

“Whoever gives one of these little ones only a cup of water... he shall by no means lose his reward”
 (Matt. 10:42)



This rich man, feasted in luxury, looked at his fellow-man, poor Lazarus, hungry and in pain, and did nothing about it. Such is the scene in this world nowadays. (Luke 16:19-31)

TREASURES IN HEAVEN

In the chances and changes of life, one may be wealthy today, and a pauper tomorrow; and it is a folly to set one's hopes on what can so easily be lost..... As our Lord Jesus Christ says: “Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break and steal.” (Matt. 6:19,20) St. Paul, as well, commands the rich in this present age, “... *not to be* haughty, nor to trust in the uncertain riches ... *but to be* rich in good works, ready to give, willing to share, storing up for themselves a good foundation for the time to come.”

(1Tim. 6:17-19)

A Jewish Outlook



This story was told by A Rabbi: A man called Monobaz had inherited a great wealth. Being a good, kind and generous man, he gave away all his wealth to the poor in time of famine. His brothers came to him and said: “Your fathers laid up treasure and added it to the treasure they had inherited from their fathers but you have dispersed yours and theirs.” He said to them: “My fathers laid up treasure below, but I have laid it up above. My fathers gathered treasures in this world, but I have laid up treasure for the world to come.”

A Christian Outlook



Our Christian ethics teach us that wealth is not a sin, but it is a great responsibility. Wealthy

BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO HAVE MERCY. WHO GIVE TO THE POOR AND FAST AND PRAY. THE HOLY SPIRIT WILL FILL THEIR HEARTS. THE SON WILL SHOW THEM MERCY ON JUDGEMENT DAY.

(A Great Lent Hymn)

Christians are told to use their wealth wisely and to help the needy and the poor. Both Christian and Jewish views assure us that every time we could give and opt not to, we lessen the wealth laid up for us in the world to come. On the other hand, every time we give, we increase the riches laid up for us when this life comes to an end, as it is said: “*What I kept; I lost, what I gave; I have.*”



Treasures of the Church

The early church always cared for the poor, the sick, the helpless and the neglected. During the times of persecutions in Rome, the Roman authorities broke into a church to take the treasures which they believed the Christians had. The Roman prefect commanded a deacon called Laurantius to show him the treasures. Laurantius pointed at the widows, orphans who were being fed, the sick who were being nursed, the poor whom they cared for and said: “These are the treasures of the church.”



An Insight

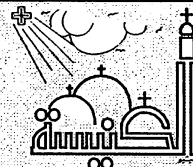
When a person dies, neither gold nor silver accompany him, but only his good deeds. The only thing he can take out of this world into the world beyond is himself; and the finer self he presents, the greater in heaven, his treasure will be.

اعرفوا كنيسةكم KNOW YOUR CHURCH

The Divine Liturgy

"A fountain of water springing into everlasting life"

- 17 -



The purpose of this series is to familiarize the readers with the Divine Liturgy that they can participate more in it, enjoy it, and spiritually benefit of it.

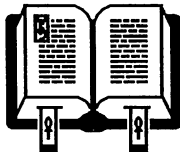
The Liturgy of the Word

The last thing we talked about was the "The Trisagion" This is followed by;

The Litany of The Gospel

Introduction

When Adam and Eve sinned, they deserved to die, but because of God's great Love and the abundance of His mercy, He arranged for their salvation by promising that her "seeds will bruise the serpent's head" (Gen. 3:15). This gave the human beings hope to free themselves from the shackles of Satan. In the Old Testament we read a lot about what the righteous men of God, like David and Isaiah, said to express their



yearning to the promised coming of the Savior and how God revealed to them certain matters, which ensure His Coming. Those righteous men wanted to see that Savior in person and to listen to His words, but they could not.

