



Coptic Orthodox Christianity

Coptic Saints & Miracles

Fall 2018



Excerpt from the “Commemoration of the Saints”

Coptic Divine Liturgy of Saint Basil

*As this, O Lord, is the command of Your only-begotten Son,
that we share in the commemoration of Your saints,*

*Graciously accord, O Lord, to remember all the saints who have done Your
will since the beginning: our holy fathers the **patriarchs**, the **prophets**,
the **preachers**, the **evangelists**, the **martyrs**, the **confessors**, and all the
spirits of the **righteous**, perfected in the faith.*

*Most of all, the pure, full-of-glory, ever-virgin, holy Theotokos,
Saint Mary, who truly gave birth to God the Logos.*

*And **Saint John** the forerunner, Baptist, and martyr;
Saint Stephen the archdeacon and protomartyr;
the beholder-of-God, **Saint Mark** the Evangelist,
the holy apostle and martyr; ...*

Saint Mary as Our Spiritual Mother and Maternal Role Model

Saint Mary Lived a Virtuous Life

- Life of Humility
- Life of Submission
- Life of Endurance
- Life of Faith without Grumbling
- Life of Silence, Prayer and Meditation

Source:

www.stminahamilton.ca/2010/08/the-virtues-of-the-holy-virgin-mary-by-pope-shenouda-iii



Symbols of Saint Mary in the Old Testament

Mentioned in Coptic Midnight Praise (Tasabīh)

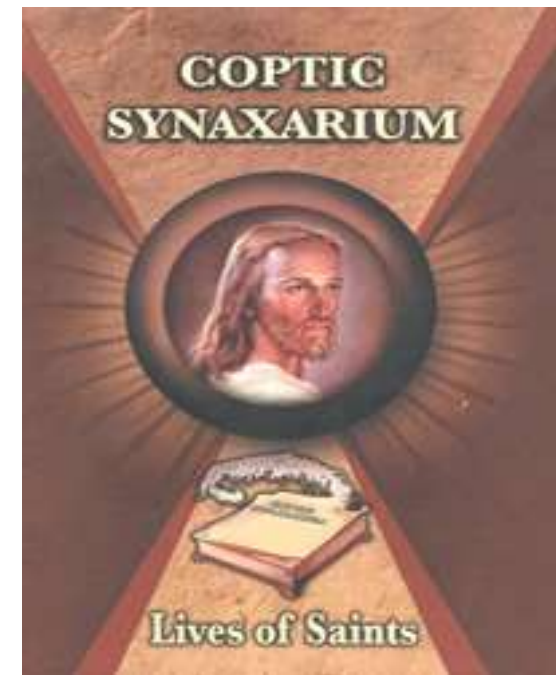
- **Noah's Ark** Saint Mary is the icon and symbol of the Church, the ark of salvation (**Genesis 6-9**)
- **Jacob's Ladder** This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven (**Genesis 28:10-17**)
- **Burning Bush** The bush that was burning with fire but the bush was not consumed (**Exodus 3:1-2**)
- **Rational Mountain** The Lord's descent upon St. Mary's is unlike the smoking mountain in **Exodus 19:16-18**
- **City of God** Glorious things have been spoken of you, O City of God (**Psalms 87:1-3** NKJV)
- **New Jerusalem** Saint Mary is the City of God and the heavenly Jerusalem (**Hebrews 12:22**)
- **Tabernacle of Meeting** I will dwell among the children of Israel and be their God (**Exodus 29:44-45**)
- **Ark of the Covenant** The Ark overlaid with pure gold (**Exodus 25:10-11**) representing the presence of God
- **Cover of the Ark** The cherubim covering the ark (**Exodus 25:17-21**) representing the presence of God
- **The Pot of Manna** Carrying the Rational Manna (Our Lord Jesus Christ) kept for generations (**Exodus 16:4,33**)
- **The Rod of Aaron** The rod of Aaron which sprouted and produced fruit without watering (**Numbers 17:1-8**)
- **The Golden Lampstand** Golden purity carrying the Light of the world as the golden lampstand (**Exodus 25:31-40**)
- **The Golden Censer** The censer (**Hebrew 9:4**) carrying the live coal (Our Lord Jesus Christ)
- **The Swift Cloud** Behold, the Lord rides on a swift cloud (**Isaiah 19:1**)
- **The Gate of Ezekiel** The Lord God of Israel entered by this gate (**Ezekiel 44:1,2**)

Coptic Synaxarion:

Chronicle of the Lives of the Saints

Living Document containing the stories of Coptic Saints:

- Each day of the year contains one or more articles
- Also chronicles important events in the life of the Church
- Also commemorates saints of the Old Testament and Angels
- Includes countless stories of Coptic Martyrs throughout the ages
- During weekday & Saturday Liturgies, the theme of Bible Readings (Gospels, Epistles, Acts) is based on one of the saints or events commemorated in the Synaxarion reading of that day. For example:
 - On feast days commemorating the **Patriarchs** of the Church, we read the Gospel of the **Good Shepherd**.
 - On feast days of righteous **Women of Faith**, we read the Parable of the **Ten Virgins** (Five of whom were Wise).



Saints, Faith, Miraculous Signs

And these signs will follow those who believe: In My name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues; they will take up serpents; and if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover.

So then, after the Lord had spoken to them, He was received up into heaven, and sat down at the right hand of God. And they went out and preached everywhere, **the Lord working with them and confirming the word through the accompanying signs.**

Amen.

(Mark 16:17-20)

So Jesus answered and said to them, **“Have faith in God.**

For assuredly, I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, ‘Be removed and be cast into the sea,’ and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that those things he says will be done, he will have whatever he says.

Therefore I say to you, whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive them, and you will have them.

(Mark 11:22-24)

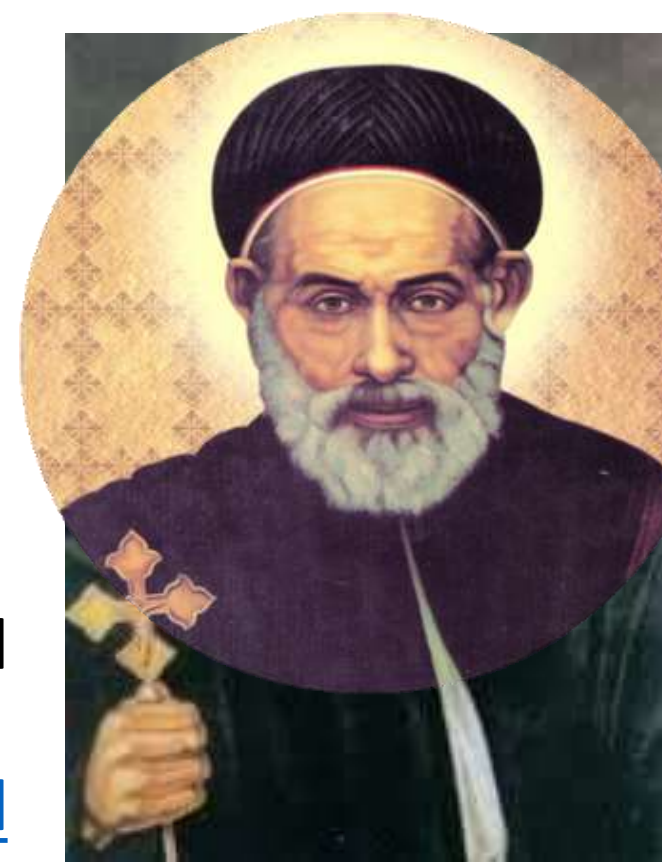
Most assuredly, I say to you,
he who believes in Me,
the works that I do he will do also;
and **greater works** than these he will do, because I go to My Father.

