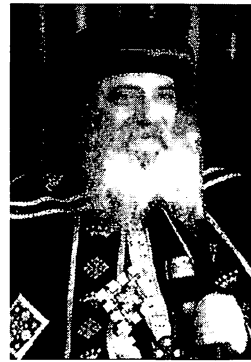
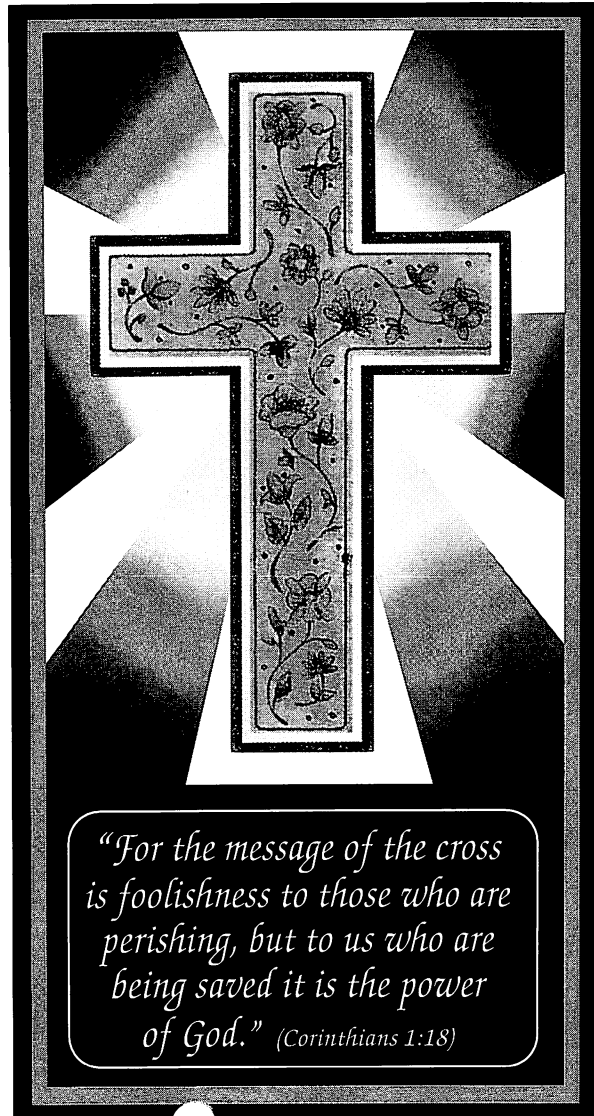




2100 W. Frontage Rd. • Palatine, IL. 60067


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His Holiness writes...



The Church celebrates the feast of the Cross twice every year, on March 19th and September 27th. On the feast of the Cross we remember many vital matters: spiritual, theological, doctrinal and symbolic.

 The
Glorious
Feast
of
the
Cross

1. We remember the love with which Christ loved us - to the point where He died for our sake. We remember His words, "Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends." Sacrifice is the greatest sign of love, and self-sacrifice is the summit of sacrifice.

2. In the Cross we also remember Redemption. A soul that dies for another soul, this is the principle of atonement. We were under the judgement of death, then came He who would die for us in order for us to live. His death on the Cross can be described as follows, "All we like sheep have gone astray; We have turned, every one, to his own way; And the Lord has laid on Him the iniquity of us all" (Isaiah 53:6).

3. In the cross we remember endurance. The great sufferings that our Master endured, whether the sufferings of the flesh of which He said, "They pierced My hands and My feet; I can count all My bones", (Psalms 22:16,17) or the sufferings of dishonor, He endured happily for our sake; that is, whilst He was happy with our salvation. Hence, the Apostle said about Him, "...who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame..." (Hebrews 12:2) How great then is this endurance if it is with joy?! This is a lesson for us.

4. In the Cross we remember forgiveness; how our sins were forgiven on the Cross and how the Master spoke to the Heavenly Father whilst on the Cross saying, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do" (Luke 23:34).

5. In making the sign of the Cross we remember the Holy Trinity, the One God. This is because we make the sign of the cross whilst saying, In the Name of the Father, the Son and he Holy Spirit One God; Amen'. Hence the Cross carries a theological meaning.

6. In the Cross we remember the Incarnation and its aim. We remember whilst making the sign of the cross how the Lord came down from heaven to earth to transfer us from the left to the right, from darkness to light and from death to life.

7. In the Cross we remember our sins. Our sins that He carried on the Cross and for which He was incarnated and crucified. With this remembrance we are humbled and our souls are contrite, and we are thankful for the price which He paid for our sakes, "For you were bought at a price" (1 Corinthians 6: 20).

8. In the cross we remember Divine justice; that forgiveness was not on account of justice, but Divine Justice fulfilled its right on the Cross. Therefore, we must not underestimate .in, which has such a price.

