

Coptic Orthodox Christianity

(OSTS Fall 2018)

Mondays
8:40 PM – 9:30 PM



Sept 17 - Introduction to the Coptic Church

Sept 24 - Coptic Faith (Creed)

Oct 1 - Coptic Liturgy (Holy Eucharist)

Oct 8 - Thanksgiving Monday (no classes)

Oct 15 - Coptic Rites (Sacraments)

Oct 22 - Coptic Life (Prayer, Fasting, Feasts)

Oct 29 - Coptic Art, Architecture, Music

Nov 5 - Coptic Saints & Miracles

Nov 12 - Coptic Monasticism, Priesthood, Holy Orders

Nov 19 - Coptic Martyrdom & Persecution

Nov 26 - Coptic Church in Modern Era & Conclusion

www.stmary-ottawa.org/coptic2018

Bibliography – Key Sources

Articles, Books, Presentations, Talks & Sermons thanks to:

- H.H. **Pope Tawadros II**
- H.H. the **Late Pope Shenouda III**
- H.G. **Bishop Angaelos** of UK
- H.G. **Bishop Suriel** of Sydney
- H.G. **Bishop Youssef** of Southern US
- The Late Rev. **Fr. Mankarious** Awadalla
- The Late Rev. **Fr. Matta** el Miskeen
- The Late Rev. **Fr. Arsanios** Serry
- Rev. **Fr. Shenouda** Boutros
- Rev. **Fr. Bisenty** Gerges
- Rev. **Fr. Paul** Girgis
- Rev. **Fr. Barsoom** Kamel
- Rev. **Fr. Tadros** Yacoub Malaty
- Rev. **Fr. Anthony** Messeh
- Rev. **Fr. Mikhail** E. Mikhail
- Rev. **Fr. Marcos** Morcos
- The Late **Dr. Isaac** Fanous
- The Late **Isis** Habib Elmasry
- **Thao** Gawargy
- **Dr. Magdy** Keriakos
- **Dr. Paul** Roufail
- **Dr. Stephane** René
- The **Coptic Reader** app

Coptic, Orthodox, Reference web sites:

- www.coptic.be
- www.coptic.net
- www.copticchurch.net
- www.copticonography.org
- www.lacopts.org
- www.norcalcopts.org
- www.suscopts.org (HIGHLY RECOMMENDED)
- www.becomeorthodox.org
- www.orthodoxartsjournal.org
- www.orthodoxebooks.org
- www.orthodoxfieldguide.com
- www.orthodoxsermons.org (HIGHLY RECOMMENDED)
- www.orthodoxwiki.org
- <http://memory.loc.gov/diglib/ihas/html/coptic/copticgallery-introduction.html>
- www.alhan.org
- www.elorbana.com/orbana/
- www.hazzat.com
- www.mycorchurch.ca
- www.midwestkeraza.org
- www.st-takla.org
- www.zeitun-eg.org
- Wikipedia (wikipedia.org) articles
- www.stmary-ottawa.org