(John 14:12)

Coptic Personalities:

Anba Abraam (1829-1914)

- Beloved **Archbishop of Fayoum** Province in Egypt
- Known for his **patience**, **self-control**, and **almsgiving**.
- 35 of the **miracles** as reported by those who witnessed and/or experienced them, are mentioned on this site:
www.copticchurch.net/topics/synexarion/abraam.html

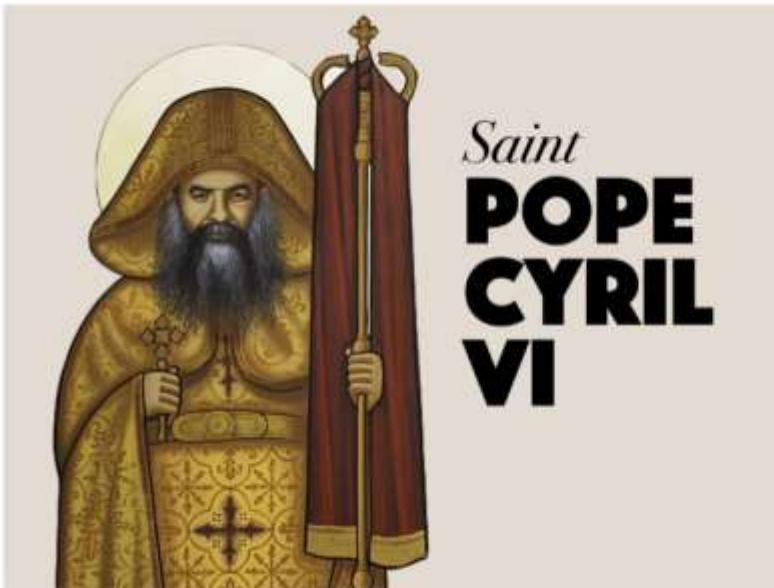


In 1896, Egypt suffered an epidemic of Cholera, people were dying. They went to Anba Abraam one evening and told him about the horror that filled the city because of the large number of people dying every day. Anba Abraam replied: "Why are you afraid of death. If we do not die today, we will die tomorrow," meaning sooner or later we all will die, no one can escape death. He asked them to call for Father Mikhail (his half brother). When Father Mikhail came, he told him to bring 200 sheets of paper and write on each sheet: "We are the Servants of Jesus of Nazareth, who was Crucified," and he took the papers and blessed them with the sign of the Cross and prayed over them. He gave them to Father Mikhail, instructing him to give a piece of paper to every family that asks for it, and to instruct them to hang it outside the door of their house (following the example of Moses instructing the Israelites to sprinkle the blood on the sides and overhang of the door so the angel of death will pass over in the final plague). Every family that hanged this paper on their door was saved from the Cholera plague.

Optional Homework Reading on Coptic Saints

Heroes of Faith

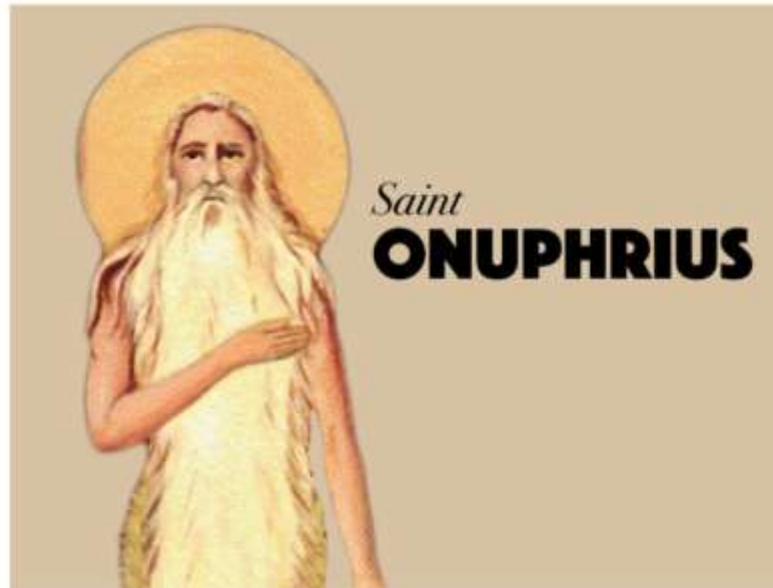
Faithful Christian Leaders
such as Pope Cyril VI
(Pope Kyrillos VI)



20th Century devout modern-day
man of faith & prayer, 12000 liturgies

Monastics & Ascetics

such as Saint Onuphrius,
(Abba Nofer the Ascetic)



4th-5th Century ascetic saint,
devout to God, honoured worldwide

Confessors & Martyrs

such as Saint Wanas,
also known as Youannis
(a derivative of John)



3rd-4th Century Martyr and devout
deacon, martyred at 12-years of age

Sampling of Coptic Saint Biographies

Heroes of Faith

Saint [Mark the Apostle](#)
Saint [Athanasius the Apostolic](#)
Saint [Arsenious the Great](#)
Saint [John Chrysostom](#)
Saint [Augustine](#)
Saint [Cyril the Pillar of Faith](#)
Saint [Basil the Great](#)
Pope [Dionysius](#)
Saint [Shenouda the Archimandrite](#)
Pope [Benjamin I](#)
Pope [Matthew I](#)
Bishop [Abraam of Fayoum](#)
Pope [Cyril VI](#)
Pope [Shenouda III](#)

Alexandrian Fathers

Monastics & Ascetics

Saint [Anthony the Great](#)
Saint [Paul the Anchorite](#)
Saint [Pishoy](#) and Saint [Paul](#)
Saint [Marina the Ascetic](#)
Saint [Mary of Egypt](#)
Saint [Nofer the Ascetic](#)
Saint [Karas](#)
Saint [Macarius the Great](#)
Saint [John the Short](#)
Saints [Maximus and Dometius](#)
Saint [Serapion](#)
Saint [Reweis](#)
Saint [Simon the Tanner](#)
Saint [Takla Hemanot](#) of Ethiopia
Mother [\(Tamav\) Irinie](#)

Desert Fathers & Mothers

Confessors & Martyrs

Saint [George](#)
Saint [Maurice](#)
Saint [Catherine of Alexandria](#)
Saint [Demiana and the 40 virgins](#)
Saint [Barbara](#)
Saint [Justina](#)
Saint [Mina](#)
Saint [Philopateer Mercurius](#)
Saint [Abanub](#)
Saint [Wanas](#)
Saint [Kyriacos and Eulita his Mother](#)
Saint [Rebecca and her Children](#)
Saint [Theodore the Prince](#)
Pope [Peter the Seal of Martyrs](#)
Saint [Polycarp](#)
Saint [Moses the Strong](#)

