



EL-MANARA

AN INITIATIVE OF THE MEDIA COMMITTEE - DIOCESE OF SYDNEY & AFFILIATED REGIONS

COPTS' NEWS

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



5th Tut 1734

17th September 2017

Volume 1, Issue 224

Volume 2, Issue 126

Find this issue online at
www.elmanara.org.au



NEXT ISSUE:
15th October 2017

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS:
9th October 2017



HAPPY NEW COPTIC NEW YEAR



HIS HOLINESS POPE

TAWADROS II

AUSTRALIAN

PASTORAL VISIT

DIOCESANEWS

Coptic Orthodox Patriarchate
H.H. Pope Tawadros II
Pope of Alexandria and
Patriarch of the See of St. Mark
The Papal Center



بطيركية الأقباط الأرثوذكس
قداسة البابا الأنبا تواضروس الثاني
بابا الإسكندرية
وبطيرك الكرازة المرقسية
المقر البابوي

222 Ramses St., Abbaseya, Cairo, Egypt

Tel: 024822580

Fax: 0235365880

email: office@popetawadros.org

٢٢٢ شارع رمسيس ، العباسية ، القاهرة ، مصر

تليفون: ٠٢٤٨٢٢٥٨٠ فاكس: ٠٢٣٥٣٦٥٨٨٠

29 Misra, 1733AM
Monday 4th of September 2017

His Grace Bishop Daniel

Bishop of Coptic Orthodox Church
Diocese of Sydney and Affiliated Regions

Dear Your Grace Bishop Daniel,

The Peace and Love of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you, Amen.

Firstly, I would like to thank you for welcoming and accepting me to the Coptic Orthodox Church Sydney Diocese.

As our Lord wills, I was very pleased to see the wonderful achievements of the Diocese, and her Coptic community.

The Coptic Orthodox community has integrated well into the Australian fabric, whilst clearly holding onto her Coptic and traditional culture and heritage. It is obvious that the Coptic community is well regarded by the wider Australian society, and government officials at all levels.

The Diocese has grown significantly under your blessed leadership, and I can see not only the significant accomplishments of the Diocese so far, but also a significant number of projects which, with the Grace of our Lord, will continue to cater for the increasingly growing number of Coptic faithfuls coming into Sydney and her Affiliated regions.

I am very proud of the congregation, and I see significant opportunities for success of her children and youth. I am proud and comforted by the work of the churches, the reverend Fathers, the schools, and the theological college. These will continue to nourish the growing congregation with the necessary spiritual food, and help the younger Coptic generation grow into leaders in the Australian community, and become beacons of light for the world to see.

As the Lord wills, I look forward to coming again to visit you and your congregation in the near future. Thank you for your hospitality, and wonderful organisation for my brief visit.

May our Lord Christ continue to bless you, all the wonderful reverend fathers, and your flock.

Tawadros II

Pope Tawadros II

Pope of Alexandria & Patriarch of the See of St Mark

2017-9-5

Coptic Orthodox Patriarchate
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Monday 4th of September 2017

His Grace Bishop Daniel

Bishop of the Coptic Orthodox Church

Diocese of Sydney & Affiliated Regions

Dear your grace Bishop Daniel,

The Peace and Love of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you, Amen.

I wanted to personally write to you to thank you for the efforts and very hard work of the three Coptic Orthodox Colleges in the Diocese of Sydney namely St Mark's College, St Mary & St Mina College and St Bishoy College.

I was very pleased to see the wonderful students, and their well-rehearsed performances. I am very proud of the Colleges, the administration, the staff, the students and all the achievements of the Colleges.

Our Lord Christ said: **"Let the little children come to Me and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of heaven"**. I am sure that our Coptic Orthodox Colleges will allow for this by advancing the students' academia, whilst protecting and enhancing our spiritual and Coptic heritage.

Thank you again for all of the hard work done for the Colleges. What I saw is enough to make all our leaders both inside and outside of the Coptic Faith, hold their head up high, and be proud, as I was proud.

The performances I observed are a reflection of the success of the Coptic Orthodox Colleges, and a reflection on all the love and hard work of the administration, the staff, the guidance given by the NSW Coptic Schools Board, and of course the love and discipline of the parents.