Coptic Orthodox Christianity

Introduction

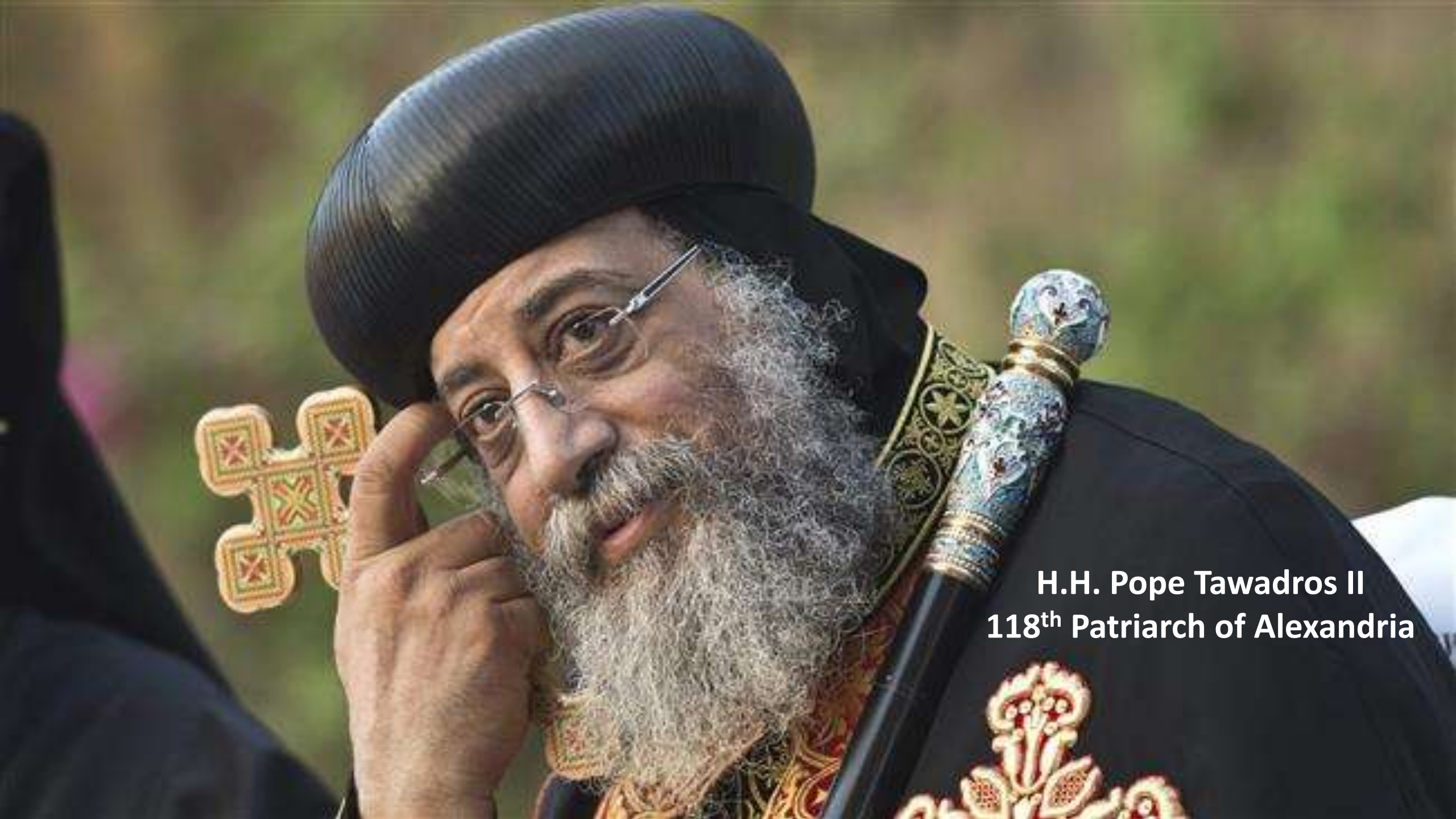
Fall 2018

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Welcome!

Please provide:

- **Name**
- **Email** Address (to receive material)
- **Faith** / Denomination (only if you wish to share)
- Name 1 thing **you already know** about the Coptic Church
- Name 1 thing you **wish to know** about the Coptic Church