When the time came, God sent His Son in the flesh visible and palpable. To this, St. John, gave witness saying: "The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth; we have beheld his glory...." (John 1:14). His disciples and apostles having seen Him with their own eyes and heard Him with their own ears, had better luck than those righteous men who preceded them. His words of blessing, as mentioned in the Gospel according to St. Matthew 13:16, 17, form the first part of the "Litany of the Gospel"

The First Part

Abouna prays the first part of the litany, while standing in front of the sanctuary facing East and censing, behind him stands a deacon carrying the Gospel and the cross: "O Master and Lord Jesus Christ our God, who said to His saintly and honored Disciples and His pure Apostles; Many prophets and righteous persons have wished to see what you see and have not seen and to hear what you hear and have not heard. But as for you blessed are your eyes for they see and your ears for they hear." Then Abouna ends this prayer by pleading to God saying: "May we be worthy of hearing and acting according to your Holy Gospel through the petitions of Your Saints".

After that, the deacon standing behind Abouna addresses the people saying: "Pray for the holy Gospel". And the people respond saying: "Lord have mercy"

When we hear the deacon's call, we should pray that God's words may touch the hearts of everybody who hears them. We should ask, as well, that God may have mercy upon those who are sitting in the dark shadows of death so that the light of the Holy Gospel may shine upon them, the Good News reaches them and that every one may know God and all the kingdoms of the world will submit to His Will.

The Second Part

In this part, Abouna asks God to remember all those who have asked him to pray for them, particularly those who are sick to be cured and for the dead to repose their souls. Abouna ends "The Litany of the Gospel" by offering glory and honor and worship to the Holy Trinity.

An Insight

The Litany of the Gospel is a powerful and incisive prayer, if we listen attentively to it we will not be tempted by the evil thoughts which distract us during the worship. This way we can enjoy being in the presence of God and listen to His Holy Gospel.

CHURCH BUILDING PROJECT

Construction Progress Of The Church Building

We thank our Lord Jesus Christ for the moderate weather which has permitted the contractors to advance the site work. The forms are set up to permit pouring the concrete of the side basement walls and hence the church outline becoming very visible. Many of the sub-contractors are being firmed up and getting ready to start when the weather permits.

We are discussing many construction details during the month of February in anticipation of a concentrated effort in the Spring in order to be able to meet the completion schedule. The blessing and prayers of Saint Virgin Mary the mother of God may guide every effort in this project.



مشروع بناء الكنيسة

تقدم أعمال التشييد بمبنى الكنيسة

شكراً للرب من أجل الأحوال الجوية المعتدلة هذا الشتاء والتي مكنت المكارول من مواصلة العمل بالموقع، فقد اتم عمل الشدات اللازمة توطئة لسب الخرسانة الخاصة بالحوائط الجانبية للدور السفلي، وبذلك يتحدد المحيط الخارجي لبني الكنيسة ويصبح شكلها الخارجي منظوراً. وقد تم ايضا التعاقد مع عديد من مقاولي الباطن حتى يمكنهم البدء في تنفيذ الاعمال التخصصية عندما تسمح الاحوال الجوية بذلك.

هذا وقد قمنا، خلال شهر فبراير الماضي بمناقشة العديد من التفاصيل الانشائية وذلك توطئة لبدء مجهود مكثف خلال فصل الربيع حتى يمكن ببركة صلوات والدة الاله القديسة مريم العذراء، اتمام العملية وفقاً للجدول الزمني المخطط.....
نعوذ ونقول صلوا بجرارة والرب سوف يتمجد.

اجتماعيات

تومنة الكنيسة:

- ✦ السيد هاني عوض وزوجته السيدة ايمان بعماد مولودهما دانيال.
- ✦ دكتور اشرف اسكندر وزوجته السيدة امانى بعماد مولودهما كيرلس.
- ✦ السيد عماد اسحق وزوجته السيدة نيقين بمولودتهما كرستين.
- ✦ السيد رءوف، مان وزوجته السيدة سلوى بعماد مولودهما انطونيوس.