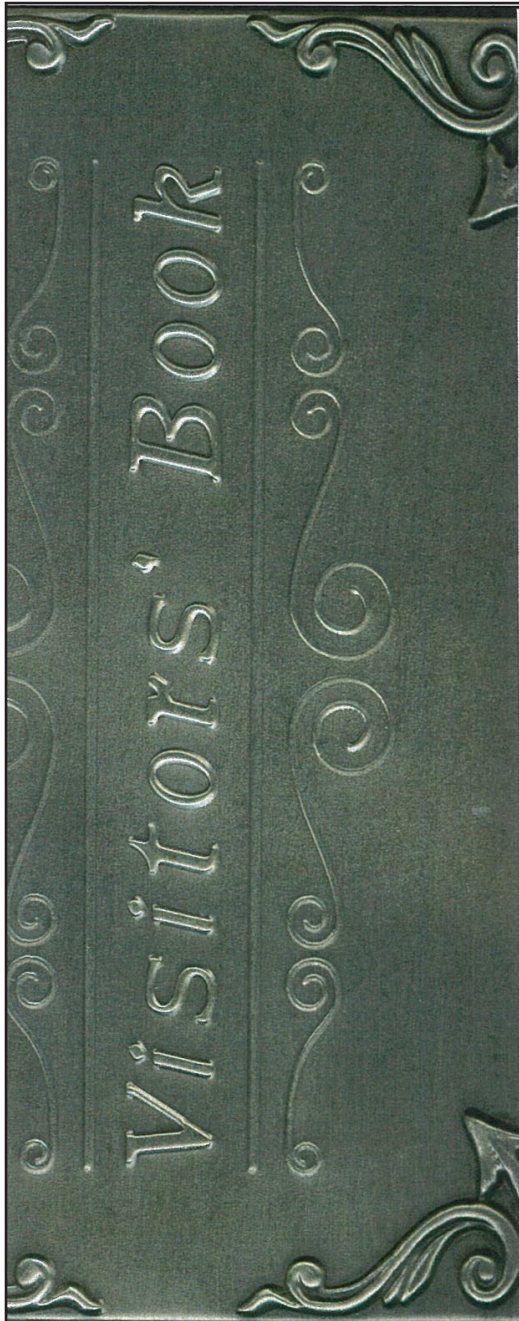
Please convey my thanks and gratitude to the Colleges' Board, the administration, the staff of the Colleges, the students, and their parents and I strongly encourage the parents to enrol their children in the Coptic Orthodox Colleges in Sydney.

May our Lord Christ bless you and guide you in continuing the excellent work for the Colleges for the Glory of His Name.

Tawadros II

Pope Tawadros II
Pope of Alexandria & Patriarch of the See of St Mark

2017-9-4



Name _____

Address _____

" + " "

Love Never Fails

I thank you all

T

Tawadros II

2017-9-5

HIS HOLINESS POPE TAWADROS II HISTORICAL VISIT TO THE COPTIC ORTHODOX CHURCH - DIOCESE OF SYDNEY AND ITS AFFILIATED REGIONS TO JAPAN & SYDNEY – AUSTRALIA





ARIVES TO SYDNEY



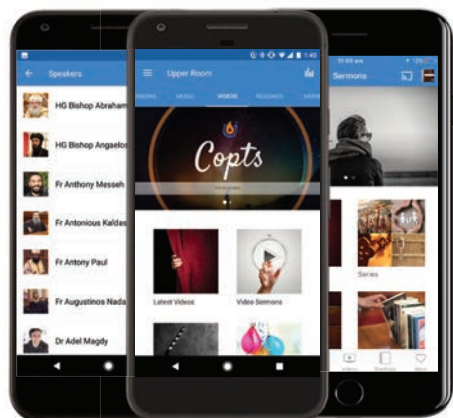




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- ⊕ READINGS



Bringing the Word of God from a timeless faith into your hearts and minds anytime, anywhere.



TREASURES OF

A TIMELESS FAITH

Upper Room Media is a service of the Orthodox church which brings you fresh Christian media in the form of sermons, music, blogs, videos and much more, everyday!

