ravaging torrent of time... Every stroke of the clock tells us: Be watchful! You now have one hour less until you must cross the threshold into life after death which knows neither days nor hours. Do not be seduced by the momentary sweetness of sin which vanishes like a dream, leaving the soul empty, ailing, anguishing; it steals away precious time and ruins it forever. Do not waste time in useless occupations or idleness. Every one of you has a God-given talent to put to use. Busy yourselves in acquiring incorruptible wealth in the Kingdom of Heaven. Take the example of the thousands who have gone before you, having attained eternal rest and joy through their ceaseless labors in this temporal life, through sweat and tears.

Make haste to uproot from yourselves sin in all its various manifestations, through the help of Christ the Saviour. Remember, man sows what he reaps (Gal. 6:7), according to the immutable law of God’s righteousness. While there is still time, therefore, let us hasten to find Christ and in faith create for Him an abode in our hearts that we not fall prey to the fire of gehenna, as it is written: “If a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered; and men gather them and cast them into the fire, and they are burned” (John 15:6). Amen.

Dear brothers and sisters on this day I would ask you the same question: What are you seeking? Why did you come to church today? What are we all seeking in our lives? Are we seeking Christ, as He was first sought by those humble fishermen, among who was the Apostle Andrew?

What is it that people seek in life? They seek health, riches, success, acquaintances, friends, prestige, various worldly pleasures, vain knowledge... Only a few seek Christ the Saviour. Some may even think it strange to seek Christ. They say, “we call ourselves Christians after Christ, we see His holy image both in our homes and at church; we pronounce His sweetest name and hear it in God’s temple.” It appears we have no need to seek Christ. People seek that which they don’t have, that which they need. But we seem to have Christ; at least that is what we think...

It’s true, we have icons of Christ, but we do not have Christ Himself; we have His name, but only on our lips -- not in our hearts; we know Him, but only in word -- not in deed. Here, beloved, is a big difference; it is the same difference as between a shadow and the object which casts the shadow, It is, however, precisely with the heart that Christ is truly known, that is, in our inner man -- in our soul; because Christ, as God, is Spirit, “Who is everywhere and fillest all things.”

“The kingdom of God is within You” (Luke 17:21), says the Lord. The holy Apostle Paul earnestly desired that, through faith, Christ would dwell in the hearts of Christians. He wrote:

“THE NEW CREATION – FILLED WITH THE SPIRIT”



Today, we will focus on “the New Creation.”

In our talk today, we will discuss 3 important points:

1. what is the new creation
2. how to become a new creation
3. what are the rewards of a new creation

So let us read together Romans 6:1-7:

“...do you not know that as many of us were baptised into Christ Jesus were baptised into His death? Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life... knowing this, that our old man was crucified with Him, that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin. For he who has died has been freed from sin”.

These beautiful verses reveal some important points concerning the New Creation:

1. The new creation = “newness of life”.
2. The role of the sacraments in forming a new creation.
3. That sin = slavery, but turning away from sin = freedom.

1. The new creation = “newness of life”:

Every person is composed of 5 important aspects:

- Spirit : which communicates with the Lord
- Mind : which thinks
- Body : which moves
- Emotions : which feel
- social life (dealings with others)

When we enter into “newness of life”, it means that we have to be new in every aspect of our life. It is not enough to be new in our spiritual life, for example, but keep the same habits when we deal with others. This behaviour belongs only to a hypocrite. St James also tells us that faith without deeds is useless (“You see then that a man is justified by works, and not by faith only” James 2:24).

To experience true newness means that every part of our life becomes filled with the Holy Spirit – our deeds, our words, our thoughts, our actions, as well as our depth in the spiritual life.

2. The role of the sacraments in forming a new creation.

The only way we can achieve this “newness of life” is by being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. We receive this sanctification through the holy 7 sacraments...

As humans, we have all inherited 2 things from Adam:

- i. The penalty of death (because as St Paul tells us, “the wages of sin is death” Romans 6:23);
- ii. A spoiled nature. In the beginning we were created in the image of God, but through Adam’s sin, this image became spoiled.

Therefore, the only way we can get rid of this ‘old nature’ and get a ‘new nature’ is by being renewed...

How??

- i. Our beloved Lord saved us from the penalty of death, by dying for us on the cross. As St Paul said, “In Him we have redemption through His blood...” (Ephesians 1:7);
- ii. And our spoiled nature has become cleansed and new by the Holy Spirit through baptism, as St Paul tells us, “For as many of you as have been baptised into Christ have put on Christ” (Galatians 3:27).

• The first sacrament a person has is baptism. This sacrament is the door for us to enter into a new creation. The baby is immersed in the water three times to symbolise 2 things:

1. The Holy Trinity
2. The three days the Lord was in the tomb – because baptism means dying with the Lord and then rising with the Lord. And so this baby has become a “new creation” in the Lord.

• After the baby is baptised, the priest gives him the sacrament of confirmation, by anointing the baby with 36 crosses in order to sanctify his whole body as a temple for the Lord:

- the 1st cross is on the head (to sanctify the thoughts)
- the 2nd and 3rd on the nostrils
- the 4th on the lips
- the 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th on the ears and eyes
 - o (the 2nd – 8th crosses are to sanctify the senses of smell, taste, hearing and seeing)
- The 9th and 10th are on the heart (to sanctify the emotions and the inner life)
- The 11th and 12th are on the back (to sanctify the will)
- The next 12 crosses are on the

2 arms – 2 crosses on each joint (to sanctify the deeds)

- The last 12 crosses are on the 2 legs – 2 crosses on each joint (to sanctify the way).

• After being renewed through baptised, and sanctified by the Myron, the baby is ready to be united with his beloved Lord through the holy sacrament of the Eucharist:

- “Whoever eats My flesh and drinks My blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day... He who eats My flesh and drinks My blood dwells in me and I in him” (John 6: 53&58).

• But even though we have become a new creation, it does not mean that we are sinless, but it means that we will try our best to struggle against sin. And if through human weakness, we commit sin – and return to the old nature, our beloved Lord who is great in mercy and compassion, tells us not to lose hope because He has given us a wonderful sacrament called repentance and confession..

- At St Paul teaches us: “...if they fall away, to renew them again to repentance...” (Hebrew 6:6).

So then you may ask, what is the purpose of baptism if I will return to my old nature?

First of all, we must understand that our beloved Lord has given us complete free-will. If baptism completely kills the old nature, then God, in the process, has also killed our free-will. But God in His love has shown us the path that leads to Him and the path that leads away from Him, and He has given us to freedom to choose what to do.

The Holy Spirit we receive in baptism, gives us a ‘holy’ conscience to make us question and think before we commit any sin.

And if we do through weakness fall into sin, we can re-gain all of the lost blessings through repentance and confession. (That’s why repentance is called ‘second baptism’).

- “And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven. Confess your trespasses to one another and pray for one another” (James 5: 15-16)

• All of the sacraments in our church are biblical commandments. For example, James speaks to us concerning the Unction of the Sick:

- “Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord” (James 5:14).

• In the New Creation process, the sacrament of Marriage is essential for most people.

- Marriage has five important

goals:

- to share spiritual love
- to share a life of co-operation and understanding
- to experience salvation, because the holy physical relationship within marriage will stop them from sinning.

• To bring up Christian children, who will be saints on earth as well as in heaven.

• And finally, the only way for these sacraments to be celebrated is through the holy sacrament of priesthood. Priesthood is a biblical commandment:

- “For every priest taken from among men is appointed for men in things pertaining to God, that he may offer both gifts and sacrifices for sins...and no man takes this honour to himself, but he who is called by God, just as Aaron was” (Hebrews: 1, 4)

3. Sin = slavery, but turning away from sin = freedom:

- Sin is separation from God
- Repentance is returning to God
- Sin is fighting against God
- Repentance is reconciling with God.
- Sin is spiritual death
- Repentance is the resurrection of the spirit
- Sin is bondage and slavery
- Repentance is freedom from the slavery of sin and the devil (“If the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed...whoever commits sin is a slave of sin,” John 8:32&36)
- Sin is the love of unrighteousness
- Repentance is giving up sin for the love of God and righteousness.