H.H. Pope Tawadros II
118th Patriarch of Alexandria





**Saint Mark's Cathedral
Cairo, Egypt**



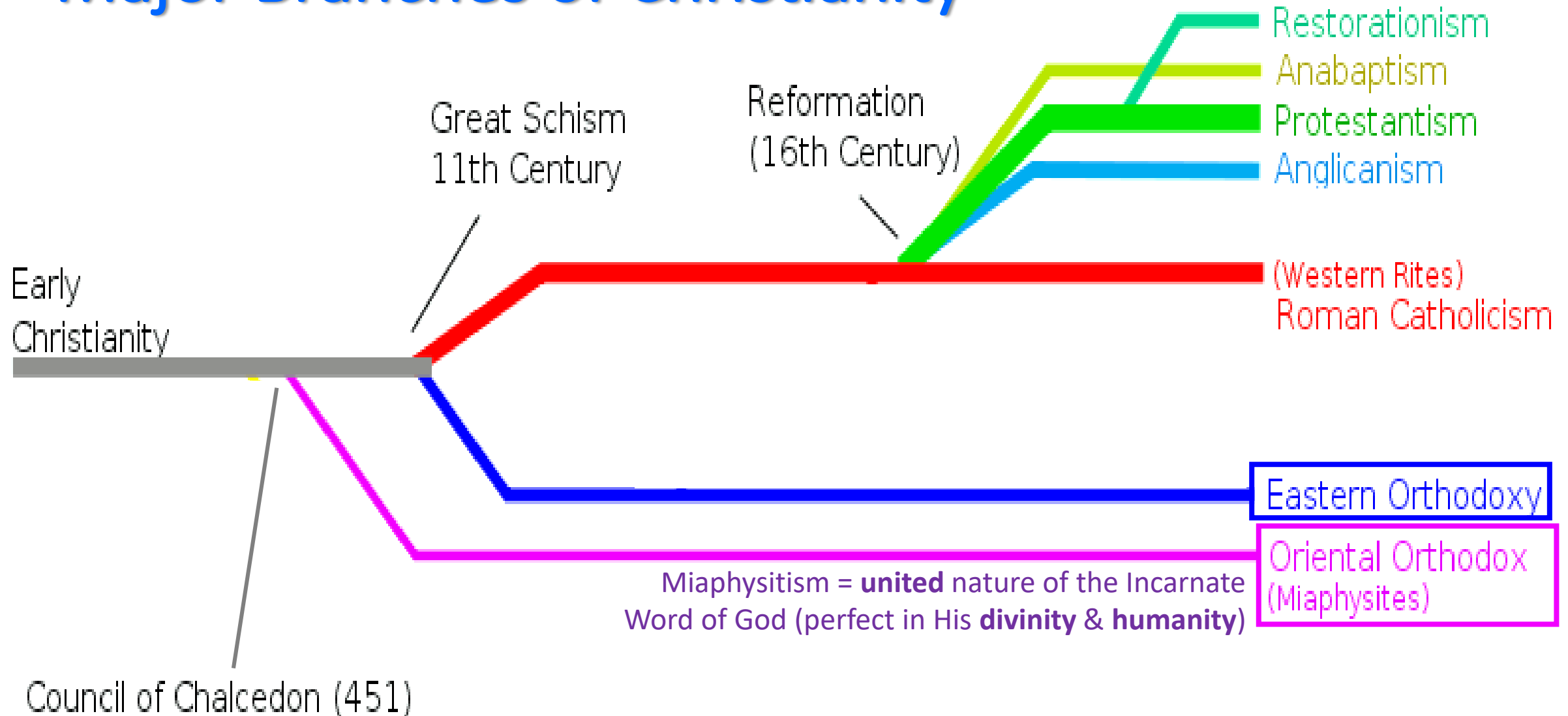
Coptic Orthodox Christianity

Key Characteristics

- **Biblical**
- **Apostolic**
(founded by Saint Mark)
- **Orthodox**
- **Traditional yet Modern**
- **Established in Alexandria (Egypt)**
- **Persecuted yet Joyful in the Lord**
- **Rich in History, Saints, Service, Teachings, Tradition**

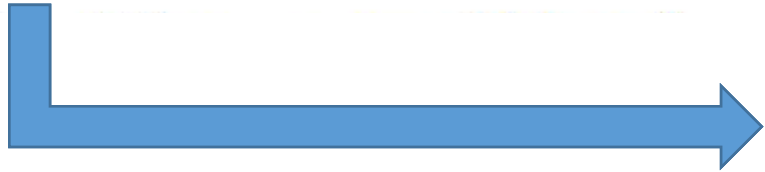


Major Branches of Christianity



Major Christian Traditions

About half of all Christians worldwide are Catholic (50%), while more than a third are Protestant (37%). Orthodox communions comprise 12% of the world's Christians.



Estimated Size of Christian Traditions

<i>Traditions</i>	ESTIMATED 2010 CHRISTIAN POPULATION	PERCENTAGE OF WORLD POPULATION	PERCENTAGE OF WORLD CHRISTIAN POPULATION
Catholic	1,094,610,000	15.9%	50.1%
Protestant	800,640,000	11.6	36.7
Orthodox	260,380,000	3.8	11.9
Total Christian	2,184,060,000	31.7	100.0

Population estimates are rounded to the ten thousands. Percentages are calculated from unrounded numbers. Figures may not add exactly due to rounding.

Pew Research Center's Forum on Religion & Public Life
Global Christianity, December 2011

Orthodox Churches

EASTERN ORTHODOX (250 million)

- Albania, Bulgaria, Georgia
- Antioch
- Constantinople
- Czech and Slovakia
- Greece
- Poland
- Russia
- Serbia
- Ukraine

ORIENTAL ORTHODOX (76 million)

- **Alexandria** (Coptic 15-18 million)
- Armenia
- Eritrea
- Ethiopia
- India
- Syria



Miaphysitism = **united** nature of the Incarnate Word of God (perfect in His **divinity & humanity**)

Orthodox Christian Tradition

ORTHODOX = STRAIGHT PATH

- **Dogma** (belief and faith) is unwavering, firmly unchanged
 - **Biblically-based** (Holy Tradition must never contradict the Bible)
 - **Holy Tradition** passed down from generation to generation
 - **Theology** (expression of faith) is governed by Holy Councils
-

*THE ABOVE DOES **NOT** CHANGE; WHEREAS THE FOLLOWING **CAN** CHANGE ...*

- **Cultural** & local customs **can vary** over time
- **Local** (e.g. language) as appropriate
- **Technological** advances welcome

Who are the Copts?