Download the app now at www.upperroommedia.org



St Cyril's

COPTIC ORTHODOX THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE



Applications for 2016 close July

| ACCREDITED | NEW DEGREES | S2, 2016 |
|--|--|--|
| St Cyril's is accredited through the Sydney College of Divinity. FEE-HELP available. Enrol now, spots filling fast! | New degrees on offer from Diploma to Masters of Theology. Includes both Undergraduate and Postgraduate studies | Units available include introduction to Theology, New Testament, and Biblical Hebrew. Face to face or distance available |

For more information go to <http://stcyriils.edu.au/>
 e: registrar@stcyriils.edu.au fb: <https://www.facebook.com/stcyriils/>
 a: 72 Wollongong Rd, Arncliffe, NSW 2205 p: (02) 9567 3076



Under the guidance of His Holiness Pope Tawadros II and his partner in the apostolic ministry, our honoured father the Bishop Anba Daniel



St Paul & St Reweis
Coptic Orthodox Church
Invites you to an



OPEN DAY

Held On

Saturday 28th October 2017

9:00 am to 6:00 pm

(Liturgy 9:00 am-11:00 am)

At 38A Stella St, Collaroy Plateau, NSW 2097

Come along & bring your family!

You will enjoy a fun day full of activities!

Face Painting, Jumping Castle,
Supervised sports games, BBQ, Cultural Food, Cake
stalls, and gifts!!!

2 HOLIDAY PACKAGES UP FOR GRAB!!! Entry tickets include a meal and a drink & can be purchased on site. Adults \$10 - Kids \$5



COPTIC ORTHODOX CHURCH

MUNKI REPUBLIC JUBA SOUTH SUDAN
Mobile No. +211957164492

8 AUGUST 2017

TO: ST MARK NUBIAN FOUNDATION

Dear Mr. Emil,

On behalf of COPTIC ORTHODOX CHURCH, we would like to thank you and your committee for your generous contribution 7,000\$ been send in the ACCOUNT of our beloved Bishop Elia in CAIRO on May 20, 2017, to continue our mission and to assist those in our community.

The generous support of individuals like you makes it possible for our Church to exist and to make the community a great place to live.

We are indeed, grateful to you and to your enthusiastic support. May the GOD LORD Bless you and your committee more and guide in your everyday undertakings.

Once again, thank you so much.

Sincerely,

In Behalf of Coptic Orthodox Church
Juba, South Sudan



ERNEST ROFAIL





COPTIC ORTHODOX CHURCH
* DIOCESE OF SYDNEY *
& AFFILIATED REGIONS
NSW • QLD • NT

ARE YOU PLANNING TO GET MARRIED IN THE COPTIC ORTHODOX CHURCH DIOCESE OF SYDNEY?

+ God bless
Bishop Daniel
17/8/2017

TO PREPARE FOR YOUR CIVIL AND CHURCH MARRIAGE, YOU NEED THE FOLLOWING

1

INTEND OF MARRIAGE FORM

You need to sign an 'intend of marriage form' at least 31 days before your marriage.

The form will be provided by the marriage celebrant priest.

ENGAGEMENT REPORT

2

You need to have an engagement report signed by you & your future partner at least 6 weeks before your marriage.

The report will also be signed by the priest who did the engagement for you.

5

MEET FR. HANNA GAD

Take forms mentioned in points 2 & 4 and see Fr. Hanna Gad (0414 282 413). You will receive a marriage permit and a church marriage certificate to give to your marriage celebrant priest.

3

PRE-MARRIAGE COURSE

You and your partner need to attend a pre-marriage course at least 6 months before your wedding.

You can register for the course at sydneyfamilycouncil.org.au/pre-marriage/

Call or SMS Fr. Morris (0411770500) for other arrangements

LETTER FROM CONFESSION FATHER

4

You need a signed letter from your confession father to acknowledge that he will follow you up through your marriage. The letter sample is also on sydneyfamilycouncil.org.au and go to forms.

IF YOU NEED TO CLARIFY ANY OF THE ABOVE PLEASE EMAIL: SECRETARY@SYDNEYFAMILYCOUNCIL.ORG.AU

Theotokos & St Demiana House
For Consecrated Sisters
15TH ANNIVERSARY DINNER

He gives the increase 1 Cor. 3:7

Fontana Amorosa
29 FORBES STREET, LIVERPOOL
SUNDAY 29TH OCTOBER 2017
5:30 PM DONATION \$60



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"
(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"

"I know your works, love, service...." (Rev 2:19)

Annual Report

With reference to the parable which was pronounced from the pure mouth of our good saviour about Lazarus and the rich man who was banned from the bosom of our Patriarch Ibrahim because he just did not offer a deed of mercy towards the poor man (Luke 16:19).