*Myriads of Martyrs including
Modern-Day Martyrs*

“since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses” (Hebrews 12:1)



Common Coptic Christian Names

COPTIC	ARABIC	ENGLISH	PATRON SAINTS	
Maria	Mariam	Mary	Saint Mary the Mother of God	
Youannis	Youhanna	John	Saints John (the Baptist or the Beloved)	
Mikhail	Michel	Michael	Archangel Michael	
Kyrillos	Kyrillos	Cyril	Popes Cyril I & VI	
Philopateer	Philo	Philo	Saint Philopateer Mercurius	
Markos	Morcos	Mark	Saint Mark the Apostle	
Mina	Mina	Mena	Saint Mina the Wonderworker	
Marina	Marina	Marina	Saints Marina (Ascetic or Martyr)	
Demiana	Demiana	Demiana	Saint Demiana the Bride of Christ	
Pishoy	Bishoy	Bishoy	Saint Pishoy the Beloved of Christ	
Gawargios	Girgis	George	Saint George the Prince of Martyrs	
Antony or Antonios	Antony	Anthony	Saint Anthony the Great	
Tawadros	Tadros	Theodore	Means Gift of God	

Common Coptic Christian Names (cont'd)

COPTIC	ARABIC	ENGLISH	PATRON SAINTS	
Pavlos	Boulos	Paul	Saint Paul (the Apostle, or Anchorite)	
Petros	Botros	Peter	Saint Peter (the Apostle, or Martyr)	
Moises	Moussa	Moses	Moses (the Prophet, or Martyr)	
Abraam	Ibrahim	Abraham	Abraham (the Prophet, or Bishop)	
Isaak	Is-haa'	Isaac	Isaac the Patriarch	
Jacobos	Ya-oob	Jacob	Jacob the Patriarch	
Jacobos	Ya-oob	James	Saint James	
Younan	Younan	Jonah	Jonah the Prophet	
Hanna	Hanna	Anne	Saint Anne the mother of Saint Mary	
Monica	Monica	Monica	Saint Monica the mother of Augustine	
Youssef	Youssef	Joseph	Saint Joseph the Carpenter	
Yuliana	Yuliana	Juliana	Saint Juliana	
Barbara	Barbara	Barbara	Saint Barbara	

Saints Commemorated in Coptic Liturgy

- **The Virgin Saint Mary the Theotokos and Saint John the Baptist**
- **Patriarchs, Prophets, Apostles, Preachers, Evangelists, Martyrs, Confessors, Righteous**
- **Saint Stephen** the Archdeacon and First Martyr
- **Saint Mark** the Evangelist, Apostle and Martyr
- **Saints Severus, Dioscorus, Athanasius** and **Saint Peter** the holy martyr and archpriest
- **Saints John Chrysostom, Theodosius, Theophilus, Demetrius**
- **Saints Cyril, Basil, Gregory** the Theologian, **Gregory** the Wonderworker, **Gregory** the Armenian
- **318** at Council of Nicea, **150** at Constantinople, **200** at Ephesus
- **Saint Anthony** the great, **Saint Paul** the anchorite
- The three saints **Abba Macarii** and all their (spiritual) children, the cross-bearers
- **Abba John** the archpriest, **Abba Pishoy** the beloved of our good Saviour
- ***All the Choir of the Saints***

Saint Mark

Apostle

one of the 70 Apostles (circa 30-33 AD)

Evangelist

author of one of 4 Gospels (circa 60-61 AD)

Martyr

departed 68 A.D. in Alexandria

- **Jewish** in Faith, of the tribe of Levi
- Jewish name was **John**; Roman surname was **Mark**
- Born in **Cyrene**, one of the five Western cities (**Pentapolis**) in **Libya**
- **Founder** of the Coptic Church (the Church of Alexandria)



Saint Mark

Evangelist, Apostle and Martyr

Preacher of Christianity to Egypt

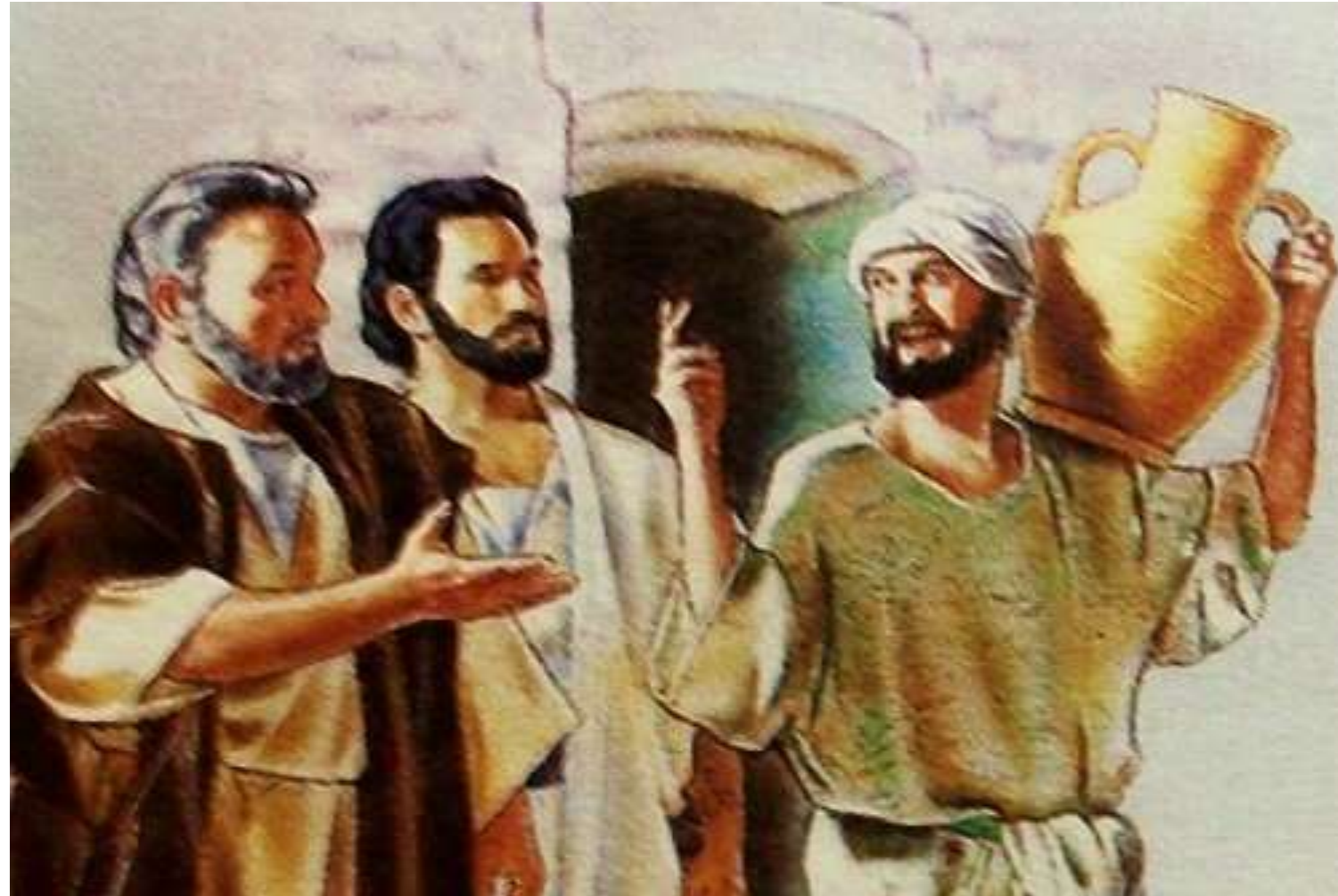
1st Patriarch of the Church of Alexandria