We have witnessed saints like St Moses, St Paul the Apostle, St Mary the Egyptian, St Paesa, who turned from their old nature to the new nature. And although their struggle was very difficult, they did not return to their old nature because their love for God was stronger than the love for sin. Their repentance was not something that just happened temporarily, but it changed their life permanently. In the life of St Moses the Black for example, we see the big role his spiritual father had in his life whenever he was afflicted with memories from his past life.

The love of God changes a person from the inside, and his repentance can also be an encouragement for others to repent as well.

Bishop Daniel
Bishop of the Coptic Orthodox Diocese of Sydney & Affiliated Regions

Contented next week

DIocese NEWS



His Holiness suspended his weekly address early in July due to renovations at Saint Mark's Coptic Orthodox Cathedral. The renovations are in preparation for the cathedral's 2018 golden jubilee, which marks 50 years since its foundation in 1968.

The pope will preach his Wednesday sermon at one of the churches at the papal headquarters in eastern Cairo, where the cathedral is located.

Saint Mark's Coptic Orthodox Cathedral is a prominent place of worship for Egypt's Coptic Orthodox community. It is also the largest cathedral in Africa and the Middle East.

The spokesman of the Coptic cathedral, Polus Halim, said earlier that the pope is expected to deliver his sermons at different churches across Egypt each week.



Fr Yousef Fanous and three Deacons attended the official Blessing of the St Julius of Akfahs Lawn Coptic Orthodox Church Kemps Creek Cemetery. HG payed a blessing prayer according to the Orthodox Coptic Church tradition and gave a short talk about the history of

the Coptic Orthodox Church, then inaugurated the Plaque for the event. HG expresses our gratitude to the Catholic Cemetery Board for reserving a special for the Coptic Church with all the facilities and support to do the burial according to our tradition.

IT'S ALL PART OF THE MISSION





St Demiana and St Athanasius Youth (St D's) Written by Simon Shahid and Saimon Sami

to on the plane.

The challenge of the mission was far from our minds, at least until the day of departure when we were confronted with the realities of the trip. Our travel agent made an error on the tickets which delayed us from boarding the flight. By the grace of God the issue was resolved and the last person got on the flight with fifteen minutes to spare before take-off. We managed to arrive safely in Bangkok - this was the beginning of many challenges. Everyone was eager and excited and could not wait to get to the orphanage to get straight into the hard work. We had to endure an eight hour bus trip from Bangkok to Sangkhlaburi which was a rollercoaster, both figuratively and emotionally. Many sharp turns on the twisty and bumpy road tipped over the pot in the "toilet" and the bus was filled with a fowl stench, then apprehension and fear of the unknown kicked in. What other challenges will we face? How much work was there to do? Would we be able to cope? Could we last the week? Is this all part of the mission?

It was only when we pulled into the orphanage and saw the kids running up to us in the rain, smiling and full of laughter that we realised, maybe we would be the ones benefiting from this trip. Without a word or hesitation, they began to carry our bags inside for us. The youth were awestruck with not one sour face in sight. The kids would crowd around and hug each member of the youth, smiling, laughing and showing an amount of love that

was like nothing we had seen before. The kids then led us into the church and began to sing hymns for us. Tears touched the faces of many, as the children were united as one in their singing. The passion and zeal of their voices reminded us of angels glorifying God in heaven. Each and every child was full of love and devotion to the church and showed us a great deal about unity and fellowship. The first day at the orphanage ended with high expectations.

Day two onwards the challenge continued. We made a commitment to fully immerse ourselves in the daily routine of the orphanage. What did we get ourselves into? The 4 am rise was something that most of the youth had never encountered nor expected. This was not helped by the fact that 16 girls had to share a room with only 12 beds. The heat and humidity left many of us uncomfortable and homesick, with many counting down the days until we would head back to civilization. The children, however, strictly followed a specific routine every day that left many of us baffled and stunned. Morning devotion in the church at 5am, cleaning at 6am, breakfast at 7am, school at 8am, return at 4pm, dinner at 5pm, night devotion at 7pm, followed by homework or cleaning and finally bedtime at 10pm. It was safe to say that many of us could barely keep up without needing a nap at least once during the day. Between preparing and cooking our own meals and teaching children at the local school, we were

exhausted.

The children, on the other hand, were incredibly structured, well behaved and constantly placed us first, serving us whenever possible. Their main caretakers, Mama and Papa (Mary and Moses), have done an unbelievably fantastic job of taking care and raising the ninety or so well behaved children that are never out of line. The sacrifices made by Mama and Papa are something most of us have never encountered, the two of them giving up their lives in service of others. It certainly put things into perspective.

It wasn't until the final day when it hit us that we will be leaving these kids for a long time after getting to know them so well. No one really wanted to leave, especially after seeing one of the young girls clinging to a member of the youth, with tears running down her face. It was with a heavy heart that we saw them get on the school bus one last time.

Upon returning to Australia, it was evident that we were not the same people who boarded the plane to Thailand. We all learned our own individual lessons, and saw things in a different light, but one thing we could all agree on is that we had never seen such happy people, with so few belongings. It was clear that having the latest phone, the most expensive bag or the coolest shoes was not the key to happiness or to a fulfilling life. It is having the Holy Spirit within you, performing all actions through Jesus' name, showing love to all and being grateful for

the more important things in life. In the end we realised that it was not us who served, but it was us who had been served. This feeling resonated with almost everyone in the group. Here are some testimonies:

"When the orphans chanted "Holy Holy Holy is the Lord" I thought to myself this is what heaven must feel like. This pretty much sums up my experience in the orphanage. It was definitely heavenly!"

"My experience with the kids at the orphanage reinforced my belief that true joy is not found, nor measured by my material possessions. The orphans had nothing, by way of luxurious items, yet they were happier and more satisfied than many of us living in the rich western world."

"The kids at the orphanage were an absolute breath of fresh air. Their love and devotion towards Christ is one that I wish we could incorporate into our lives. It was an absolute pleasure to spend time with them. I definitely learnt more from them than I feel they did from me. It's an experience I will keep with me every day as a reminder of how to be a good Christian and how to treat my family, myself and everyone else around me."

This is only a brief note describing our experience but it was much more. Our mission began as a challenging and sometimes almost uncomfortable experience but it ended with many blessings and an impression that will last for a lifetime. We hope our mission will continue in the near future.

ST SHENOUDA MONASTERY IN SYDNEY AUSTRALIA HAPPY 20TH ANNIVERSARY.

- Two Decades in establishment of a Monastery are very important to notice, not in the growth of the buildings or the growth in number of Monks but in the kind of the proper Monastic life that had been achieved by the Monks.
- It is known very well that All of us as Servants of God are supposed to do certain work in our Lives as Monks/Fathers, but we should always keep in mind, that we are completing each other and all are entering into Others' work, as it was said by our Lord Jesus Christ: "I sent you to reap that for which you have not labored; others have labored, and you have entered into their labors" (John 4:38).
- Without any doubts, I am indebted to the hard work that was made (1995—2006) by the first 2 Monks/Fathers: Fr Pavlos Anba Bishoy and Fr Bishoy St Anthony, who came first to establish the Monastic life and they in turn, are also indebted originally, to Fr Tadros El Bakhomy who also laboured tirelessly (1993—1995) in establishing and building the first and main Buildings of the Monastery which are: The Church, the Hall, Four Cells, a Kitchen and a Bathroom. May God bless them All. Amen.
- But a Monastery is not measured by how big it is as in area and Buildings and not by how many Monks are there, but mainly by how the Monks/Fathers live in purity, in love, in Christian Virtues, in an ascetic Life and being dead to the World by all means.
- I have the honour to have been ordained as a Monk and Priest at the Original Monastery of St Anthony in Egypt and now as a Bishop of St Shenouda Monastery in Sydney. This is not just a mere coincidence, but I considerate it as a message and responsibility from God that we have to pass on; all the beautiful and rich teachings of these great Saints; St Anthony and St Shenouda, to our young Generations and to the Australian Community at large.
- We as Monks/Fathers, young and old who live here at St Shenouda Monastery, should be of a good example to All who come and visit us, to convey to them that living with Christ and in the Christian Ethics, is not hard or impossible as others may think, but rather enjoyable and possible. May God bless & keep all the Monks here.
- The World today is full of evil things and under the bondage and the deceit of the Devil, conveying the message, that Christian Ethics is an old fashion, out of time and not relevant to the 21st Century, which is completely wrong.
- I take this opportunity to thank each and every one who shared and laboured in establishing and building this beautiful Monastery of ours. May our Gracious Lord Jesus Christ bless and reward them All with His love and the Heavenly Rewards. Amen. Thank You & God bless You All. Bishop Anba Daniel. Abbot of St Shenouda Monastery. Saturday 1/8/2015.