“The Copts are an **early Christian** denomination that began in **Alexandria** and survived the rise of Islam in Egypt starting in the 7th century. Today they are a **minority** in **Egypt** but still constitute the **largest** single **Christian community** in the **Middle East**. The Egyptian government estimates about 5 million Copts, but the Coptic Orthodox Church says **15-18 million.**”

The Wall Street Journal (Feb. 16, 2015)

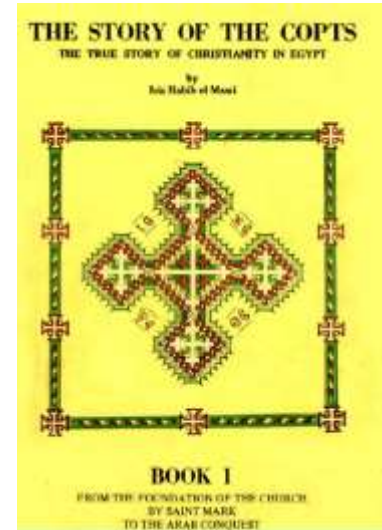


*Reliable numbers are hard to find but estimates suggest they make up somewhere between 6% and 18% of the population. Most Copts are Egyptian, although there are **significant pockets** of them in Syria, Libya, Jordan **and other countries, including in the West.***

Coptic Personalities

Ms. Iris Habib el Masri

- **Prominent Coptic Historian (1910-1994)**
- Dedicated her life to documenting reliable history of the Copts
- Defends against labelling the Copts as adherents of Eutychianism.
- The Coptic Church is against Eutyches' heresy which incorrectly claims the unity of Christ's nature to such an extent that Christ's divinity "consumed" his humanity.
- In the past, some incorrectly labelled Copts as "Monophysites" because they believe that Christ's divinity parted not from His humanity for a single moment nor for a twinkling of an eye (after the Lord's incarnation).
- Copts are not "Monophysites" but "Miaphysites" believing in the unity between Christ's divinity and His humanity.



Origin & Meaning of the word “Coptic”

The English words **Egypt** and **Copt** have the same linguistic roots:

Latin word **Aegyptus** derived from **Greek** word **Aigyptos**
derived from **Ancient Egyptian** word **Hakuptah**



In early days,
Coptic meant **Egyptian**.

Since the 7th Century,
Coptic means **Christian**.



Coptic Church

One of the 5 early centres of Christianity

Early Centres of Christianity

- a) Jerusalem
- b) Alexandria (Egypt)
- c) Antioch
- d) Rome (Italy)
- e) Constantinople
(modern-day Turkey)



The **Coptic Church** is also known as the **Church (or See) of Alexandria**.



Ancient Egyptian Heritage

Copts

- The indigenous people of Egypt
- Descendants of the ancient Egyptians

Coptic Language

- Coptic is an oral & written (originally hieroglyphics) language
- Written language later progressed to using a 31-letter alphabet (the alphabet uses 24 letters from the Greek alphabet and adds 7 more)
- The Coptic language was commonly used well into the 17th Century A.D.
- The Coptic Church continues to preserve the Coptic language until today

	A	vulture		L	lion		W	chick
	B	leg		M	owl		X	cloth
	C	cup		N	water		Y	feathers
	D	hand		O	chick		Z	bolt
	E	feather		P	stool		CH	tether
	F	viper		Q	hill		KH	sieve
	G	pot		R	mouth		SH	basin
	H	wick		S	cloth		MAN	
	I	feather		T	loaf		WOMAN	
	J	cobra		U	chick		ANKH	
	K	cup		V	viper			

www.egyptabout.com
©Scott Peters

Coptic Language

- Biblical (NT Greek; OT Hebrew) **scripture** was translated into Coptic in the early Christian Centuries.
- Hundreds of Coptic **manuscripts** preserved in museums and library archives.
- **Coptic** language still used in modern-day worship, along with the **local language** (e.g. English, French, Arabic).

Α α	Β β	Γ γ	Δ δ	Ε ε	Ζ ζ	Η η	Θ θ
αλφα	βητα	γαμμα	δελτα	ει	ζο	ητα	θητα
alpha	bēta	gamma	delta	ei	so	zēta	ēta
a	b/v	g	d	e		z	ē/e
							th/t'

Ι ι	Κ κ	Λ λ	Μ μ	Ν ν	Ξ ξ	Ο ο	Π π	Ρ ρ
ιοτα	καββα	λολα	με	νε	εξι	ο	πι	ρο
yota	kabba	lola	me	ne	eksi	o	pi	ro
i	k	l	m	n	ks	o	p	r

Σ σ	Τ τ	Υ υ	Φ φ	Χ χ	Ψ ψ	Ω ω	Ϡ ϡ	Ϣ ϣ
σιμα	ταβ	επειλον	φι	χε	εψι	ωυ	ϡαι	ϣαι
sima	taw	epsilon	fi	khe	epsi	ōu	shay	fay
s	t	u/ou	f	kh	ps	ō/o	sh/š	f

Ϫ ϫ	Ϭ ϭ	Ϯ ϯ	ϰ ϱ	ϲ ϳ	ϴ ϵ
ϫαι	ϭωρι	ϯανζα	ϱημα	ϳι/ϳε	
khay	hōri	janja	tshēma	ti/de	
kh	h	j/dzh	q/tsh	ti/de	

Coptic Alphabet (Capital)