- Copts are indebted to Saint Mark for preaching Christianity to Egypt
- Saint Mark has a very special place in the heart of Coptic Christians



Saint Mark

- His family immigrated to **Palestine** from Libya
- His house was the **first Christian church**, where the Lord met with His disciples
- He is believed to be the man who was carrying the **pitcher of water**, where the **Lord Christ prepared** and made ready for the **Passover** in the **upper room** of his house



Saint Mark



- Saint Mark's mother, named Mary, was the sister of **Saint Barnabas**, and was one of the Mary's who followed Christ
- Saint Mark's father, Aristopolus, was a cousin of **Saint Peter's** wife
- Saint Mark accompanied **Saint Paul** on his first missionary trip
- Saint Mark was also related to **Saint Thomas** the Apostle

Saint Mark's House

- First **Christian church**, where the Lord met with His disciples
- **Christ** prepared and made ready for the **Passover** in the **upper room**
- **Christ appeared** to His disciples **after** His **Resurrection**
(and a second time with Saint Thomas present) in the upper room
- The **Holy Spirit** came upon them on **Pentecost** in the upper room
- **Saint Peter** came here after the **angel** of the Lord **delivered** him from prison



Saint Mark and the Lion

He preached to his father, Aristopolus, converting him to Christianity, and baptizing him, after having saved him from the attack of a lioness

- Praying to the Lord, St. Mark saved himself and his father from falling prey to a lioness near the Jordan River

Saint Mark is depicted with a lion for 3 reasons:

- The above **miracle**
- His Gospel starts with the **voice of one crying in the wilderness** (describing St. John the Baptist)
- His Gospel, addressed to the Romans, focuses on the **power of Christ**



Symbols of the Gospels

- Matthew
Man (Christ's Humanity)
- Mark
Lion (Christ's Power)
- Luke
Ox (Christ's Sacrifice)
- John
Eagle (Christ's Divinity)



Saint Mark's Ministry

- Accompanied St. Peter to preach inside *Jerusalem and Judea*
- Around 45 A.D., Mark accompanied Sts. Paul and Barnabas on the their **first missionary journey**, preaching with them in: *Anioch, Selucia, Cyprus, Salamis, and Perga Pamphylia* (there he left them and returned to Jerusalem which troubled Saint Paul's heart)
- St. Paul **refused to take St. Mark on the second missionary journey** (this led to a contention between Paul and Barnabas, so Barnabas took Mark and sailed to *Cyprus*)
- Later on, St. Paul **recognized the importance of St. Mark for ministry**, and called him to serve with him in *Colossae and Rome*
- St. Mark later proclaimed the Gospel in the five western cities of *Northern Africa (in Libya) and Alexandria* (arriving 60-61 A.D.)

Do not carry extra sandals ...

The Seventy Sent Out (Luke 10:1-4)

After these things the Lord appointed seventy others also, and sent them two by two before His face into every city and place where He Himself was about to go. ² Then He said to them, “The harvest truly is great, but the laborers are few; therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest.” ³ Go your way; behold, I send you out as lambs among wolves. ⁴ Carry neither money bag, knapsack, nor sandals; and greet no one along the road.



Saint Mark's torn sandal ...

Upon entering Alexandria, St. Mark's sandal was torn from travel

- He went to a cobbler named Anianus to repair it
- Anianus pierced his finger by accident and cried out "O One God"

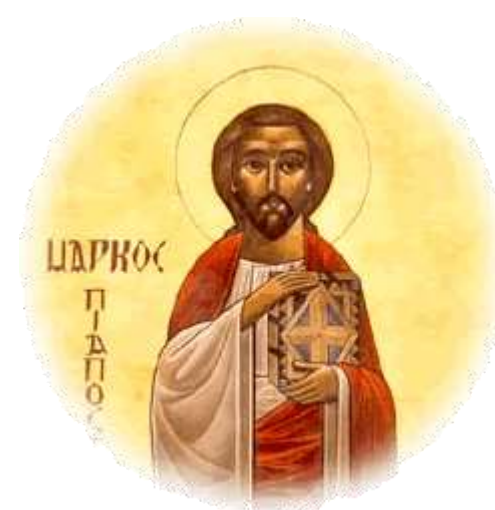
St. Mark prayed and the wounded finger was healed immediately

- Anianus was amazed at the miracle
- St. Mark preached the Lord to him, baptizing him and his household

The house of Anianus was a place of evangelism

- St. Anianus was appointed Bishop by St. Mark; he would later succeed St. Mark as the Patriarch of the Church of Alexandria
- After many believed, St. Mark established the Theological School of Alexandria, entrusting its management to St. Justus (who would later become the 6th Patriarch of Alexandria)

Madā'h: Doxology for Saint Mark



1

Hail to you Saint Mark
The son of Aristobolus
O preacher in the name of Jesus
Markos pi-apostolos

2

You were born in Cyrene
Your name is in every place
Remaining for all ages
Markos pi-apostolos

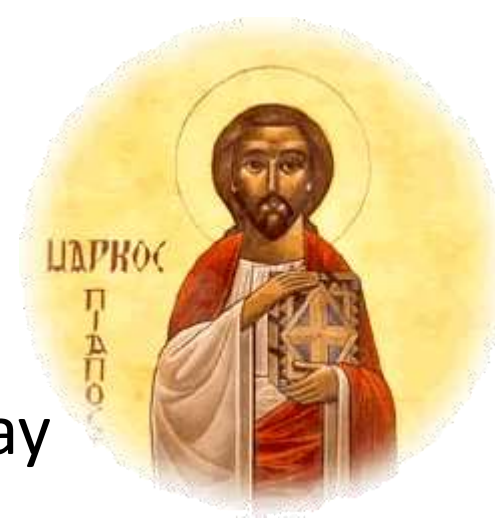
3

From Libya to Palestine
The land of the saints
You came fleeing
Markos pi-apostolos

4

You followed the Lord Jesus
You drank from the spring
You preached everywhere
Markos pi-apostolos

Doxology for Saint Mark (Cont'd)