LIFE OF CONSECRATION

A General Note On Consecration: As Christians we have all been called to consecrate our lives to the Lord Jesus Christ without exception. This consecration encompasses the spirit and also the body - for we are a living sacrifice, - the thoughts, the pattern of our life as well as our daily decisions.

Just as the apostle Paul calls us the one body of Christ, in which each member has a differing function and role for the edification of this body, so too, are we consecrated each in his or her own capacity, for the edification of the church. For this reason, it must never be assumed that one type of consecration is above another or more useful than the other. On the contrary, to assume or proclaim that is to deny the unique gifts that God has bestowed on each one of us and on each type of consecration. Instead, we must all endeavour to work together to magnify the body of Christ and continuously reach out to the world.

Different Types of Consecration: Whilst we are all consecrated in the general sense of being ambassadors of Christ here on earth, there are specific distinctions between each

type of consecration. The first distinction is made between those in the laity who are consecrated and those who are given a clear and specific role to fulfil by the church in pursuing their own type of consecration. Within the laity, lies the majority of the Lord's servants, those who are often not accounted for and not recognised properly for their efforts and love for God's people, those who are sincere and true loving servants of the church in whichever capacity the Lord chose for them. Of those, there are a significant number who have lived a celibate life but the majority of which are devout married Christians. Of this group of godly, consecrated servants many saintly people have emerged with a unique and undeniable contribution for the sanctity of the church and a testimony of these people's saintly persons. Amongst these saintly people is St Rewis, and also the pure lady named and referred to as Om Elghalaba. Many who may not be known to all of us join these two saintly people, and most importantly they are known and recognised by name by the Lord Himself. The next distinction is for those who are entrusted by

the church to fulfil certain roles in the consecration they have been called to live, by the Lord. This distinction is whether the consecrate is married or celibate. The married group comprises of the hegumens and priests. It is undoubtedly obvious in the Coptic Orthodox church that the church in its sacramental capacities cannot survive without these consecrated servants since they make up a large majority of those who serve in the office of the priesthood. Those who have fulfilled this role with sincerity have undoubtedly shaken the world through their service of Christ's children. Amongst those are Fr. Mikhael Ibrahim and Fr. Bishoy Kamel amongst many, many others most of whom we do not know the names of but more importantly, they are known by name by the Lord Christ Himself.

Within the same group of those who are living a married yet consecrated life, are those whose efforts and sacrifices are largely overlooked but whose efforts are acknowledged by the Lord Christ Himself. Those are the hegumens' and priests' wives who also are consecrated to the Lord and to the church's

service in many capacities as are their husbands.

The next and last distinction is between those who were called to a celibate consecration. Within this group are those who are called to monastic life, monks (Eg Fr. Faltaos) and nuns (Omena Erini & Omena Youanna) and those who are called to be consecrated deacons (Deacon Habib Guirguis) and deaconesses (Deaconess Phoebe contemporary of St Paul). There seems to be a significant confusion about the roles of each of these groups which is shown by a significant number of misconceptions.

When lived sincerely, both lifestyles are an expression of sincere love for Christ through consecrating the life wholly to the person of Christ. Both lifestyles are centred on the three pillars of voluntary poverty, chastity and obedience. Again both lifestyles follow a very similar spiritual canon and communal prayers. Similarly both are dead to the world, though they both live in the world in a different capacity. Lastly both have been sanctified by Christ and like all other lifestyles (mentioned above), when lived sincerely, both are an opportunity for people to be

Christlike – a call for us all. One of the often expressed misconceptions is that monasticism is a progressive rank that the consecrated deacon or deaconess aspires to. This is not true by virtue of both being two different lifestyles, though they have the above similarities. That is the natural progression is for the monastic novice to proceed to being a monk or nun, whilst the consecrated novice, proceeds through the different ranks of deaconship. The major difference between the lifestyles is that monastic life is focused on the salvation of the self and the communion of the monastic with God. For this reason, monks and nuns do not serve in the world and are traditionally called to stay in the monastery to which they adhere. The monastic life is somewhat secluded from the world, where the focus is on a contemplative life away from the world. Indeed traditionally, this focus was so strong to the extent that it is mentioned in the lives of the monastic saints, that they often did not get out to meet people or even to accept their relatives' visits. This is natural given the focus that there is on seclusion and a contemplative life. That

is not to say that the monastics have nothing to do with the world. Indeed their service to the church is to continuously pray for her and for the entire world. The Life of Consecration in the Capacity of Consecrated Deaconess The following section will elaborate more on the life of consecrated service of deaconesses, not to raise it above all other consecrations, but instead because it is our intention to explain its importance to the readers. The life of consecration, in the capacity of consecrated deacon or deaconess is a life, which is modelled on the life of our Lord Jesus Christ Himself. Inasmuch as Jesus Christ lived celibate and expended His life for His creation, so too the consecrated deacon or deaconess, lives a celibate life which is spent for the life of Christ's creation. During His life on earth, Christ modelled a life of prayer and service for His creation which is at the basis of the life of celibate service. In that sense, the life of consecrated deaconess, which will be the focus of the next section, is divided between a life of prayer and contemplation which directly parallels the

monastic life, with the addition of loving and sacrificial service for Christ's creation. In similar manner to Christ who taught and ministered to the public, so too does a consecrated deaconess, preach and teach Christ through her actions and also through her words. As Christ also supported those who are downtrodden and forgotten so too, does the deaconess spend her life in imitating God's love and helping hand to those who have no helper.

It is the deaconess who dies daily for her served ones, just as Christ also died for His creation. It is the deaconess who goes and lives among the people whom she serves, living through their troubles and overcoming tribulations with them, just as Christ also came to live amongst His creation.

It is the deaconess who serves others in order for them as well as her to reach salvation just as St Mary the mother of God chose to bring the Salvation, which was in her womb, to the house of Elizabeth whom she served.

It is the deaconess who has chosen the Good Portion which Mary of Bethany chose and which will not be taken away

from her, by sitting in adoration at the feet of Christ to absorb His love and to later bestow it to others in a life of ministry and service.

It is the deaconess who brings the good news of Christ to others as did Photina, the Samaritan woman who forgot about herself to preach the One who matters and it is the deaconess who preaches the good news of the resurrection and the forgiveness of sin as did Mary Magdalene.

May the Lord help each and every consecrated deaconess in their service all over the world and in particular those who are in our mother land Egypt whose service is difficult yet extremely important.

May God also help all of us live out the life of consecration, which He has bestowed on us, in whichever form. May He grant us to live out our roles together in harmony for the purpose of the edification of the body of Christ. May He grant us the knowledge that each one of us has a purpose for which only we were created and without which His unique plan would not unfold in the same way as He intended. By: Theotokos & St Demiana House For Consecrated Sisters

CAMPAIGN LOOKS TO RENOVATE 100 HERITAGE COPTIC AND ISLAMIC BUILDINGS IN OLD CAIRO

The number of tourist places in Egypt that people would want to visit and enjoy the treasures they contain is countless. Yet the bad conditions these places are left in, due to the lack of maintenance, are making tours difficult to achieve.

The sights are filled with rubbish, ancient crumbling buildings, and tourists do not receive guidance or even maps even though these places are marked as touristic points. The current situation is only worsening Egypt's image internationally. However, recently, new changes to renovate ancient places have been appearing on the map.

The Ministry of Antiquities has launched a new campaign to save and renovate 100 ancient buildings in old Cairo, according to a ministry statement. The campaign is a part of a huge plan to restore and renovate old Cairo, as it is considered

one of the biggest and most important historical landmarks internationally.