Ⲁ	Ⲃ	Ⲅ	Ⲇ	Ⲉ	Ⲋ	Ⲍ	Ⲏ
Ⲑ	Ⲓ	Ⲕ	Ⲗ	Ⲙ	Ⲛ	Ⲝ	Ⲟ
Ⲑ	Ⲓ	Ⲕ	Ⲗ	Ⲙ	Ⲛ	Ⲝ	Ⲟ
Ⲑ	Ⲓ	Ⲕ	Ⲗ	Ⲙ	Ⲛ	Ⲝ	Ⲟ

Coptic Alphabet (lower case)

ⲁ	Ⲃ	Ⲅ	Ⲍ	Ⲏ	Ⲑ	Ⲓ	Ⲕ
Ⲇ	ⲇ	Ⲉ	ⲉ	Ⲋ	ⲋ	Ⲍ	ⲍ
ⲏ	Ⲑ	ⲑ	Ⲓ	ⲓ	Ⲕ	ⲕ	Ⲍ
ⲗ	Ⲙ	ⲙ	Ⲏ	ⲏ	Ⲑ	ⲑ	Ⲓ

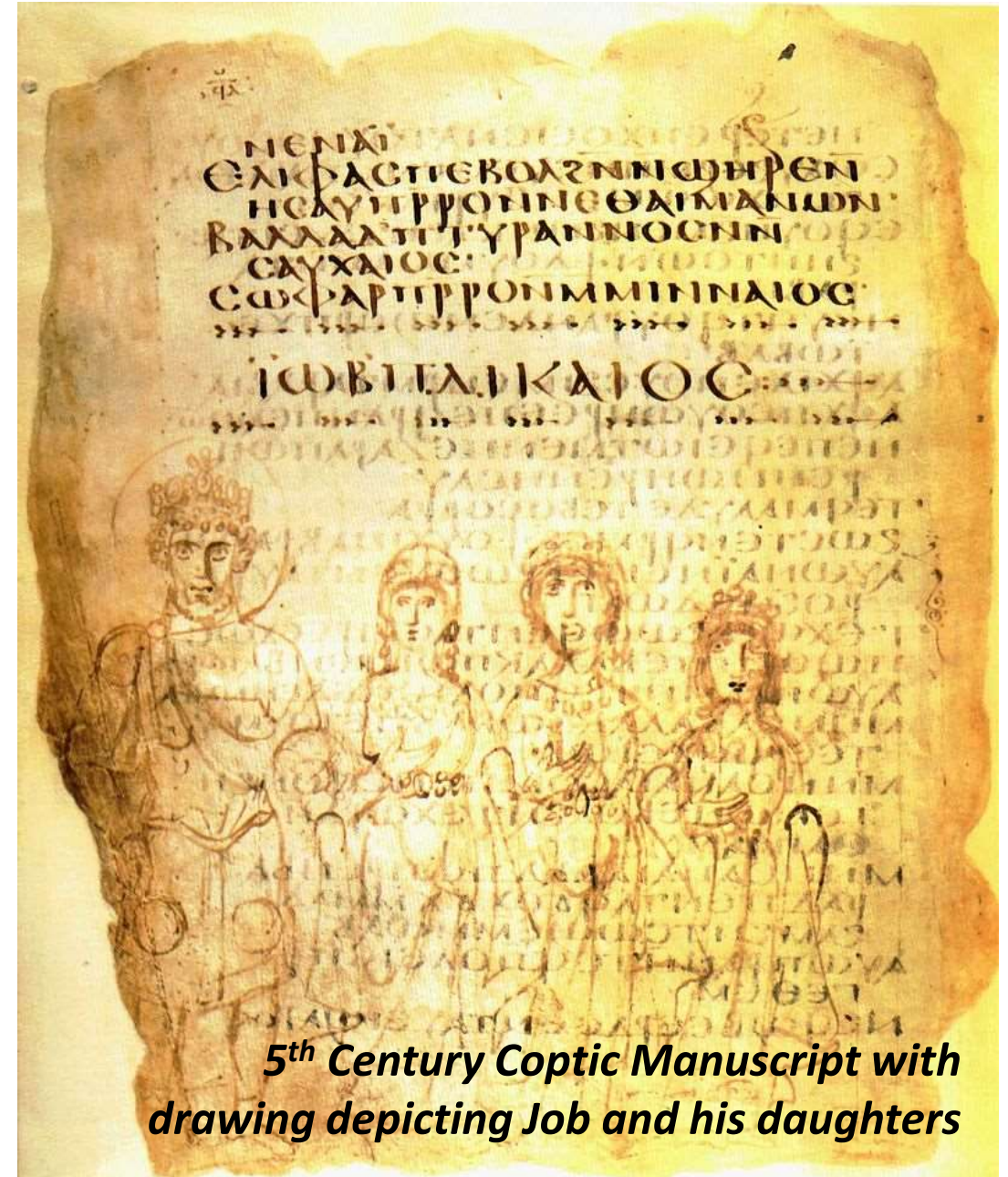
RAYMI ICEXEMTIN
RAYCMIOYEEIN
IEZNEQOYNMIE
TPOC
TOYNANHOYAEIOE
WENECHEZPHIE
TIAIM
RAYMOYTCEENECMI
OYRAYXAPAYRAYE
KAA- NAYNNHOYTE
EKAAZNMEXWPAEQ
TCAKAMMAYZMICE
XELAYWPAQIEZPHIE
TIAIM RAYXWEPAY
MIIEZMATMTIN
COATIE TPOC
WENECHEZPHIE
TIAIM RAY
XEREINHOYIEN