5

While two lions attacked
You knelt down and prayed
Immediately the beasts died

Markos pi-apostolos

6

Mary your mother is holy
Who made her house a church
She served with humility

Markos pi-apostolos

7

While Jesus was far away
He sent a message to you
The Passover, to prepare

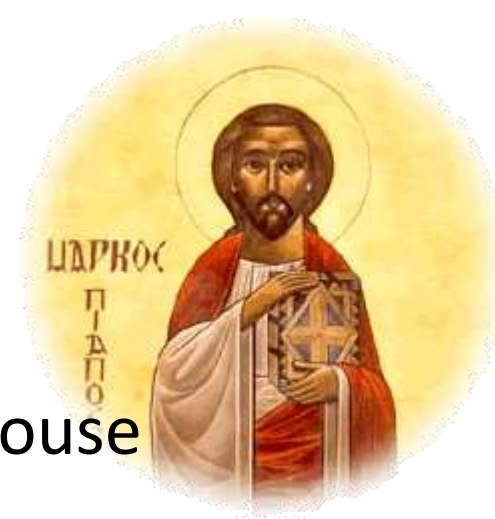
Markos pi-apostolos

8

He instituted the Last Supper
He established the great Mystery
And was patient with the wicked

Markos pi-apostolos

Doxology for Saint Mark (Cont'd)



9

You followed Him to the garden
The young men took hold of you
You escaped from them naked

Markos pi-apostolos

11

On Pentecost, in your house
The Spirit, the Comfortor came
On all who were gathered

Markos pi-apostolos

10

In your life are many mysteries
Of the almighty and powerful God
With them He saved many righteous

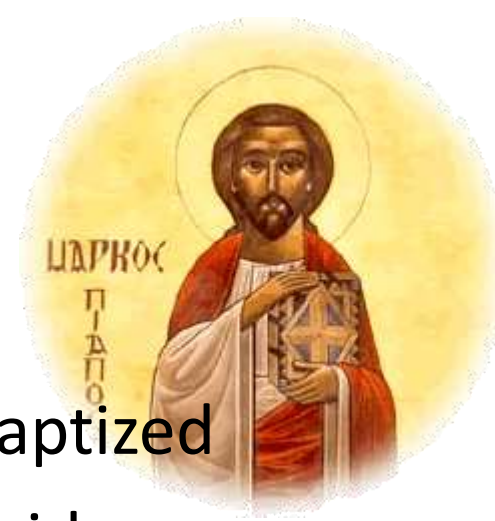
Markos pi-apostolos

12

Like tongues of fire
In the daytime
Settling on the pure ones

Markos pi-apostolos

Doxology for Saint Mark (Cont'd)



13

You spoke with the tongues
Of the people of all countries
Accompanied with signs

Markos pi-apostolos

14

The nations came to you
In all submission
The believed in the Lord Jesus

Markos pi-apostolos

15

Three thousand were baptized
And continued under guidance
They lived in chastity

Markos pi-apostolos

16

After the Day of Pentecost
You went to preach
To the whole world

Markos pi-apostolos

Doxology for Saint Mark (Cont'd)



17

O our father Saint Mark
The loving one who came to us
To the faith, you led us

Markos pi-apostolos

18

When you heard Anianus
Crying out ***E-yos theos***
You showed him the way of ***Ee-sos***

Markos pi-apostolos

19

To minister to the souls
You ordained Anianus
A bishop, along with priests

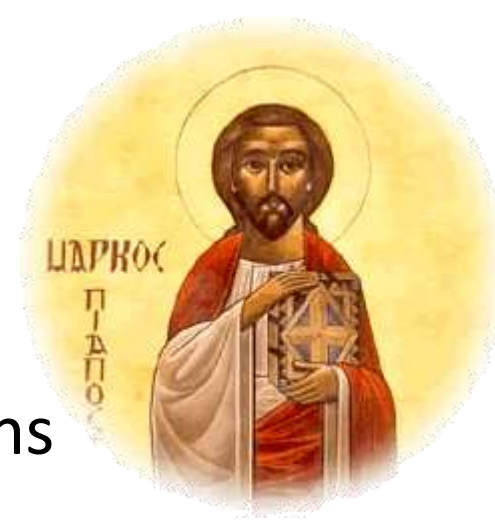
Markos pi-apostolos

20

You established the school
Of theological studies
The first ecclesiastical school

Markos pi-apostolos

Doxology for Saint Mark (Cont'd)



21

Many fathers graduated from it
Patriarchs and scholars
Who preserved the faith with blood

Markos pi-apostolos

22

Inspired in the Spirit
To write your gospel
Your preaching is maintained

Markos pi-apostolos

23

You wrote to the Romans
And all the children of men
About the King and Judge

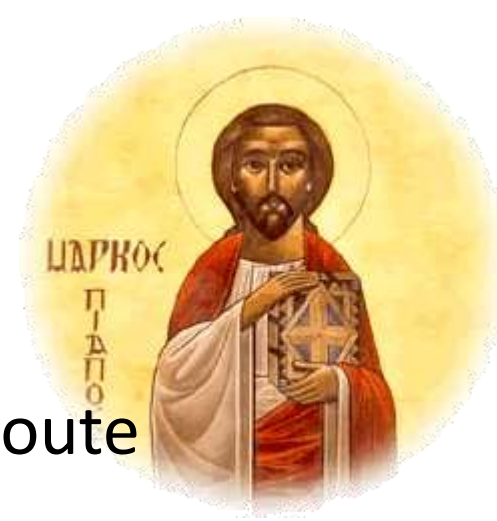
Markos pi-apostolos

24

You completed the strife
With the blood of martyrdom
At the fullness of time

Markos pi-apostolos

Doxology for Saint Mark (Cont'd)



25

On the feast day
The savage ones dragged you
To the flame of the burning fire

Markos pi-apostolos

26

God sent from heaven
A cloud carrying water
Putting out the wicked fire

Markos pi-apostolos

27

On the last day of Parmoute
We have a tradition
To commemorate the martyrdom

Markos pi-apostolos

28

And at the end of Paope
We celebrate the appearance
Of the head of our martyr

Markos pi-apostolos

Doxology for Saint Mark (Cont'd)



29

And on the seventeenth of Paone
Pope Kyrillos the beloved
Brought back our father's relics

Markos pi-apostolos

31

Saint Mark the pillar
Of the upright truth
A lion came out to rule

Markos pi-apostolos

30

Who is like you, O beholder of God
He who is invisible
We worship and glorify Him, with

Markos pi-apostolos

32

The mention of Your name
Is in all the believers' mouths
They all say, "O God of Saint Mark"
Help all of us!"

Coptic Personalities

Pope Cyril “Kyrillos” VI (1902-1971)

- Patriarch of Alexandria (1959-1971), a devout man of prayers and deep faith. Many books are written about his miracles which continue until this day.
- **“I rise before the dawning of the morning, and cry for help; I hope in Your word. My eyes are awake through the night watches, that I may meditate on Your word.”** (Psalm 119:147-148 - NKJV).
- It is said that Pope Cyril VI prayed more than 12,000 liturgies during his lifetime. He would start the day spiritually at 3-4am with the Psalmody and hold an early liturgy so that his children can then go to school and work. This continued for 35 years ever since the pope was a hermit.
- The Liturgy was the source of his strength and greatness. As the Lord says: **“I love them that love me; and those that seek me early shall find me.”** (Proverbs 8:17 - KJV).