The campaign mainly focuses on saving Islamic and Coptic buildings that have not been under maintenance. Even though some of them are quite small in size, the historic and antiquities treasures they hold within their walls are highly valuable.

Ever since the project began in 2000, it succeeded in renovating over 100 ancient buildings in old Cairo. "Yet this is not the end of the project, we'll keep renovating the area as it is commensurate to the value of the historic district," said Minister of Antiquities Mamdouh Al-Damati.

The ministry is now listing the places which urgently need

restoration, to decide on where the renovation process should start, according to Mohammed Abd El-Aziz, the minister's Assistant for Islamic and Coptic



Antiquities Affairs.

"The ministry is currently putting on its best efforts to stop the deterioration of these buildings, on their architectures, structures or adornments, and to remove all the trash in the area and reunite them with the touristic historic places," said Abd El-Aziz.

In the recent past, several ancient

places were renovated and opened to public. Earlier in July, the Hawd of the Sultan Qaitbey Complex was opened to the public after a year of renovations. The Hawd is a drinking trough for the animals that the Sultan used for transportation, and is a major part of the total complex that he built, which consists of a mosque, a school, and a mausoleum in the Al-Arafa area (Cairo's city of the dead).

Through the process, the artisans, who live in the same neighbourhood and know the history of the place, made sure to maintain the Hawd's unique style. The drawings and material used in the process of renovation maintained the historic quality of the architecture.

Also, last June, the Ministry of Antiquities announced that it would be starting the last stage of the restoration initiative for old Cairo's walls.

20TH YEAR DOCUMENTATION OF THE HISTORY OF THE MONASTERY OF ST SHENOUDA IN PUTTY



Shortly, with the prayers of the His Holiness Pope Tawadros II, Pope of Alexandria and Patriarch of the See of St Mark, His Grace Bishop Daniel El Antouny, the head of the Monastery of St Shenouda The Archimandrite in Sydney/NSW will head the 20th year anniversary celebration since the inauguration, by his Holiness Pope Shenouda III, God bless his soul. The Monastery passed into 3 stages to reach its current flourishing status of a well established Monastery recognized by The Holy Synod.

The idea came in 1990 from Dr. Medhat Guirgis – The Secretary of the NSW State Board of The Coptic Orthodox Church at the time and his wife Dr. Sara Fuirgis – to give a present from the son and daughter to their Father H H Pope Shenouda III. H H devoted his life to re-build the old un-occupied monasteries and promote monasticism in the Coptic Orthodox Church. This would provide the NSW Diocese with one of the pillars of the Coptic Orthodox Church. The hard work to establish the Monastery was completed with the prayers and blessings of H H Pope Shenouda by the Very Reverend Fr Tadros Elbakhomi who was experienced in the construction of monasteries after successfully re-building the ancient St Bakhomious Monastery in Edfo in the 1970's. First stage: The constructions since 1991 till 1995

1. The Very Reverend Father Tadros Elbakhomi, Mr. Soubhi Nicola and Mr. Issa Tadros made many trips, taking the burdens

and hardships of travelling around NSW to find a suitable place. Finally in early 1991 find a spot around 110 Acres was found in Putty 150 km away from Sydney about. This land was perfect and commensurate with the monastic life. Then the land was purchased by Dr. Medhat Guirgis & his wife Dr Sara Guirgis.

2. In one of his visits to Australia in the same year His Eminence Metropolitan Bishoy, the Secretary of The Holy Synod at the time, visited the parcel of land. His Eminence was impressed, blessed the land, and prayed for the completion of the work. His Eminence's signature was imprinted on one of the trees there.

3. The hard work started by preparing the architectural drawings to build a church, a hall, a kitchen as well as four quarters – (Klaly) for the monks according to the regulations of the Putty City Council's.

4. Father Tadros Albakhomi and both engineers Sobhi and Issa, lobbied intensively with the authorities until finally, the miracle happened and they got the DA approved.

5. The process of preparing the land and construction under the supervision of Fr Tadros continued reaching its final stages and in 1993 His Holiness Pope Shenouda III blessed the monastery and laid the cornerstone after the prayers of Thanks Giving. His Holiness Pope Shenouda III thanked the V Rev Tadros Elbakhomi and the other servants participating

in the project. H H gave some observations that he would like to add before his next visit to celebrate the inauguration of the monastery.

6. After completion of the monastery buildings and the provision of water, electricity, and telephone facilities H H Pope Shenouda III visited the monastery for the second time on 26 August 1995 amid the joy of the Coptic community and celebrated the inauguration of the monastery. Dr. Medhat Guirgis and his wife transferred the ownership to H H as a gift on the occasion of the Silver Jubilee of the Coptic Orthodox church In Australia. So the Contracts were exchanged and were signed by father Tadros Elbakhomi as a witness in his capacity as a Justice of the Peace in accordance with Australian law.

7. Then Pope Shenouda III handed the monastery keys to the priest Pavlos Anba Bishoy.

Second stage: development and attraction 1996 till 2006

This phase started with the leadership of Fr Pavlos El Anba Bishoy and Fr Bishoy who played a prominent role in the advancement of the monastery as a result of their faith and strong relationship with the Coptic people and good hospitality in the monastery. An increased number of the visitors flocked to the monastery, especially the youth during the public holidays and in the weekends. Under their leadership the following was achieved

1. The number of monks increased in the monastery during this period as follows:

a. Shenouda was ordained a monk under name WISSA on 1999/4/3 then priest on 2002/1/92 by Pope Shenouda III.

b. Both John and Daniel requested to be monks on 2000, then became monks under names Shenouda and Theodor on 2004/2/22.

2. The area of the land was increased in three phases, till reaching 268 acres now.

3. Building a large workshop, and the purchase of heavy and light equipment for use in agriculture, construction, and architectural constructions.

4. using areas in the land for cultivation, and establish farms raising birds and cows and sheep.

5. Construction of new buildings including twelve monks's Quarters, a private dwelling for the Bishop of the monastery, kitchen for visitors, a hall and library for the monks, as well as a medical facility. In addition to Bethlehem (a room for making the Eucharist) there was also another separate building for visitors to the monastery include a large kitchen, a hall, a library for the visitors, and seven extension guest house to accommodate 28 guests with toilets. This building was used for spiritual seekers or church youth trips. His Holiness Pope Shenouda III blessed this construction on his last visit to Australia by the end of 2002.



Third stage: the recognition from 2006 so far:

His Holiness Pope Shenouda III, decided to assign Fr Daniel El Antony to take over the Affairs of the monastery after the return of Fr Pavlos to Cairo. Fr. Daniel was ordained in 2009 as a Bishop for the monastery in 2009 with the name H G Bishop Daniel. During his time, the monastery implemented the conditions that allow the Holy Synod to officially recognize the monastery including:

1. Complete the construction of the gate of the monastery including two small towers – (Manara) , and also a metal bell beside the Church.

2. Establishment of the "Altafoos" a building of a private cemetery for the monks who pass away.

After the Monastery's recognition by the Holy Synod H G Bishop Daniel started further projects on the land of the monastery:

1. Laying the foundation stone for the Cathedral construction project in 2014, after the monastery access permits from government agencies responsible.

2. The monastery became a major educational for the new priests for the period condition of forty days as a new priest.

3. Ordaining the monk Fr Wissa to be a Hegoman, and ordaining the monks Shenouda and Theodor to become priests. Moreover, other two persons called Moses and Daniel requested to be monks on 6/01/2014.

4. Increasing the monastery land to 418 acres now.

To mark the occasion we give here a simple summary of the history of the monastery. We congratulate all who toiled for the establishment and advancement of the monastery and ask God to bless them and reward them for their efforts in completing the process of monasticism in NSW with the blessing and prayers of his Holiness Pope Tawadros II, H G Bishop Daniel the head of the monastery of Anba Shenouda The Archimandrite, H G Bishop Daniel the Bishop of Sydney & Affiliated regions, and all our Orthodox bishops.

SOLACE OF THE LORD SPIRITUAL DAY



Solace of the Lord is an organisation set up by the Coptic community which serves to not only aid those within the church community but mainly those outside of it. Solace of the Lord consists of a range of wonderful services which includes Tutoring, Indigenous Outreach service, Prison Ministry, Friendship service, Homeless backpacks service and Fundraising.