The Board of Directors has the pleasure to inform you about our activities for this year:-

- 1) We purchased a desalination system to provide healthy drinking water for the pupils of St. Mark primary school as well as the congregation of St. George church.
- 2) Contributed towards medicals expense to overcome the Cholera Epidemic.
- 3) Building of Artesian Well in the land of St. Mary church to provide water for the locals.
- 4) We are financing the process of provide meals to the pupils of St. Mark primary school.
- 5) We are giving monetary assistance to cover the cost of feeding the congregation of St. George church after the Liturgy.

Please be rest assured that all your donation completely goes towards the development projects in the Sudan and South Sudan

Conclusively, we give thanks to our graciously God for His support to this service. We also ask Him for His blessing to this service and to widen its purf.

For further information, please contact either Rev. Fr. Yousef Fanous or Rev. Fr. Pishoi Botrous Your cheerful donation can be forwarded to our bank account with details as follows: -

Swift Code: - SGBLAU2S
BSB: - 112-879
A'cc: - 493911231
Financial Institution: - St. George Bank
Account Name: - St. Mark Nubian Foundation

"He who has pity on the poor lends to the Lord; and He will pay back what He has given." (Proverb 19:17)

"All Donations are Tax deductible"
PLEASE LIKE Our Facebook Page

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)

COCOS LOOKING FOR A NEW BASE



**COPTIC ORTHODOX COMMUNITY
OUTREACH SERVICE**

Do not forget to entertain strangers, for by so doing some have unwittingly entertained angels. Heb 13:2

Scan QR code for our latest video.

For Direct Deposits:

We are reaching out to our network and community for assistance in finding a temporary place to base our service. We are looking for somewhere with a semi-commercial kitchen to prepare our weekly meal every Tuesday that has storage space for our stock and equipment.

Bank: St George Bank
BSB: 112-879
Account No: 152760826 For cheques:

Make cheque out to 'Coptic Orthodox Community Outreach Service'
Mail to: COCOS
PO Box 362, CAMPSIE NSW 2194

We serve at Parramatta and City, and current kitchen is based at Guildford. If you need more information, or you know someone that may be able to assist please contact us on info@cocos.org.au or 0408110442.

Donations \$2 and above are tax deductible. ABN: 35 131 816 531
Please contact us on for more information.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/COCOOS/>



A STUNNING AND UNMISTAKABLE
NEW LANDMARK IN THE HEART
OF MELBOURNE.

THE MELBOURNE COPTIC COMMUNITY
The Copts began emigrating from Egypt to Australia in the late 1960s, seeking the opportunity for a prosperous life.

The Melbourne Coptic community, now numbering 20,000, is grateful to the Australian community for providing democratic values and a 'fair go' mentality which has paved a bright future for their first, second and third generations.

Eporo Tower was initiated by the Coptic Orthodox Diocese of Melbourne as a gratuitous gift to be shared in a spirit of reciprocity with the wider Australian public.

THE EPORO TOWER VISION AND LEGACY
Eporo is a stunning and unmistakable 44 storey landmark established in the heart of Melbourne.

The word Eporo is the first word in a hymn praising the 'King of Peace' in the ancient Coptic language. Eporo Tower will serve as a home to Christ the King and to all through mission, education, art, culture and faith.

Eporo comprises four distinct levels with bespoke Coptic design including a Coptic Church, Dining Hall, Theological College, Bookstore and Gift Shop.

Key design elements which will define this Coptic cultural hub in La Trobe Street include Mosaics, Icons, Woodwork and Stained Glass Windows, crafted by world renowned artists.

BLESS THE CROWN OF THE YEAR

by Fr. Moses Samaan



As we prepare to celebrate the Feast of Nayrouz, which is the feast of the new year beginning on September 12 in the Coptic Orthodox Church, we cannot help but notice the phrase, "Bless the crown of the year with Your Goodness, O Lord," which is repeated throughout the hymns of the Church. This phrase is actually a quotation from Psalm 64:12 (LXX; 65 in the Protestant Bible), which reads, "Thou shalt bless the crown of the year with Thy goodness, and Thy plains shall be filled full of fatness."

But what does it mean? And how does it relate to the Feast of Nayrouz, the new year?