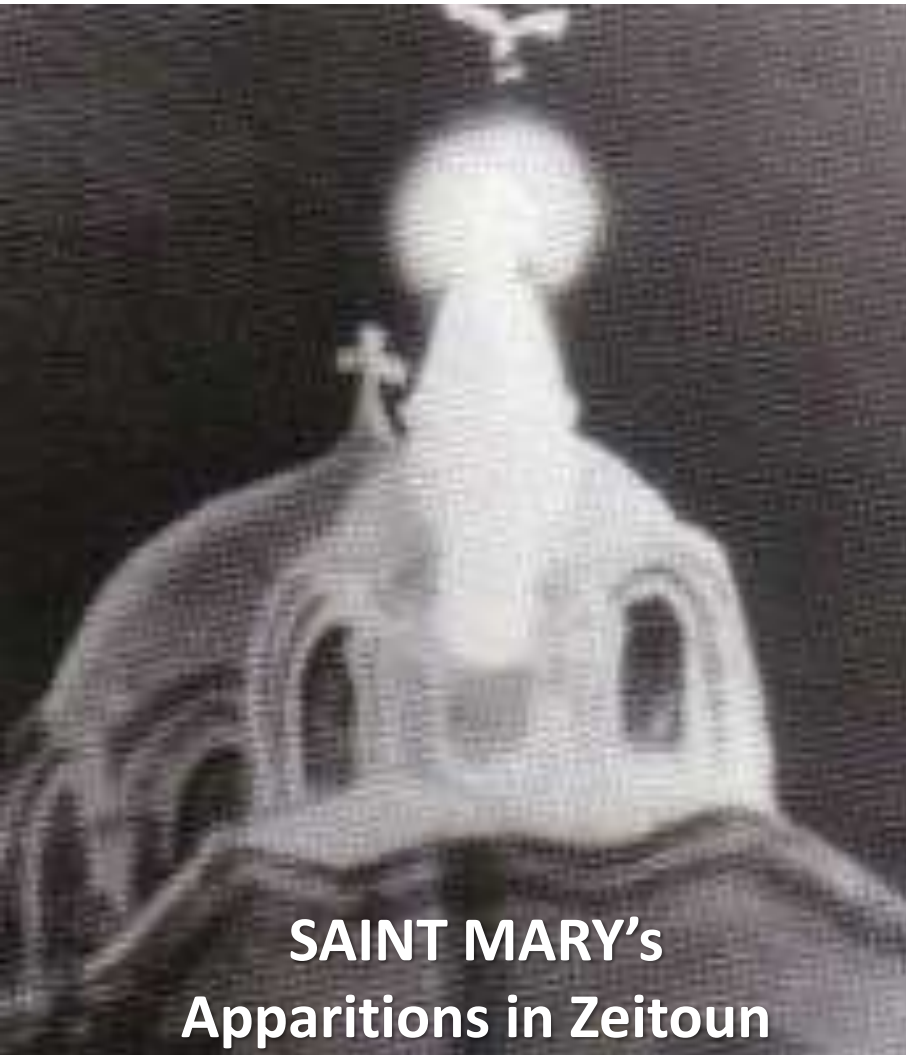


Saint Mark's Relics

- **June 22, 1968**
during Papacy of **Pope Cyril VI** (116th Patriarch of Alexandria), the Coptic Church received the relics of Saint Mark in Italy from **Pope Paul VI** (Pope of Rome)
- *The relics had been in Venice, Italy since the 9th Century (in the year 829, Saint Mark's body was moved from Alexandria to Venice)*
- June 24, 1968: Saint Mark's relics arrived by plane to Egypt
- June 25, 1968: inauguration of new **Saint Mark's Cathedral** in the Monastery of Anba Roweis (Cairo)
- June 26, 1968: the first Pontifical Liturgy was held, and the relics were placed in the Shrine prepared for him under the altar of the Cathedral
- Saint Mark's head is in a church named after him in **Alexandria**;
Parts of his relics are now in Saint Mark's Cathedral in **Cairo**;
The rest of his relics are in San Marco Cathedral in **Venice**.