On Saturday, 25th of July 2015, Solace of the Lord held its first ever spiritual retreat at St. Joseph's Spirituality Centre for those serving within Solace. The Sixth hour prayer followed by a few up-lifting hymns was the perfect way to start the day. The servants were then informed of the recent updates for each of the services. Through the grace of God, each service update ended on a positive note and proved to be growing extensively. After a session of service updates, all servants were split up into groups for an activity which both, required and encapsulated the true spirit of teamwork and fellowship. After the activity, the group of servants enjoyed a deliciously prepared lunch, which once again allowed for a wonderful atmosphere of love and communion.

The highlight of the day was the spiritual talk given by Fr Antonios Kaldas. The talk was wonderfully portrayed through the use of finger puppets and through this, Fr Antonios explained the importance of serving those outside the church community and emphasized what it truly

means to be the light of Christ in a dark world.

The inspiring talk left each individual uplifted which was a great way to kick start the quiet contemplation session. As each individual reflected, they simultaneously enjoyed the beautiful scenic gardens at St Josephs centre, contemplating the beauty of God's handiwork. The day concluded with each service splitting up into separate workshops. The main aim of these workshops was to relate their service to the person of Jesus and each group successfully came up with beautiful contemplations.

From the few workshops organised that day, each servant was able to contemplate on the life of Jesus being the ultimate teacher who reached out to the oppressed and taught us love, and relate it to the service they are committed to. 'For I was hungry, and you gave me food: I was thirsty, and you gave me drink: I was a stranger, and you took me in; I was naked and you clothed me; I was sick and you visited me; I was in prison and you came to me.' If you are interested in joining Solace of the Lord to serve both the Coptic and non-Coptic community please contact us on solaceofthelord@gmail.com or on our facebook page, Solace of the Lord, or by message on 0431 047 743

Fr Antonios Kaldas spiritual talk about importance of serving those outside the church community



Serve to Learn is back in 2016

WHEN?
January 2016

Serve to Learn is a unique program that connects youth from around the globe to our brothers and sisters in Egypt. For three weeks, you'll teach English to kids in Egypt. You will also be getting involved in many activities with the children.

For more information go to www.copticorphans.org or call Sydney office on **02 9787 9777**

Coptic Orphans
Transforming Generations with Egypt's Fatherless

HEPATITIS SPREAD CAUSES CONCERN IN LEAD UP TO HEALTH WEEK



Hospital liver clinic director, Professor Amany Zekry. The St George area has the highest prevalence of hepatitis B in southern and eastern Sydney. Picture: Jane Dyson

ST GEORGE continues to have the highest incidence of hepatitis B in the local health district.

Its prevalence is linked to the large number of residents from south-east Asia and the Middle East where the viral infection is endemic.

Hepatitis B causes inflammation of the liver and, if left untreated, can lead to liver cancer.

Hepatitis Awareness Week, starting this Monday (July 27), aims to increase testing in St George and Sutherland Shire.

The director of St George Hospital's liver clinic, Amany Zekry, said there were about 300 to 400 cases of hepatitis B and C recorded annually in the local health district.

The district covers nine local government areas and has a

combined population of about 830,000 people.

Professor Zekry said hepatitis B had been more common in St George for some years.

Most adults who catch it recover completely, but less than 5 per cent of infected adults receive treatment.

Children with hepatitis B are more likely to develop liver disease later in life.

"There is no such thing as being a healthy carrier of hepatitis B," Professor Zekry said.

"It is vital to have your liver checked regularly, which will help determine the best time to start treatment."

Hepatitis B is spread through unsafe sex and other activities where blood or body fluids are

exchanged, such as in medical settings or by sharing drug-injecting equipment.

It can also be passed from mother to baby, and this is the most common form of transmission among non-Westerners.

Immunisation is the best way to reduce the risk of infection.

There is no vaccine for hepatitis C, but new treatments will be available in Australia by the end of next year.

"Some people in the Asian community think that it is OK to have hepatitis B because their cousin or uncle has it.

"They are then shocked when they learn it can cause liver cancer."

People who should get tested include those born overseas,

migrants from high-risk groups, health and community care workers, people who have had a blood transfusion, and people who have had unsafe sex or engaged in drug use.

The South Eastern Sydney Local Health District is working with Hepatitis NSW and local GPs and community organisations to encourage more people to get tested.

There will be a hepatitis health promotion stall at Sutherland Hospital on Monday.

A morning tea and education talk will be held from 8.30am to noon on Tuesday, July 28, at the St George Drug and Alcohol Service, 2 South Street, Kogarah. Fibroscan liver assessments will be available for registered clients.



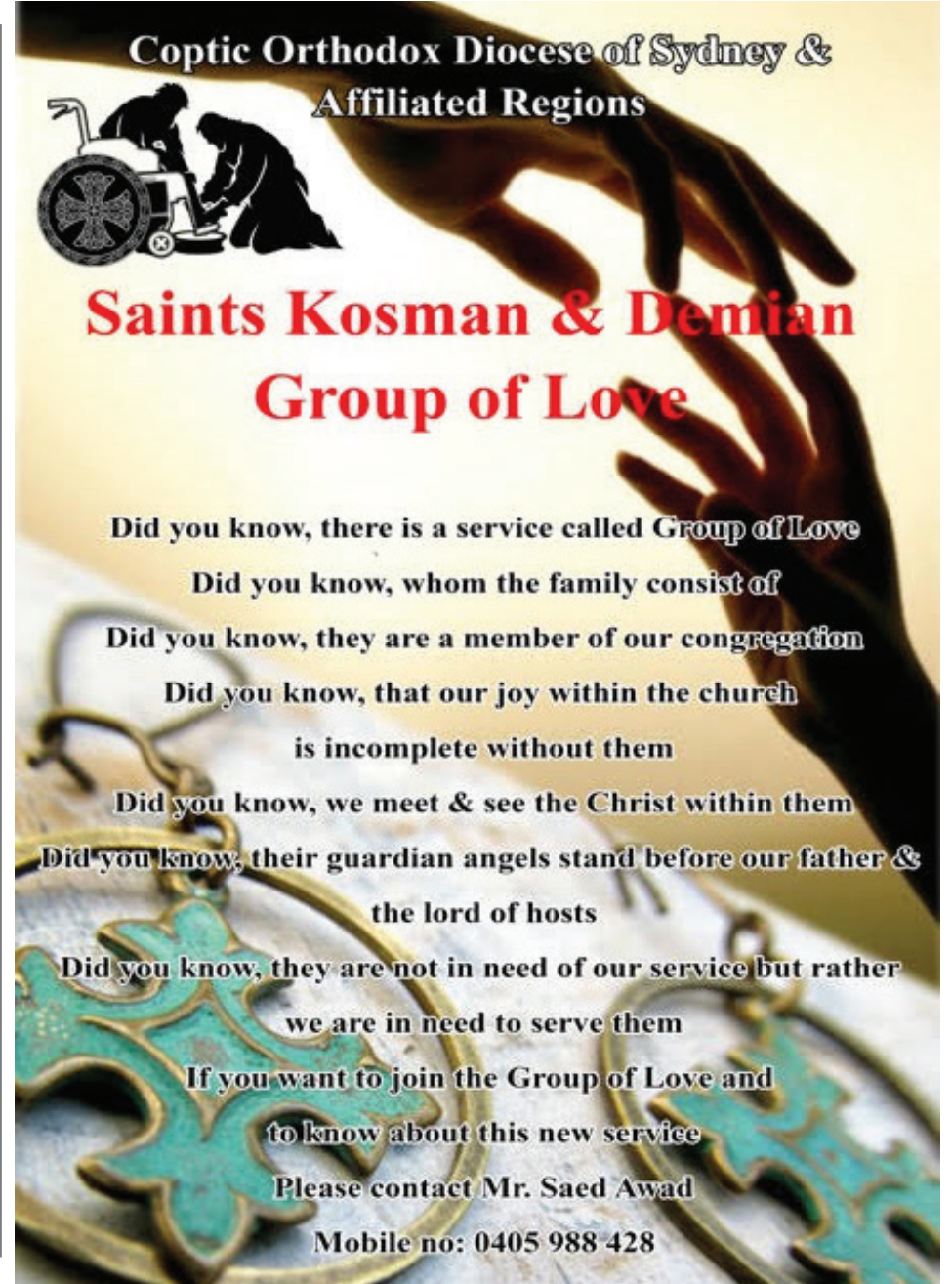
The Australian Sudanese Coptic Welfare Association
in conjunction with
The Public Affairs Council of the Sydney Diocese
would like to invite you to a dinner in celebration of