9. When we remember the Cross, we remember the great power that defeated the devil. All of the devil's effort to destroy mankind was completely lost on the Cross with the redemption which the Lord offered. Hence, the devil is extremely terrified of the Cross. On the other hand, we find in it safety and protection, that is why we remember the Apostle's words, "But God forbid that I should glory except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world" (Galatians 6:14).

10. In the remembrance of the Cross, we remember how we should be crucified with Him. As the Apostle said, "I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me" (Galatians 2:20). We also remember the Lord Jesus Christ saying, "Whoever desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me" (Mark 8:34).

CHURCH NEWS

A WORD OF GRATITUDE

The Priest, the board of Deacons, and the congregation, of St. Mary Church offer their thanks to Father Rowais Awadallah, of St. Mary and St. Antonios in Milwaukee, Wisconsin for holding the services in the church when Father Isaac was in Egypt. We ask the Lord to support and reward him with the heavenly recompense.

September 1st., 1997



When Father Isaac was in Egypt, he was blessed by visiting H.H. Pope Shenouda III. He submitted a report about the church and expressed the need for a new board of Deacons. Fr. Isaac also, invited H.H. to visit Chicago. We are looking forward to this apostolic visit which will be a realization of our dream.

Congratulations to

*Asbraf and Amany Iskandar for the baptism of their son Andrew.
Hany and Iman Mesiba for the baptism of their son John.
John and Eva Agaiby for the baptism of their daughter Demyana.
May the Lord bless the new born to grow in grace and stature before God and men.*

In celebration of the 1st anniversary of the building of St. Mary Church we kindly request the pleasure of your company at a benefit dinner:

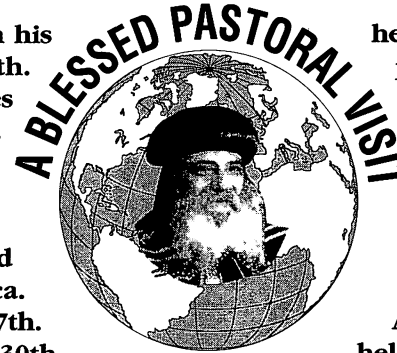
*Sunday, November 23rd., 1997.
5:00 P.M.*

*Hyatt Regency, Woodfield,
1200 East Golf Rd., Schaumburg
Adults \$35 Children \$25*

H.H. Pope Shenouda III began his pastoral trip on September 12th. 1997, to visit the Coptic Churches in Europe, U.S.A. and Canada. H.H. first went to London to open the first Coptic Theological Seminary there.

On September 16th., H.H. started his visit to Canada and America. The visit lasted till September 27th. In Montreal H.H. attended the 30th. anniversary of St. Mark Church. In Toronto H.H. blessed the new land bought by St. George church.

On September 24th. H.H. visited Cleveland, Ohio where he held a general assembly for the churches of the Midwest. On September 25th.,



he headed a seminar for the Coptic priests in the region. The topic was "Teaching and Preaching", which is the everlasting message of the church everywhere. H. H. also answered their questions and granted them his apostolic blessings.

On September 27th., H.H. left America to Germany where he held a seminar for the Coptic priests in Europe. H.H. ended his blessed visit on Tuesday September 30th. and went back to the homeland.

We offer our thanks and gratitude to H.H. Pope Shenouda III, may the Lord protect and keep him as a shepherd for his flock everywhere.

MOTHER TERESA

"The Slum Sister' they call me, and I am glad to be just that for His love and glory."



On September 5th., Mother Teresa, the Roman Catholic nun, whose name became synonymous with charity for her work with "the poorest of the poor" passed away, at her convent in Calcutta. She was 86.

Mother Teresa created a global charity to care for the human castoffs, the world wanted to forget. For 50 years she comforted the destitute dying in gutters, sheltered infants abandoned in trash heaps, soothed the putrid ulcers of lepers and gave succor to the insane. All this was accomplished through "the missionaries of charity" which she had established in particularly every city and town in India and in over 100 other countries all over the world.

Besides, wherever people needed help, and comfort Mother Teresa was there: Among the hungry in Ethiopia, the radiation victims at chernobyl, the rubble of America's earthquake, in other squalid townships of South Africa.

In 1979, for her self sacrifice to humanitarian work she was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize amounting to

\$192,000. Accepting the Nobel in the name of the "unwanted, unloved and uncared for" she wore the \$1.00 sari that she had adopted to identify herself with the poor when she founded "Missionaries of charity". She always used to say "For love of Thee, I want to live and die 'a Missionary of charity'".

We are called to be as good and loving as Mother Teresa was, she was as human as the rest of us... She was a light shining in a corrupted dark world ..., a light that death cannot distinguish.



Condolences to:

† *Dr. Kamal Ibrahim*, for the passing away of his mother the late *Aziza Makary*.

May the Lord repose her soul and console her grieving family.