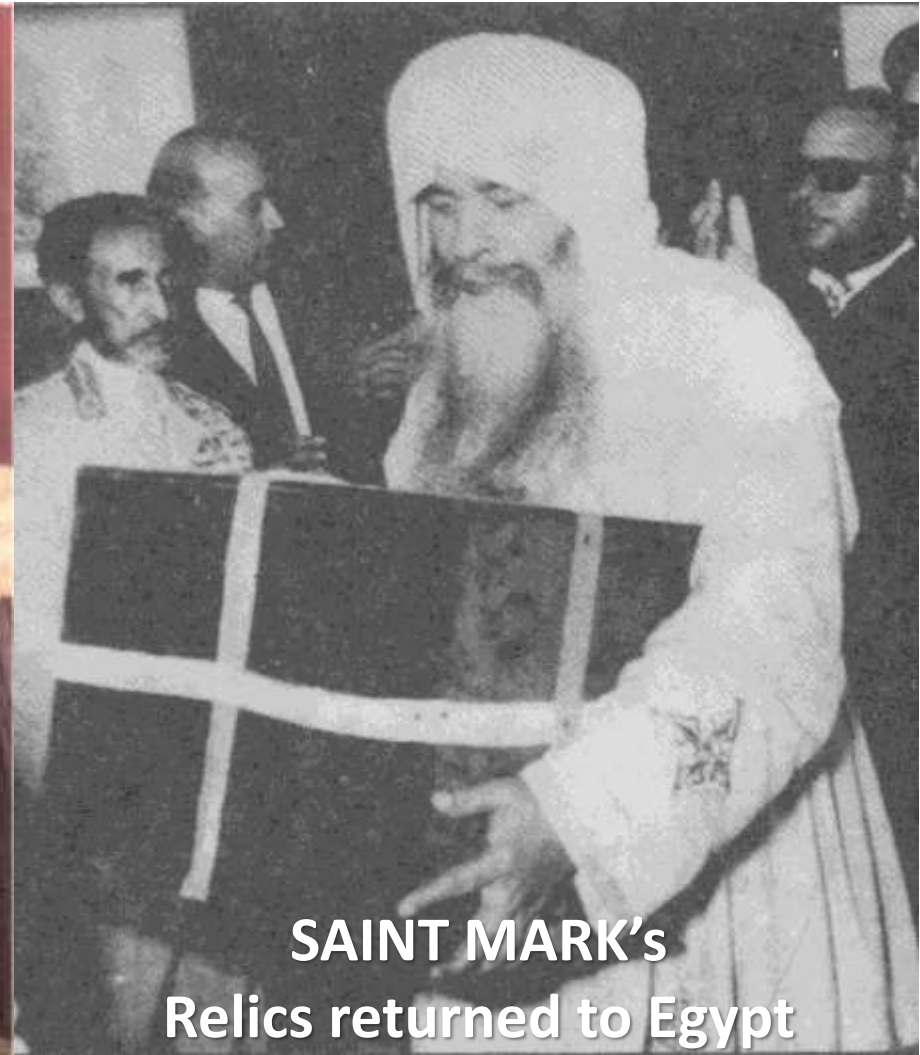
1968



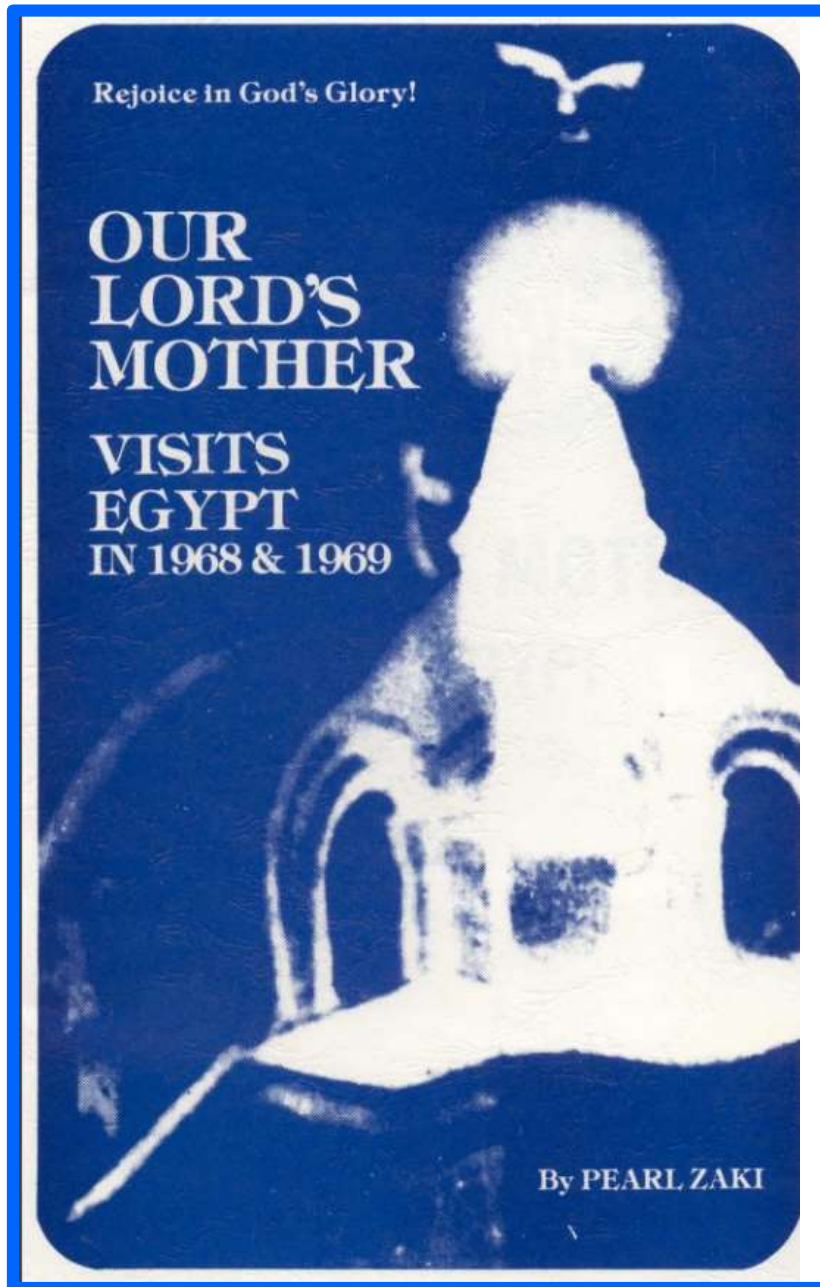
SAINT MARY's
Apparitions in Zeitoun
April 2, 1968



POPE CYRIL VI



SAINT MARK's
Relics returned to Egypt
June 22, 1968



Book available online and can be downloaded from:
www.miraclehunter.com/marian_apparitions/approved_apparitions/zeitun/OLMVE.pdf

“When Millions saw Mary”

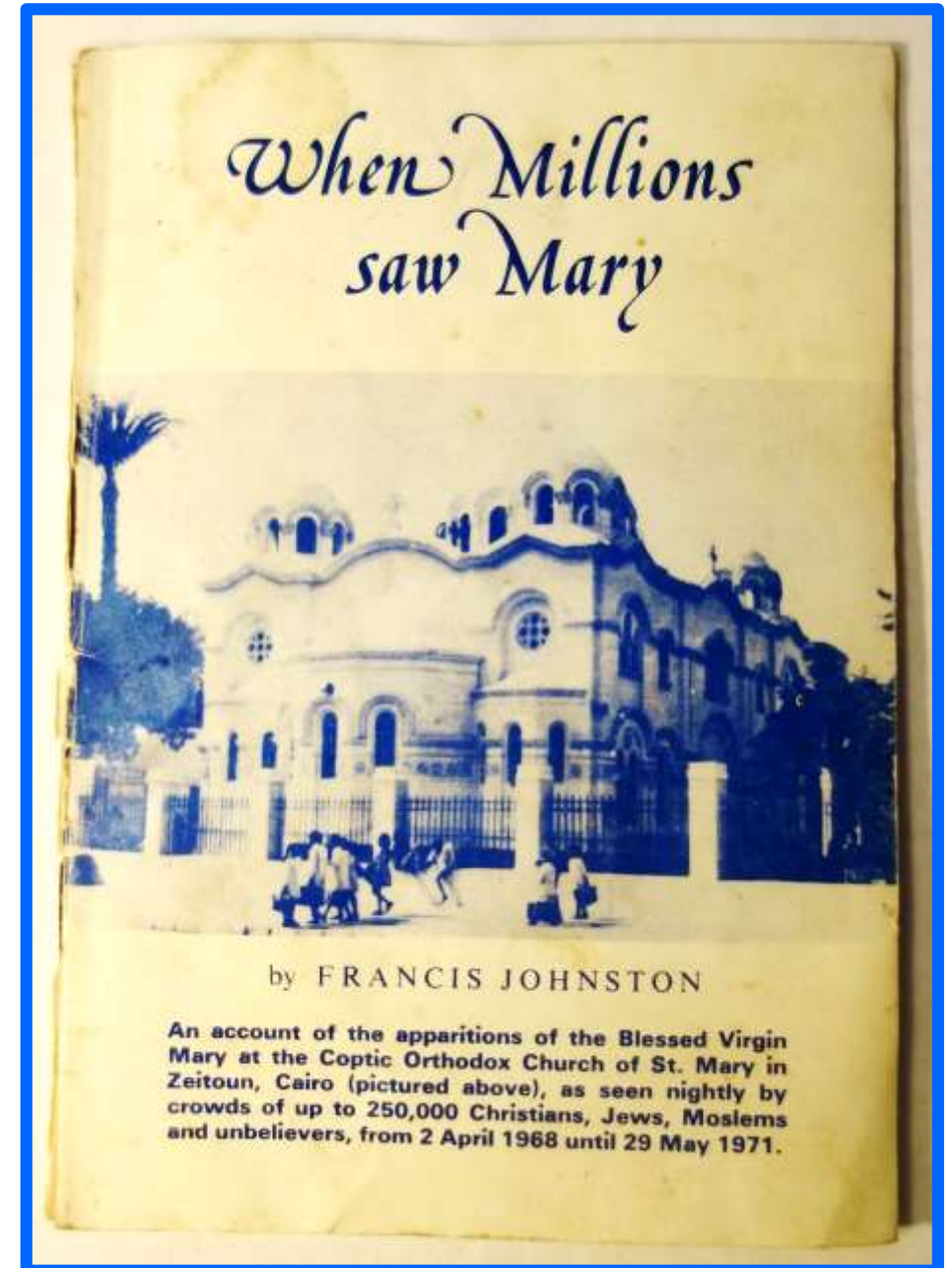
Book by Francis Johnston (published 1980)

An account of the **apparitions** of the Blessed **Virgin Mary** at the Coptic Orthodox Church of St. Mary in **Zeitoun**, Cairo, as seen nightly by crowds of up to 250,000 Christians, Jews, Muslims and unbelievers, from **2 April 1968** until **29 May 1971**.