THE 13TH ANNIVERSARY
OF THE ENTHRONEMENT OF
HIS GRACE BISHOP DANIEL,
BISHOP OF SYDNEY & ITS AFFILIATED REGIONS

25th October 2015
5:30PM
At the Grand Royale
51-61 South Street, Granville
Adults \$50 Children (3-12) \$35
Formal dress

WE WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY THE BISHOPS OF THE EASTERN
CHURCHES, AS WELL AS MEMBERS OF THE PARLIAMENT. THE
NIGHT WILL INCLUDE A FOUR COURSE MEAL AND
ENTERTAINMENT

EMMANUEL ARMANIOUS 0403 632 122 ZAKARIA YASSA 0414 889 298

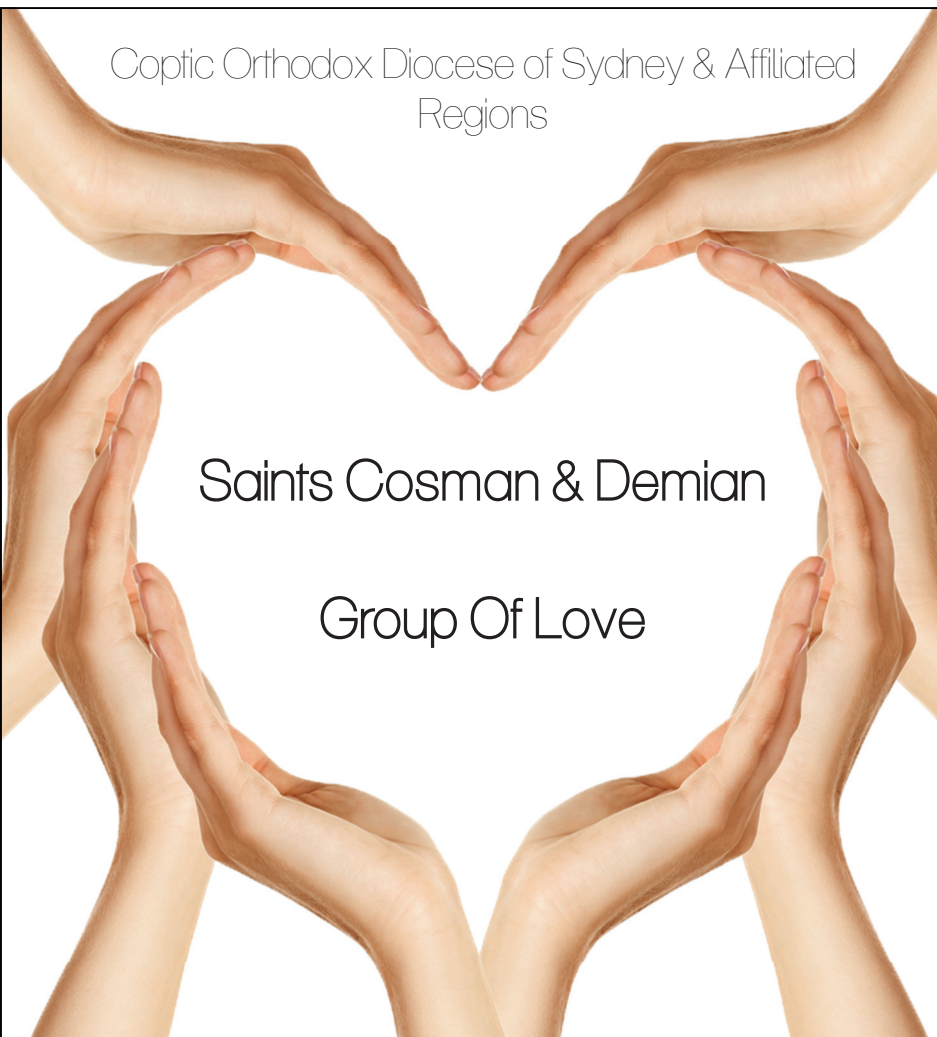


Coptic Orthodox Diocese of Sydney & Affiliated Regions

**Saints Kosman & Demian
Group of Love**

Did you know, there is a service called **Group of Love**
Did you know, whom the family consist of
Did you know, they are a member of our congregation
Did you know, that our joy within the church
is incomplete without them
Did you know, we meet & see the Christ within them
Did you know, their guardian angels stand before our father &
the lord of hosts
Did you know, they are not in need of our service but rather
we are in need to serve them
If you want to join the **Group of Love** and
to know about this new service
Please contact Mr. Saed Awad
Mobile no: 0405 988 428

Coptic Orthodox Diocese of Sydney & Affiliated
Regions



**Saints Cosman & Demian
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Did you know, there is a service called Group of Love
Do you know whom the family consist of
Did you know they are a member of our congregation
Did you know that our joy within the church is incomplete without them
Did you know we meet and see the Christ within them
Did you know their guardian angels stand before our Father and the lord of hosts
Did you know they obtain the key to the heavenly Kingdom
Did you know they are not in need of our service but rather we are in need to serve them

If you want to join the group of love and to meet your brothers and sisters in the service
Could you please contact
Dr.Hany Ebid on 0413 504 057



St. Mark Nubian Foundation
(ACN 168 959 966 / ABN 29 168 959 966)
P.O.BOX 574 ST MARYS NSW 1790 TEL: 61-2-0410 285 118
FAX: 61-2-9833 9299
EMAIL ADDRESS: - stmarknubianfoundation@gmail.com
Please Like us @ Facebook
(For this is the will of God, that by doing good you may put to
silence the ignorance of foolish men) "1 Peter 2:15"



Re/ Tender by email

Our Foundation would like to announce an open tender to a resort voucher in the City of Wollongong getaway holiday. The offer includes 4 nights in self contained Two bedroom self contained Bungalow. Whilst staying at the Resort, you have FREE use of the Indoor Heated Pool, Spa & steam Room.

The reserve value is \$1,000.00.

Please email your bit with your full details to the above mentioned email address. The closing date will be 30th. October 2015.

Your cheerful donation can be forwarded to our bank account with details as follows:-
Bank Name St.George Bank
Swift Code: - SGBLAU2S
BSB: - 112-879
A'cc:- 493911231

"All Donations are Tax deductible"

St. Mark Nubian Foundation Board of Directors:-
Fr. Yousef Fanous (Director & Presiding Member), Fr. Pishoi Botrous (Director & Vice President), Mobarak Alera (Director & Liaison Officer), and Emile Girgis (Director and Secretary & Treasurer)



Beds are filling fast

Prior to admission for respite or permanent care you will need to arrange an assessment by the Aged Care Assessment Team (ACAT). Once this assessment has been completed you will receive a copy of the Aged Care Client Record (ACCR) which advises you what level of care is required. You will need the ACCR to complete the Ark Health Care Application for Admission form for respite care or for a permanent place at one of our facilities.

For a permanent place at Ark Health Care Bankstown you will also be required to complete a Request for a Combined Assets and Income Assessment Form (SA457) from the Department of Human Services. Alternatively, you can download this form using the following link: <http://www.humanservices.gov.au/spw/customer/forms/resources/sa457-1502en.pdf>

Once you have prepared the two documents mentioned above, you may ring Ark Health Care on (02) 9791 9609 between the hours of 9am-5pm, Monday to Friday, or email bankstown@arkhc.com to make an appointment to view the facility, discuss the options available for admission.

Sydney's 1st Coptic Aged Care Facility!

Saint Maurice Aged Care Ltd and Ark Health Care Bankstown are excited to announce a partnership to provide professional care services to the frail aged of the Coptic Christian Community in a residential care facility situated in Bankstown.

Ark Health Care creates a homely environment whilst catering for the individual needs of all our residents. We provide a comprehensive culturally specific lifestyle program, working with each resident to find activities and interests that suit them, and a priest will be providing regular services and pastoral care to our residents.