NECMHOYE TCKAA
ZMITCKKEEYXOM
MAC XE ZAKWHE
TOYNERE TOYNZEN
POMENATCKKEZAK
OYOMNEMEY TIE
TPOC
AEZAPXCE
COATEXWEPAYNOU
NINWARTIEQXW
MMAC XELAKCI
QATZNTTIOAICH
TOITINNAITPOC
EYXE ZAINEEYTO
POMAZNOYZATE
OYCKEYOCNEN
OYNANZKACHIE

Coptic Manuscripts

Translators of books of the Old Testament **into Egyptian** dialects were naturally made from the **Alexandrian Greek** version (Septuagint).

The Coptic version is one of the **earliest** version of the New Testament.
To the present day survived almost **1000 Coptic manuscripts**.



5th Century Coptic Manuscript with drawing depicting Job and his daughters

History of Egyptian Civilization

PHARAONIC Era dates back to **3000 B.C.**

3000 B.C.

332 B.C.

The GREEKS (Alexander the Great) conquered Egypt, and a new capital of Egypt was named after him as "**ALEXANDRIA**"

The ROMANS ended the Ptolemaic rule and that of Queen Cleopatra

31 B.C.

The ARABS conquered Egypt in **642 A.D.**

642 A.D.

After Alexander's death, Egypt was ruled by his general, Ptolemy who founded the Ptolemaic Dynasty. The Ptolemies established a **large library in Alexandria** which was considered the greatest in the world at that time.

Egyptian Civilization in the Old Testament

- 7000 BC Nile Valley settlement begins
- 3100 BC Kingdoms of Upper and Lower Egypt unite
- 2630 BC Pyramids built during 3rd Dynasty
- **1800 BC** *Joseph in the land of Egypt*
- **1500 BC** *Moses brought up in the land of Egypt;
The burning bush passage in Mount Sinai, Northern Egypt*
- 669 BC **Assyrians** from Mesopotamia conquer and rule Egypt
- 525 BC **Persian** Conquest
- 332 BC Alexander the Great of ancient **Macedonia** conquers Egypt
- 31 BC Egypt under **Roman** rule; Queen Cleopatra commits suicide

Egyptian Civilization after the Birth of Christ

- **1-4 AD** **Holy Family** Flight to Egypt
- **33** **Christianity** comes to Egypt
- **42** **Coptic Church** (Church of Alexandria) established by **St Mark**
- **4th Century** **Christianity** displaces ancient Egyptian religion
- **642** **Arab** Conquest of Egypt
- **969** **Cairo** established as capital
- **1517** Egypt absorbed into **Turkish** Ottoman empire
- **1798** Napoleon's **French** forces invade; repelled by British & Turks
- **1882** **British** troops take control of country
- **1914** Egypt becomes a British protectorate; **independence** restored

From Ankh to Cross

7000 BC	6000 BC	5000 BC	4000 BC	3000 BC	2000 BC	1000 BC	1000 AD	2000 AD
Ancient Egyptian Religion							Christianity in Egypt	

- The **Ankh** was the Ancient Egyptian symbol of **life**
The **Cross** is our Christian symbol of **everlasting life**
- Ancient Egyptians believed in an **afterlife**;
In Christianity, we believe in **eternal life** with **Christ**
- The Egyptians were a very religious people, and therefore were ripe to receive the preached message of **Christianity**
- Many past Egyptologists believed that beneath the **polytheistic** traditions of **Egyptian religion** there was an increasing belief in a unity of the divine, moving toward **monotheism**.



Prophecy about the Coptic Church

“In that day there will be an altar to the LORD in the midst of the land of Egypt, and a pillar to the LORD at its border.”

Isaiah 19:19

“Blessed is Egypt My people”

Isaiah 19:24

Prophecy about the Holy Family flight to Egypt

*“Behold, the LORD rides
on a swift cloud,
And will come into Egypt;
**The idols of Egypt will
totter at His presence,**
And the heart of Egypt
will melt in its midst.”*

Isaiah 19:1



Saint Mary as a swift cloud coming into Egypt

Excerpt from Coptic Fraction Prayer for Feast Day of Saint Mary's Assumption



*“You who **honoured Egypt** by Your coming to it, riding on a swift and light cloud. The **idols of Egypt shivered at Your presence**, and the **heart of Egypt melted in the middle of Egypt**. What was this swift and light cloud except the **Virgin Mary, in her purity, kindness and everlasting chastity**?*

You, who desired to honour motherhood in Mary the Virgin, always obeyed her, accepted her intercession, and responded to her requests. You who entrusted Your mother the Virgin with Your disciple John the Beloved, and made John her son. In John, You granted us Your mother as our own, and through faith we become her children.