Certain events quoted from:

- ***“Our lady returns to Egypt”***
Book by Fr. Jerome Palmer
- ***“Our Lord’s mother visits Egypt”***
Book by Mrs. Pearl Zaki

Book available online at:
<https://www.zeitun-eg.org/pg0001.htm>



Zeitoun Apparitions of the Virgin

- First apparition:
Tuesday **April 2nd, 1968** at 8:30 pm
- The **Virgin** adorned in shimmering robes of light, white doves hovering over her, surrounded by clouds of incense
- **Christians** and **Muslims** prayed together for the first time
- More than **¼ of a million** people were present every night
- Last apparition: **May 29th, 1971**



Foretelling the Virgin's Appearance in Zeitoun

- In **1920**, the land on which the Virgin's Church in Zeitoun is now located, belonged to a Coptic Family named Khalil. The Virgin appeared to a family member in a dream and told him to build a church in her name and that she will appear there in 50 years.
- On July 13, **1962**, the Virgin appeared to a girl behind the Iron Curtain in Lithuania. The Virgin announced to the girl that she would be going to Egypt next.



The Virgin's Radiance & Beauty

*"Her **radiance was so intense** that it was almost impossible to discern her features. She shone with an overpowering splendour like the sun in human form, bathing the church in a **glorious suffusion of light.**"*

*"She appeared larger than natural size, **young, beautiful, all in light.** It was the colour of the sky in Egypt."*

*"Our Lady looked to the north; she **waved** her hand, she **blessed the people** ... Her garments swayed in the wind. She was **very quiet, full of glory.**"*



One Photographer's Account ...

*In the early hours of 13 April, a photographer named Wagih, **succeeded in photographing the vision for the first time**, overcoming an inexplicable sensation of immobility which prevented the vast majority of people from operating their cameras.*

Mr. Wagih Rizk Matta, a 42 year old photographer was in a car accident in the previous year which caused an elbow joint injury. After taking a picture of the apparition (after many attempts), he was cured from his injury.



Miraculous Healing & Peace

First miracles ...

- Farouk Atwa, a Muslim man, planned on getting his finger amputated because of gangrene (bacterial infection). The day after seeing St. Mary, his finger was completely healed.
- Madina Mohammed Said, a 20 year old Muslim woman had severe shocks in her nerves which caused her to lose her vision and her ability to speak. After visiting St. Mary in Zeitoun, she received her vision and proclaimed: "I see the apparition of the Blessed Virgin!"

From stone-throwing to offering praise ...

- A leader of the Muslims would throw rocks at pilgrims going to see St. Mary. In a dream, two angels told him to stop and draw crosses on his house. He drew more than 200 crosses on his door.

Witnesses gathered

“We had to stand straight as a statue with our arms at our sides, hardly able to breathe and were pushed forward or backward by the waves of the crowd.”

“It was an experience that enveloped me and left me completely empty. Being human ... I can never justify or explain its beauty in words or in actions, but only attempt to utter praises to God for the rest of my life, if He wills.”

From Pearl Zaki's
“Our Lady's Mother Visits Egypt”



On May 5, 1968, one month after the beginning of the visits of our Holy Virgin Mother, His Holiness, Kyrollos, VI, issued THE PAPAL STATEMENT authenticating that this was truly the Virgin Mother Mary, MOTHER OF GOD. He most firmly believed our Holy Mother came because she had found refuge in Egypt before with her Son, JESUS CHRIST, and Joseph.

The church of St. Mary at Zeitun is located very near the route of the Holy Family when they fled from Herod and travelled through Egypt. Along this route, according to tradition, there are today about 14 shrines commemorating this flight and many faithful have received comfort and graces upon visiting these holy places.

The PAPAL COMMITTEE received witness accounts and official statements from many persons: Father Constantine the Pastor of St. Mary Church, The Gouvernement Delegation, Moslem witnesses, Chrisitans of all different denominations and most of the Coptic Church Hierarchy. All had witnessed the Virgin Mary on one or more of her visits during those days.

In 1974 Reverend Father Xavier Eid, pastor of St. Mary of Peace Catholic Church, Garden City, Cairo told me:

"The message of Zeitun is valuable for the whole world. Egypt was in need of care and help from God in very difficult times. It serves as a confirmation to people of Egypt who are very, very religious. It has helped the Coptic Orthodox Church to be better known throughout the world, to correct mis-understandings about it. The Coptic Orthodox Church has kept sight of certain values in worship--the piety of the Desert Fathers--prayer, study of Scripture and fasting, this latter at a time when fasting has gone out of vogue in the western world. Copts fast as many as 200 days in the year. All of these practices now will be better known in the world. One of the means chosen by providence, I think, is that the apparitions of Virgin Mary has brought people to Egypt from all over the world and this gives others the opportunity to know the Coptic people."

Recent Documented Marian Apparitions in Egypt

- **1968** in [Zeitoun](#)
(seen by millions)
- **1982** in [Edfu](#)
(seen by many)
- **1986** in [Shoubra](#)
(seen by many)
- **2000** in [Assiut](#)
(seen by millions)
- **2009** in [Warrag el-Hadar](#)
(seen by 200,000 Christians & Muslims)
- More information available at:

www.miraclehunter.com/marian_apparitions/approved_apparitions/#zeitun



The Day the Mountain Moved

- **Around 975 AD**
- The Caliph (Egyptian ruler at the time) decreed to wipe out the Coptic Christians unless they can prove the Bible verse that says that faith can move mountains!
- **Saint Mary's intercession**
- **Saint Simon the Tanner's prayers**
- **The leadership of Pope Abraam, the 42nd Patriarch of Alexandria**
- **After a 3-day fast, and calling upon the Lord to Have Mercy**
- **The Mokattam Mountain in Cairo moved 3km**
- Read more at: http://www.samaanchurch.com/en/miracle_en.php



Optional (29 minute video) Homework 😊

*Documentary on the Moving the Mokattam Mountain Miracle:
“Mountain-Moving Faith in Cairo!” by Christine & Peter Darg*

- <https://vimeo.com/11186796>