Psalm 64 has traditionally been utilized by both Jews and Christians to commemorate the new year. For Jews, the feast of Rosh Hashanah (lit., "the head of the year"), and for Christians, the ecclesiastical new year, was connected with the gathering of the last of the summer harvest and the beginning of a new agricultural cycle in which farmers would begin planting their seeds for the coming year. This is reflected beautifully in the Coptic Orthodox Divine Liturgy of St. Basil in which there are three seasonal litanies in the following order:

The Litany for the Blessing of the Waters of the River (June

19-October 19/20);

The Litany for the Blessing of the Seeds, Herbs, and Plants (October 20/21-January 18/19); and

The Litany for the Winds and Fruits (January 19/20-June 18)

In the lands of immigration, the Holy Synod of the Coptic Orthodox Church recently offered a dispensation for those who wish to pray a new "combined litany" for all these things, but I personally don't prefer such a litany, because it obfuscates the clear cycle we see in the dating of these litanies. From summer to autumn, we pray for the waters of the rivers as we plant our seeds. From autumn to winter, we pray that the Lord may bless and protect those seeds. And from spring to summer, we pray for the resulting fruits that will be harvested. The Feast of Nayrouz, or the "Crown of the Year," is celebrated when this cycle begins anew.

The real beauty of this cycle, however, lies in the spiritual meaning behind it. Psalm 64, which speaks about the crown of the year, also refers to the harvest of all mankind in verse 2, "Hearken to my prayer! Toward Thee shall all flesh come." This is entirely consistent with our Savior's Parable of the Wheat and Tares:

Another parable put he forth unto them, saying, The kingdom

of heaven is likened unto a man which sowed good seed in his field: But while men slept, his enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat, and went his way. But when the blade was sprung up, and brought forth fruit, then appeared the tares also. So the servants of the householder came and said unto him, Sir, didst not thou sow good seed in thy field? from whence then hath it tares? He said unto them, An enemy hath done this. The servants said unto him, Wilt thou then that we go and gather them up? But he said, Nay; lest while ye gather up the tares, ye root up also the wheat with them. Let both grow together until the harvest: and in the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, Gather ye together first the tares, and bind them in bundles to burn them: but gather the wheat into my barn (Mt 13:24-30).

This late summer harvest, then, can be seen spiritually as the harvest of all mankind, reminding all of us that a time will come when we will be gathered as wheat and the chaff will be separated from the good part of the wheat.

Those three seasonal litanies above can be seen in a spiritual way, the water referring to our Baptism, the seeds referring to what Christ sows in us in our Christian lives, and the fruits referring to what we offer to

Christ at the end of days when we stand before Him as our Judge. If we are able to bear fruit, the Psalmist reassures us with these beautiful words of hope:

Happy is he whom Thou didst choose for Thyself and didst take to Thyself; he shall encamp in Thy courts. We shall be filled with the good things of Thy house; holy is Thy temple, wonderful in righteousness (Ps 64:4, 5)

In this manner, the Feast of Nayrouz is a feast of spiritual renewal for every believer. It is a time to bless the waters of our tears of repentance, which renew our Baptism as the Holy Fathers teach; it is a time to entreat Christ as the loving Sower to bless all of the seeds He sows in our hearts through His Church and the Christian life; it is a time to bear fruits worthy of the name Christian and prepare to offer them to Christ. As St. Augustine teaches us,

This is the end of the year, the harvest of the world. Thou shalt bless the crown of the year of Thy goodness. Of crown when thou hearest, the glory of victory is implied. Conquer the devil, and thou wilt have a crown. Thou shalt bless the crown of the year of Thy goodness. 1

Wishing you all a blessed and joyful Feast of Nayrouz.

THE SOCIALLY ECCENTRIC DESIRES OF AN EGYPTIAN PRIEST



“If you want to be perfect, go, sell what you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me.” (Mat. 19:21)

Fr Pishoy Kamel was a very popular and saintly priest from Alexandria, Egypt who reposed in 1979. He touched the hearts of tens of thousands of Egyptians – Muslims and Christians alike. He spent two decades of priestly service performing unbelievable acts of love, charity and kindness. His wife still lives to this very day.

I would say that his life is essential reading material for a servant of the Orthodox Church.

When you read this story, ask yourself, do you have spiritual desires like him?

Do you have any at all? Are you ambitious for service, spiritual growth and self-denial to even a little extent of his? Do you desire spiritual perfection as in the above verse?

A person once expressed an absurd phenomena about the spiritual life... “I want to want it”. Hopefully this story inspires us all and helps us “want to want it”.

Father Pishoy was not concerned with material things, and he would always say, “If we have our strength and a single garment that is sufficient.

“In the beginning of his ordination he lived with his elderly mother as she was ill and required constant care and attention. After that he moved to a different place, and the woman he was renting

from was so happy. He then suggested to her to build more flats to accommodate students and this was fulfilled and two flats were built in the same block for students.