You who did not desire that the Virgin, the mother of the Savior, who became a holy tabernacle where You dwelt in flesh, that this body remain on earth. You raised it up to heaven after her death, on the hands of the holy angels and archangels.”

Chanted by Father Marcos Morcos of Saint Mary's Coptic Church, Ottawa, Canada
http://www.stmary-ottawa.org/sermons/2018/HYMNS_2018_08_22_am_06.mp3
(fast forward to 46m:25s)



Matthew 2:13-15

Now when they had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream, saying, **“Arise, take the young Child and His mother, flee to Egypt, and stay there until I bring you word; for Herod will seek the young Child to destroy Him.”**

When he arose, he took the young Child and His mother by night and departed for Egypt, and was there until the death of Herod, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying, **“Out of Egypt I called My Son.”**

Hosea 11:1

“Out of Egypt I called My Son.”



The Holy Family in Egypt

- 3 years and 11 months
- And the idols of Egypt shall fall ...
- Wherever the Lord and Holy Family went
- Idols statues fall & pagan priests angry
- Holy Family constantly on the move



Holy Family route map was signed by H.H. the Late Pope Shenouda III, 117th Patriarch of the Coptic Church



Source:

The Flight of the Holy Family to Egypt

By Fr. Philopos Anba Bishoy



Current Name	Ancient Name
Ahnassiah	Herakleopolis
Ashmunain	Hermopolis Magna
Bahnasa	Oxyrhynchus
Beni Hassan	Speos Artemidos
Bikha Iysous	Sakha
Bilbais	Phelbes
Farama	Pelusium
Gebel't-Tair	Akhoris
Matariyah	Heliopolis
Mit Sammanud	Sebennytos
Musturud	al-Mahammah
Old Cairo	Babylon
Qusia	Cusae
Samalut	Cynopolis
Sanabu	Pepleu
Suez	Clysma
Tell al-Bastah	Bubastis
Terranah	Terenuthis
Wadi'n-Natron	Scetis

Egyptian → Coptic Calendar

- The ancient **Egyptian Calendar** has been in use since 4200 B.C.
- Uses 12 months of 30 days each, plus a “short” month of 5-6 days
- After the era of martyrdom (3rd Century A.D.), the Coptic Church reset it's calendar to start **284 A.D.** with the reign of Emperor Diocletian (one of the cruelest dictators who shed the blood of thousands of Copts because of their Christian faith)
- **Coptic Calendar is used as the Liturgical Calendar in the Coptic Church**
- Coptic New Year is on the 1st day of the first Coptic Month of ‘Thoout’
Coptic New Year is on Sept 11 (or Sept 12 if the following year is leap)
- Sept 11, **2018** (A.D.) corresponds to Thoout 1, **1735** (A.M.)
- A.M. stands for ‘**Anno Martyrum**’ or the ‘**Year of the Martyrs**’

* add 1 to date if next Gregorian year leap
** date based on Coptic Easter calculation

Coptic Months

- **Thoout** starts on Sept 11/12*
- **Paope** Oct 11/12*
- **Hathor** Nov 10/11*
- **Koiahk** Dec 10/11*
- **Tobe** Jan 9/10*
- **Meshir** Feb 8/9*
- **Paremhotep** Mar 10
- **Parmoute** Apr 9
- **Pashons** May 9
- **Paone** June 8
- **Epep** July 8
- **Mesore** Aug 7
- **Nesi** Sept 6

Coptic New Year (Thout 1 = Sept 11 *)

Christmas (Koiahk 29 = Jan 7 *)

Theophany (Tobe 11 = Jan 19 *)

Easter Sunday ** (Paremhotep 30 = Apr 8, 2018)

Saint Mark's Feast (Parmoute 30 = May 8)

Ascension ** 40 days after Easter (Pashons 9 = May 17, 2018)

Pentecost ** 50 days after Easter (Pashons 19 = May 27, 2018)

Entry of the Lord Christ into Egypt (Pashons 24 = June 1)

Apostles' Feast (Epep 5 = July 12)

Saint Mary Assumption (Mesore 16 = Aug 22)

Short month with 5 days or 6 if next (Gregorian) year is leap

Coptic Season of Nile Flooding (Sept 11 - Jan 8)

Thoout

- Named after the god Tegot, Tut or Tuhout, ancient Egyptian **wisdom, science, art** inventions and **mysteries** for the Egyptians.

Paope

- Named after Yee-pee or Ha-pee of the Nile, also of **vegetation**, because the earth becomes green with vegetation this month.

