

Coptic Orthodox Patriarchate Archangel Michael Church Howell, NJ



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Volume1

Issue 1

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The Meaning of Salvation

H.H. Pope .Shenuda III



The Birth of Our Lord was the First Step Towards Knowing the Meaning of Salvation

When Adam and Eve sinned against the infinite and limitless Almighty, their act of disobedience against God became limitless, and they became severely indebted to the Almighty, but after they disobeyed God and were exiled from the Paradise of happiness and joy, He promised man that from his offspring, there shall come One who would bruise Satan's head (Genesis 3:15).

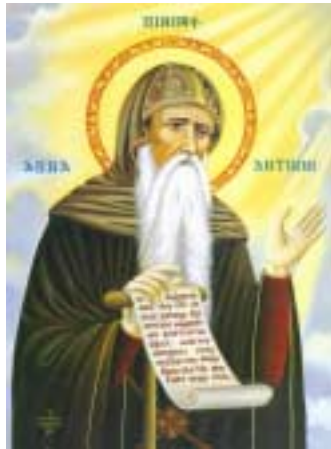
Regardless of how much man has offered, he was and still is limited, and therefore, all that he has offered, and still offers, is limited. Since God knew that, He had to send His Word to take flesh, and become man. As a sinless God Incarnate, He also has an important requirement, and that is, an unlimited nature.

As He is divine in nature, *'His Divinity parted not from His Humanity, neither for an instant, nor a twinkle of an eye.'* He was given on our behalf on the cross, as a sinless, perfect, unlimited and divine Sacrifice, and thus fulfilled the requirements of the sacrifice which the Divine Justice of God had awaited for many years, paying our debt in full as He cried on the Cross saying, "It Is Finished (It



And the angel said to them, "Have no fear, for behold I announce to you good news of great joy that will be for all the people for today there was born for you in the town of David, a Savior, who is Christ the Lord, and this is a token for you: You will find the baby wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of heavenly hosts, praising God and saying,.

"Glory to God in the Highest, Peace on Earth and Good Will toward Men"
(Luke 2:10-14)



St. Anthony

St. Anthony is considered the father of all monks and one ruler of Christian Monasticism.

He was born at about the year 250 A.D. in a city in upper Egypt called Kamen-El -Aroos, city of Beniswef. His father died before he reached the age of twenty. He heard the deacon in the Church reading this verse of the Bible: "If thou wilt be perfect go and sell what thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven" (Matt.19:21). So, he distributed all his wealth among the poor and left to the desert starting his monastical life, to where it is today near the coast of the Red sea. People started visiting him and asking him for prayers and blessings. A certain king, from a foreign land, asked him, by means of messengers to come and heal his sick son. The messengers brought gifts to St. Anthony but he did not accept them and decided not to go to that foreign land. St. Anthony prayed the same day and by the power of Jesus Christ lifting him upon a cloud, he went into that foreign land where he was invited to eat at a Minister's house. That minister had a pig whose youngsters were blind and limb, St. Anthony healed them.

The king had heard of this and invited St. Anthony to his house to heal his son.

He went there, healed the son and then returned to the monastery.

The following day, the messengers still being at the monastery, were unaware of St. Anthony's trip and asked him to accompany them to heal the King's son. So St. Anthony asked them to return back and he will follow later. After several days of a long trip they heard about the healing of that son and thought that it was St. Anthony after they reached the King's palace but he didn't tell them so that he may avoid falling into temptation. The messengers praised God for what they had witnessed.

St. Anthony passed away in the year 356 A.D. after a life full of good deeds and valuable spiritual experience. We celebrate his departure on the 30th of January (Jan.31 in a leap year - 22 Toubas of the Coptic calendar) every year.

The blessing Of our blessed St. Anthony be with us. Amen.

(Continued on page 2) (Continued from cover page)

Is paid in full .. the human race is free again). " Satan now has no power over us, since God gave us the authority to trample on serpents, scorpions and every power of the enemy, through the grace and redemption of His Only-Begotten Son, Jesus Christ.

God taught us the '*ways of Salvation,*' as is said in the Divine Liturgy, paving the way for us to paradise, as a step to enjoy His Kingdom eternally, after His Second Coming which shall be to judge the living and dead, each according to His deeds.

Salvation In The Orthodox Concept.

There are Four essential conditions for salvation, namely: Faith, Baptism, other church sacraments that are required for salvation, and good works.

Archangel Michael Coptic Orthodox Church Wishes You all a Happy New Year and a Very Merry Christmas


Church Activities


1) St. Paul's Teachers Prep Class is preparing for a skating trip to be announced, for further information please contact Sam Girguess 462-8196


2) A Musical Church Band is in its early stages of development and is searching for talented youth. If interested contact Mrs. Laura Michael 363-2261

3) The Church Fund Raising Committee is selling a variety of Egyptian groceries. To place an order please contact Mrs. Randa Michael 905-0878

Social News

 The Church Congratulates Karam and Jenny Tadros for their baby Sarah and also Maged and Niveen Ayad for their baby Mareena. We wish them all the best of happiness and health.

The Church offers its condolences to Mr.  and Mrs. Michael and Marie Guirguis for the loss of Mrs. Marie Guirguis' Father, May the Lord repose his soul.


“Please do pray to the Lord that He may heal the sick and repose the souls of those who have passed away among us”

The Church Bulletin Committee welcomes your participation in the form of articles, reviews, news, or comments. Please contact Fr. Antonious by fax at 821-1512 .

In next Month's issue:

“Ask the Priest” by Ihab Girguess
“Know Your Church” by John Sharobiem
“The Saint of the Month” by Joseph Michael
“Games” by Sam Girguess

Church Services

January, 2000

Saturday January 1

-4:00 AM-6:00 AM, Divine Liturgy

Thursday January, 6

-7:00 PM-12:00 AM; Christmas Divine Liturgy

Saturday January, 8

- 8:30 AM-11:30 AM, Divine Liturgy

-11:30 AM-12:30 PM Christmas Party

Friday January, 14

-7:30 PM-8:30 PM; Hymns Lesson

-8:30 PM-8:45 PM; Prayer Meeting

-8:45 PM-9:30 PM; Bible Study

Saturday January, 15

- 8:30 AM-11:30 AM; Divine Liturgy

-11:30 PM-1:00 PM; Sunday School & Youth group meeting

Wednesday January 19

-7:00 PM-12:00 AM; Epiphany Divine Liturgy

Friday January, 21

-7:30 PM-8:30 PM; Hymns Lesson

-8:30 PM-8:45 PM; Prayer Meeting

-8:45 PM-9:30 PM; Bible Study

Saturday January, 22

- 8:30M-11:30 AM, Divine Liturgy

-11:30;PM-1:30 PM; Sunday School & Youth group meeting

Friday January, 28

-7:30 PM-8:30 PM; Hymns Lesson

-8:30 PM-8:45 PM; Prayer Meeting

-8:45 PM-9:30 PM; Bible Study

Saturday January, 29

- 8:30 AM-11:30 AM, Divine Liturgy

-11:30 PM-1:00 PM; Sunday School & Youth group meeting

COPTIC FEASTS

January 7 ----- Nativity

January 15 ----- Circumcision Feast

January 20 ----- The Epiphany

January 22 ----- Wedding at Cana of Galilee

January 31 ----- St. Anthony's Feast