The wife of Father Pishoy was called Angel, and she tells this story about him. One day they were sitting together when he suddenly asked her, “Do you think we are serving the poor as we should?”

She said to him, “You continually visit them... and send to them personally whatever they need to their homes... what more can you do for them? “So he said, “No, No, we got to live amongst them. What do you think if we sold all we

had and we lived in a small room made of corrugated iron like them? We will take a bed and a table and a few chairs and that’s all we will need. After all did our Lord preach to us from heaven? No he came amongst us and lived like one of us. Therefore we must live amongst the poor.”

However his wife apologised for lacking the ability of fulfilling his desire, and he with great husbandly love respected her wishes.

Find more lovely stories about Fr Pishoy Kamel over here at this very short link:goo.gl/PXbTG4.

“if you like to read more of Bishoy’s articles, check out his blog at www.theartoforthodoxy.wordpress.com”.



Christian Overseas Provident Tutelage Society of Australia
ABN 77 774 185 422
PO Box 393, South Gate, Sylvania, NSW, 2224
www.copts.org.au
Email: heshmatgrace@gmail.com
Tel +61 2 9589 2293, Mobile 0413 276 514
Fax +61 2 8456 5905

This tree shows what the villagers dream to have

Clean water Healthy Sewerage Medical
Needs Electricity
Streets School Housing Transport

(Through C.O.P.T.S. INC. You can help to sponsor a village)

Already You are Helping in the development program in 3 of these villages, we need to support more villages out of 5000 under the poverty line in Egypt.

**Fund raising Dinner 27th of August at
6.30 pm
Petersham town Hall, Crystal Street
Petersham**



St Antonious & St Paul Coptic Orthodox Church Diocese of Sydney & Affiliated Regions
PO Box 281, Guildford NSW2161 • Ph (02) 9632 6303 • Fax (02) 9892 3324



Congratulations on the 3rd Anniversary for the Ordination of Reverend Fr. Joseph Ghattas

Very Reverend Fr. Tadros Simon, Very Reverend Fr. Shenouda Mansour, Rev. Fr. Makarios Ibrahim, Rev. Fr. Suriel Hanna, Rev. Fr. Seraphim Sidarows and Rev. Fr. Cyril Abdel Malik, the Church Committee, the deacons, the servants and all the congregation of St Antonious & St Paul Church – Guildford would like to congratulate

Reverend Fr. Joseph Gattas

**On the 3rd Anniversary of his Ordination to Priesthood
on the 13th of September 2014**

Together with all the congregation of the Coptic Orthodox Diocese of Sydney and its Affiliated Regions, we wish to convey to your reverence our heartfelt gratefulness and wish your reverence every success and pray that the Lord will continue to make fruitful the service of your reverence so that it may be a source of profit and blessings to all.

We ask that our beloved Lord preserve you and bless your service through the intercessions of St. Mary the Mother of God and all Angels, all Martyrs and all Saints, and through the prayers of the Fathers and Shepherd of Shepherds, His Holiness Pope Tawadrous and his partner in the Apostolic Service His Grace Bishop Daniel, may God keep their lives for us for many years to come.

13 September 2017

Very Rev. Fr. Tadros Simon
Mobile: 0414 615 639

Very Rev. Fr. Shenouda Mansour
Mobile: 0418 713 733

Rev. Fr. Makarios Ibrahim
Mobile: 0404 803 389

Rev. Fr. Suriel Hanna
Mobile: 0414 963 160

Rev. Fr. Yousef Fanous
Mobile: 0404 493 805



"They are before the throne of God and serve Him day and night in his temple; and he who sits on the throne will shelter them with his presence" Revelations 7:15

Essam Eryan's 40 Day Commemoration

Beloved husband of Ebtisam Eryan, adored father of Sherine Metira and Miriam Sawan, doting father in-law of Remon Metira and Michael Sawan, dedicated brother of Father Bakhomious and Dr Wafeek Nakhla and loving uncle of Marina and Beshoy Erian, Peter, Angela and Demiana Nakhla, cousin of Dr Magdi Erian and Ethan Erian, and brother-in-law to the Elghetany and Rezkalla families, will be remembered for his goodness on Sunday 24th September 2017 at St Mark's Church.

**Where: St Mark's Coptic Orthodox Church Hall
70 Wollongong Road, Arncliffe, NSW
When: 24th September 2017**

Time: Approximately 11:00am following the liturgy

Please join the family in the church hall to celebrate Essam's entry into heaven.