Hathor

- Named after Hator or Hatho, ancient Egyptian goddess love and **beauty**, because during this month the lands become lush and green.

Koiahk

- Named after Ka-Ha-Ka of **good**.

Litany of the Seeds and Herbs

(prayed Oct 10 - Jan 18)

***“Graciously accord, O Lord,
the seeds, the herbs, and the
plants of the field this year, to
bless them.”***

Although the Ancient Egyptian calendar retains names dating back to the Egyptian ancient religion, it goes without saying that Coptic Christians do not worship or believe in any of those so-called gods.

Coptic Season of Vegetation (Jan 9 - May 8)

Tobe

- Named after the god of Thebes in Upper Egypt; he is the god of the **growth** of nature because much rain falls during this month.

Meshir

- Particular to the genius of **wind**, because the storms and wind occur much during this month. It is the month in which the summer heat begins.

Paremhotep

- Named after Mont, the god of **war**. During this month the temperature is high and thus the Egyptians called it the month of the sun.

Parmoute

- Named after Renno, the god of severe wind or **death**. During this month the season of vegetation ends and the earth becomes dry.

Litany of the Air and Fruits

(prayed Jan 19 - June 18)

***“Graciously accord, O Lord,
the air of heaven and the
fruits of the earth this year, to
bless them.”***

Although the Ancient Egyptian calendar retains names dating back to the Egyptian ancient religion, it goes without saying that Coptic Christians do not worship or believe in any of those so-called gods.

Coptic Season of Harvesting (May 9 - Sept 10)

Pashons

- Named after Khonso, the god of the **moon**, the son of Amoun-Ru and Mout.

Paone

- Named after Khenti, on the names of Horus or the **sun** meaning "the god of metals".

Epep

- Named after Api-fee or Abib, the big **serpent** which Horus (the sun), the son of Osiris, killed to revenge for his father.

Mesore

- Particular to the **birth** of the sun or what is known as the "summer shift".

Little Month

- Has either 5 days or 6 days (in leap years)

Litany of the Waters

(prayed June 19 – Oct 19)

***"Graciously accord, O Lord,
the waters of the river this
year, to bless them."***

Although the Ancient Egyptian calendar retains names dating back to the Egyptian ancient religion, it goes without saying that Coptic Christians do not worship or believe in any of those so-called gods.

Coptic Religious Holy Days

(sample list taken from Ontario Colleges – College Employer Council)

2018 LIST OF RELIGIOUS HOLY DAYS

College Employer Council

<https://thecouncil.on.ca/articles/150>

Egyptian (Coptic) Orthodox	Christmas	January 7, 2018
	Baptism of Christ	January 19, 2018
	Good Friday	April 6, 2018
	Easter Eve	April 7, 2018
	Easter	April 8, 2018
	St. Mark's Feast (Patron Saint)	May 8, 2018
	Ascension	May 17, 2018
	Pentecost	May 27, 2018
	Entry of our Lord into Egypt	June 1, 2018
	Apostles' Feast	July 12, 2018
	Assumption of Holy Virgin Mary	August 22, 2018
	Coptic New Year	September 11, 2018

The Coptic Church

- Established in the name of the **Lord Jesus Christ** by **St. Mark** the Evangelist in the city of **Alexandria** around **43 A.D.**
- Coptic Orthodox
 - The term “**Coptic**” is derived from the Greek “Aigypptos” meaning “Egyptian”. When Arabs arrived in Egypt in the 7th Century, they called Egyptians “qibt”. Thus the Arabic word “qibt” came to mean both “**Egyptians**” and “**Christians**”.
 - The term “**Orthodox**” here refers to the preservation of the “Original Faith” by the Copts who, throughout the ages, defended the faith of the Church (the Creed) against the numerous attacks aimed at it.
- Adheres to the **Nicene Creed**

St. Athanasius (296-373 A.D.), the twentieth Pope of the Coptic Church effectively defended the Doctrine of the Lord Jesus Christ’s Divinity at the **Council of Nicea in 325 A.D.** His affirmation of the doctrine earned him the title; “Father of Orthodoxy” and St. Athanasius “the Apostolic”.

Copts have ...

- **Prophecy** in the Old Testament
- Blessing of **Moses** the Prophet and the Burning Bush
- Blessing of **Holy Family** visit for 3 years and 11 months
- **Pope** (**Saint Mark** being 1st Pope; **Pope Tawadros II** is the 118th Pope)
- A Coptic **language** (Ancient Egyptian; transcribed using Greek letters)
- A rich set of **manuscripts** preserved in Coptic (Old & New Testament)
- A Coptic **calendar** (12 months x 30 days; plus another “little” month)

Optional (30 minute video) Homework 😊

H.G. Bishop Angaelos speaks about Coptic Orthodox tradition

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=THqemH2Pwlo>