FIRST COPTIC AGED CARE FACILITY IN SYDNEY

If you haven't already caught wind of the fabulous news, you will be glad to know that Saint Maurice Aged Care Ltd and Ark Health Care have announce a partnership to provide professional care services to the frail aged of the Coptic Christian Community in a residential care facility situated in Bankstown.

The Coptic floor is now open and residents have been accommodated. In fact, we had our first Liturgy on Monday August 10 conducted by Father Abdelmessih, Father Youssef and Father Samuel.

If you are interested in serving the elderly this this for you!! Serving the elderly is a complex proposition. There is almost no end to the variety of ways in which you can help older people live full lives. You don't need any special skills or degrees to improve the life of an elderly person, just compassion and understanding.


There are two ways to serve the residents at Ark Health Care

Bankstown:

1. Become a regular Ark Volunteer. This will require you to attend a two hour orientation program and source a police check. If you would like to become a regular Ark Volunteer, please contact Ark on (02) 9791 9609 between the hours of 9am-5pm, Monday to Friday, or email bankstown@arkhc.com.


2. Supervised Visitation Sessions are available for servants who prefer to serve on a casual basis. As this does not require a police check or orientation, these visitations are conducted in the common area only, at the following times:

- a) Tuesdays 10am-12pm
 - b) Thursdays 2pm-4pm
- Although St Maurice and Ark are grateful for your time & effort, general visitors who are not a friend or family member, are advised to comply with one of the two volunteer options mentioned.



Saint Maurice Aged Care Ltd

Beds are filling fast



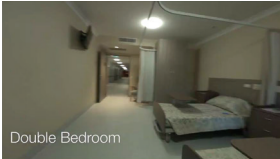


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If you are interested in acquiring a position at Ark Health Care, please book a personal tour by calling (02) 9791 9609 between the hours of 9am-5pm, Monday to Friday, or email bankstown@arkhc.com.

Prior to admission for respite or permanent care you will need to arrange an assessment by the Aged Care Assessment Team (ACAT). Once this assessment has been completed you will receive a copy of the Aged Care Client Record (ACCR) which advises you what level of care is required. You will need the ACCR to complete the Ark Health Care 'Application for Admission' form for respite care or for a permanent place at one of our facilities.

For a permanent place at an Ark Health Care Bankstown you will also require a Request for a Combined Assets and Income Assessment Form (SA457) from the Department of Human Services. Alternatively, you can download this form using the following link: <http://www.humanservices.gov.au/spw/customer/forms/resources/sa457-1502en.pdf>

Ark Healthcare Bankstown
1A Hixson Street, Bankstown, NSW 2200
Tel: 02 9791 9609 Email: bankstown@arkhc.com
ABN: 99 125 505 697



Saint Maurice Aged Care Ltd

Positions Vacant



If you are a professional, caring person with compassion for people and enthusiasm to deliver exceptional care, we want to hear from you!

Saint Maurice Aged Care Ltd and Ark Health Care Bankstown are excited to announce a partnership to provide care and services to the frail aged of the Coptic Christian Community in a residential care facility situated in Bankstown.

We are seeking committed people from the Coptic Christian Community to fill the following positions:

- 1. Registered Nurses**
- 2. Personal carers – Certificate III or IV in Aged Care**
- 3. Hospitality staff - experience in Kitchen hand duties and Cleaning**

To enquire about these positions please call (02) 9791 9609 between the hours of 9am-5pm, Monday to Friday, or email bankstown@arkhc.com.

All applications must include:

- Application For Employment Form.
- Cover letter
- Resume
- Certificates
- Police Check (AFP)

Don't forget to mention that you have been referred by the Coptic Community.

Ark Healthcare Bankstown
1A Hixson Street, Bankstown, NSW 2200
Tel: 02 9791 9609 Email: bankstown@arkhc.com
ABN: 99 125 505 697



Saint Mark's Coptic Orthodox College Presents

THE LION KING

Monday 14th September 2015

Doors open at 5:30pm

52 Australis Avenue Wattle Grove

See a St Mark's College student representative to purchase your tickets before 13th September

FAMILIES OF 21 EGYPTIAN CHRISTIANS MARTYRED BY ISLAMIC STATE TO GET NEW HOUSES

The U.S.-based Christian ministry Focus on the Family is building new houses for the families of the 21 Egyptian Coptic Christians who were beheaded by Islamic State terrorists in Libya earlier this year.

Focus on the Family is constructing houses for them in Samalout city in the Minya Governorate in northern Egypt.

The family members of the Egyptian men, all of who were in their early to mid-20s and members of the Coptic Christian church, literally had nothing except their faith in Christ, the ministry says on its website.

"A number of them shared how their pain soon gave way to joy. They spoke of a desire to share their faith with the ISIS extremists who committed the atrocious acts," Jim Daly, president of Focus on the Family, wrote on his

blog, Daly Focus. "They rejoiced that the martyrs were now home with Jesus Christ. Their only prayer request? 'Please pray our faith remains strong.'"

"I thank God that my son kept the faith and died for the cross, because he was the son of Christ from his birth, not my son," said the mother of one of the martyred Christians earlier.

Focus on the Family learned about their rich faith despite their financial poverty after some of its ministers visited their villages following the execution in February.

An Islamic State (also known as IS, ISIS, ISIL) video, "A Message Signed With Blood to the Nation of the Cross," earlier showed the execution of the 21 Copts, who were made to wear orange jump-suits, by black-clad terrorists.

The building project, under the leadership of Sami Yacoub,

the regional director for Focus on the Family's Middle East outreach based in Egypt, has impacted an entire community, the ministry says.

"The construction contractor is hiring local laborers to help build the homes, providing new jobs. The local Coptic Bishop has offered two buildings that will be turned into Vocational Training Centers, creating new potential. Families from around Samalout are bringing the construction crews meals while they work."

"It brings us great joy to get to see these houses go up as a sign of love and unity within the global Church. It's amazing to see how God's presence reigns sovereign even in the midst of a horrible tragedy," wrote Daly.

IS, an offshoot of al-Qaeda, is seeking to establish a caliphate in the Levant region and beyond, and is fast expanding its control in Syria and Iraq. Christian minorities are among its main civilian targets.

The houses are not extravagant, the ministry says. "But they are safe, they provide shelter, and they are giving members of a marginalized community a place to call home. More than that, they are a physical demonstration of unity within the worldwide body of Christ."





الذكري السنوية الاولى للام البارحة
المرحومة / فيبي سويحة تاوضروس

أبنة خال نيافة الحبر الجليل الانبا باخوم أسقف سوهاج. حفيدة المرحوم المقدس بشارة بك بفظ ورحم المرحوم المهندس فوزي كيرلس تاوضروس ووالدة كل من الدكتور حشمت الخادم المكرس بمطرائية ملبورن وتوابعها والينا حرم الكاتب الصحفي بهاء رويس بنيوثاوس ويلز واوديت بلوس انجلوس حرم المرحوم الدكتور يسري رزق الله وبطرس زوج ميرفت شاروييم باستراليا وفيرا بكلفورنيا حرم المرحوم الدكتور سمير اديب اسكندر . وقد اقيمت صلاة القداس علي روحها الطاهرة بأسوان والمعادي وحلوان ولوس انجلوس واستراليا. أمي الحبيبة وحشتيني ياماما صلي لاجلي لكي يقويني يسوع له المجد علي حمل الصليب. ابنك حشمت.

ماما الغالية
صورتك وتعاليمك لاتفارقتي ... علمتينا ان لانهتم بالناس وان تصلي من اجل الظالم والحقود والمنافق والمرائي. صلي لاجلنا ياماه لكي لانحتمي الا بظابط الكل الذي بيده فقط كل مورنا. صلي لاجل اولادي.

ابنتك لينا.

ماما الجميلة
قضيت معك سنيماً طويلة واستمتعت بحبك وحنانك وتعلمت منك الكثير والكثير فقد كنت الحكمة والحق لآخر أيام عمرك السعيد صلي لاجل اولادي يا أمي. ابنك أوديت.

أمي ياست الحبيب
كنت مثلاً لطفاء بلا حدود، تركتينا ونحن في حاجة الي حبك وحنانك ستظلي دائماً في قلوبنا الي أن نلقاك. صلي لاجل اولادي يا أمي. ابنك بطرس .

ماما
يلتبع الحنان لقد تركني سمير وذهب اليك يا أمي هل رأيتيه؟ هل استقبلتني بالأحضان؟ هل جلست معي مع الملائكة والشهداء والقدسين؟ هل تتمتعون بالتسابيح والترانيم الجميلة؟ هل رأيتي بابا؟ هل رأيتي تيته وجدو؟ هل التقيت بخالاتي وعماتي .. كلهم ذهبوا ياماما. ارجوك وصي علي أمي العذرا .. قولي لها اني محتاجة جداجدالتعزياتها ولمساتها الحنونة الشافية. الصدمة قاسية علي انا واولادي. لو لم تمد لي يد المعونة سأضيع يا أمي. صلي لاجلي انا واولادي ياماما. ابنك فيرا .

تيتا الحبيبة
نامي مطنة علينا فنحن نعيش علي تعاليمك نحن نحب يسوع من كل قلوبنا ونصلي ونشكر. صلي لاجلنا ليقبل الله حبنا وجهادنا ويملاً حياتنا ببركاته ونعمته. احفادك

مينا وبيشوي وكيرلس بهاء رويس
يوحنا وماري ويوسف يسري رزق الله
كاترين وكارا وليديا بطرس فوزي كيرلس بيتر
وماريان واندرود وجون سمير اديب اسكندر



أنتقل الي الامجاد السمائية اثر حادث اليم بكاليفورنيا
الدكتور

سمير اديب اسكندر

عضو نقابة الصيادلة زوج المحاسبة فيرا فوزي كيرلس شقيق المهندس اميل والسيدة امال زوجة الاستاذ نشأت اسكندر والمهندس جوزيف زوج السيدة هناء. والدا كل من بيتر رجل الاعمال بالقاهرة والسيدة ماريان زوجة المهندس جورج طلعت والاستاذ اندرو زوج مريم وجون بجامعة كاليفورنيا وقد شيعت الجنازة من كنيسة السيدة العذراء والانبا بيشوي ببسادينا.

مع جزيل الشكر والعرفان لنيافة الانبا سرابيون للصلاة علي الفقيد واباء كنيسة بسادينا وجميع كهنة كاليفورنيا مع جزيل الشكر لشعب الكنيسة والاجباء والاصدقاء نسال الله الآ يريهم جميعاً مكروهاً. آمين.

حبيبي سمير

لاصدق ان الشمعة المضيئة التي تثير حياتي قد انطفأت والشمس غربت والقمر احتجب. هل حقاً توقف القلب الحنون الكبير الذي يحب الكل وحبيب الكل وخادم الكل. هل حدث عطل فني لهذا العقل العبقري وهذا الاعمي الذي قضى علي حياتي الله يسامحه. حبيبي كيف هان عليك ان تتركني وحيدة. لقد دمرتني الصدمة ولم يبق لي ونيس الادموعي. سألحق بك سريعاً ولم أتأخر عليك. زوجتك الحزينة فيرا.

بابا الغالي سمير

كنا في انتظارك وفي اشد الشوق اليك ولكن واسفاه لقد بعث لنا القدر بالخبر المشنوم ولولا ثقنتنا انك مع يسوع والعذراء والقدسين. ربما ذهب عقلنا. اولادك بيتر وماريان واندرود .

بابا

صداقتك القوية كانت اجمل ما في حياتي. هل اجد صديق مثلك ام اجد صديق بعدك ... لاظن. كنت دائماً تقول لي ان يسوع هو اوفي صديق. صلي لاجلي. ابنك الصغير جون .



الذكري الرابعة للملاك الطاهر

سارة جوزيف.

تدعو الاسرة الاهل والاصدقاء لحضور صلاة القداس علي روحها الطاهرة يوم الخميس ٣ / ٩ / ٢٠١٥ بكنيسة القديس مرقوريوس ابوسيفين .

١٩٩٤ / ١ / ١٤ ----- ٢٠١١ / ٩ / ٤

ابنتي الغالية سارة

كنت النور الذي يضيء لي حياتي- مهما مرت السنين سنظل صورتك تملأ قلبي وحياتي الي أن القالك. ماما ابنتام.

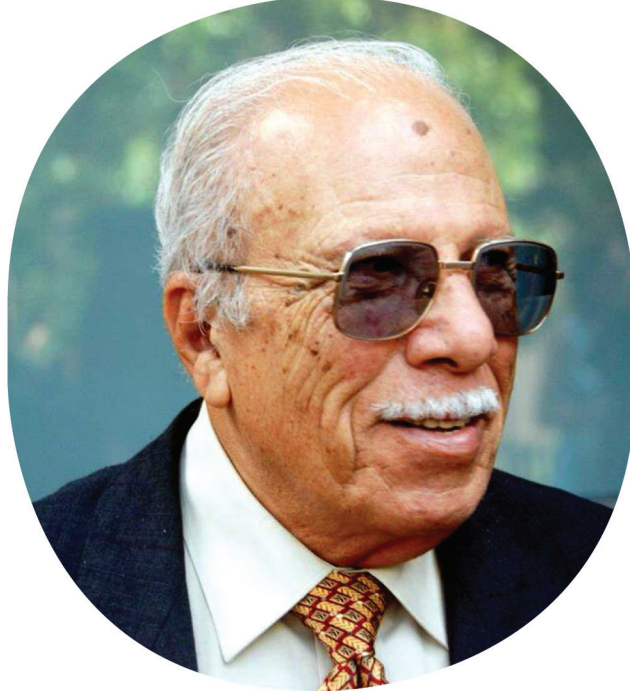
Four Years Departure Anniversary 04/09/2015

Sarah Joseph.

It has been four years since our beloved Sarah passed away. She continues to be missed more than ever but we remember her every day. She is no longer in our lives but will be forever in our hearts and continues to watch over.

Rest in Peace, sweet Angel.

The Joseph Family.



ولما كملت ايام خدمته مضى الى بيته (لوقا ١ : ٢٣)

المرحوم الاستاذ الدكتور/ كمال فهم غرباوي

وشاء الرب ان يسترد وديعته الغالية فى يوم السبت ٢٢ اغسطس ٢٠١٥ و الموافق عيد السيدة العذراء مريم، رقد على رجاء القيامة الطيب الذكر الاستاذ الدكتور/ كمال فهم غرباوي زوج الدكتورة ايزيس حنا بمصر، و والد كل من دكتور اشرف غرباوي وزوجته الدكتورة ايمان، والدكتور امانى زوجة المهندس مجدى وديع بمصر، والدكتور امل زوجة الدكتور جورج داؤد بسيدي، ومدام غادة زوجة الاستاذ سامح بيير بمصر. و جد شادى مجدى، مايكل داود و زوجته مارينا غالى، و ميرا اشرف، و كارين سامح، و فادى اشرف، و جون داود. شيعت الجنازة يوم الأحد ٢٣ اغسطس ٢٠١٥ من كنيسة السيدة العذراء و القديس اثناسيوس الرسولى بمدينة نصر، و تتقدم الاسرة بخالص الشكر و التقدير لكل من تفضل بمواساتها و تخص بالشكر نيافة الحبر الجليل الأنبا دانييل، و جميع الآباء الكهنة بسيدي. وستقام صلاة قداس الأحد الموافق ٣٠ اغسطس ٢٠١٥ على روحه الطاهرة بكنيسة السيدة العذراء مريم والشهيد مارمينا العجايبى ببكسلي وستقبل الاسرة العزاء عقب القداس الالهى.

"So it was, as soon as the days of his service were completed, that he departed to his own house." (Luke 1:23)

DR KAMAL FAHIM GHARBAWY

Devoted husband of Dr Isis Hanna,
valued brother of Mrs Camilia Gharbawy, beloved father of Dr Ashraf, Dr Amany,
Dr Amal, and Mrs Ghada.
He is the beloved grandfather of Shady Magdy, Michael Dawoud, Mira Ashraf, Karen Sameh, Fady Ashraf, and John Dawoud.

Thank you to all our relatives and friends who have loved and supported us.