



The Life of a Young Deacon

Volume 1, Issue 1

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“Likewise deacons must be reverent, not double-tongued, not given to much wine, not greedy for money, holding the mystery of the faith with a pure conscience. But let these also first be tested; then let them serve as deacons, being found blameless.”

(1 Timothy 3:8-10)

The deacon must be a good example to the rest of the congregation in the way he presents himself and behaves at all times. Being a deacon does not mean just chanting hymns, but leading the whole congregation to a closer relationship with God through participating in the Holy Liturgy and the rest of the Church Mysteries.

Welcome!

Welcome to the first issue of The Life of a Young Deacon, a newsletter designed specifically for the young generation of deacons to keep them up to date with the Coptic Orthodox Church calendar of current feasts, fasts, seasons, hymns, news and anything else of interest.

This newsletter is written by the deacons for the deacons, so if there is anything you would like to add, ask about or contribute, please do so by emailing deacon@copticmail.com

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Saint Mary's Fast

Misra 1-15, 1725 AM

August 7-21, 2009 AD

Although brief, Saint Mary's Fast provides an opportunity to strive for one of the many virtues of our Lady the Virgin Saint Mary. The Coptic Orthodox Church teaches that we do not worship anyone except God alone, however we ask for the intercessions and prayers of the Saints on our behalf and we learn many virtues from the lives of the Saints as well as emulating their close relationship with our Lord.

From just one simple statement made by Saint Mary we can learn the virtues of obedience and faith in God: “Behold the maidservant of the Lord! Let it be to me according to your word.” (Luke 1:38)

During the Fast of Saint Mary, there are some additional hymns in the annual Liturgy, Vespers (evening raising of incense) and Matins (early morning raising of incense) prayers in honour of the Theotokos (Mother of God).

On the following pages, the gospel responses for Vespers, Matins and the Holy Liturgy are found in both Coptic and English.

In addition to the Gospel Responses, the first verse of the Hymn of Intercessions can be chanted in its long tune and so too can the Acts Response “Hail to you O Mary...”

During The Prayer of Reconciliation, the Adam Aspasmos “Rejoice O Mary...” is chanted.



Hymns for Saint Mary's Fast – Vespers and Matins

Vespers Gospel Response

Δοῦμεν ἡμῶν βίταιοι : ἀρεβίσι ἡθο
ἕοτερων τῆρον : χε ἡθο πε ἡψουωον
ἡνιπαρθενος : ἰθεὸτοκος Ἐαριά.

[Aoumeesh eneshimi chitaoi : arechisi entho ehoteroa-ou teerou : je entho pe epshoushou enniparthenos : titheotokos Maria.]

Many women were honoured, yet you exceeded them all, for you are the pride of virgins, the Theotokos (Mother of God) Mary.

Ἀριπρεσβεῖν ἐζρηι ἐχων : ὦ τενβοῖς ἡνηβ
τῆρεν ἰθεὸτοκος : Ἐαριά ἡμαγ ἡΠενσωτηρ :
ἡτεψχα νεννοβι ναν ἐβολ.

[Ariepresvevin e-ehreei egoan : Oa tenchois enneeb teeren titheotokos : Maria ethmav emPensoateer : entefka nennovi nan evol.]

Intercede on our behalf, O Lady of us all the Theotokos, Saint Mary the mother of our Saviour, that He may forgive us our sins.

Χε ἕσμαροωτ ἡχε Φιωτ νεμ Πωηρι : νεμ
Πιπνευμα Ἐθογαν : ἰτριάς ετχηκ ἐβολ :
τενοωωτ ἡμος τενῆωον νας.

[Ge efesmarou-oat enje Efioat nem Epsheeri : nem Piepnevma Ethowab : Tietrias etjeek evol : tenou-oasht emmos tentioa-ou nas.]

Blessed is the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, the Perfect Trinity; we worship Him and glorify Him.

Matins Gospel Response

Ἡιορωον τῆρον ἡτε ἡκαζι : σεμοωι δεν
πεορωινη : οροζ νιἕθνος δεν πεφίρι : ὦἘαριά
ἡμαγ ἡΦῖ.

[Niouroa-ou teerou ente epkahi : semoshi khien peouoini : owoh niethnos khien pefiri : O Maria ethmav emEfnouti.]

All the kings of the earth, walk in your light, and the Gentiles in your light rays, O Mary the Mother of God.

Ἀριπρεσβεῖν ἐζρηι ἐχων : ὦ τενβοῖς ἡνηβ
τῆρεν ἰθεὸτοκος : Ἐαριά ἡμαγ ἡΠενσωτηρ :
ἡτεψχα νεννοβι ναν ἐβολ.

[Ariepresvevin e-ehreei egoan : Oa tenchois enneeb teeren titheotokos : Maria ethmav emPensoateer : entefka nennovi nan evol.]

Intercede on our behalf, O Lady of us all the Theotokos, Saint Mary the mother of our Saviour, that He may forgive us our sins.

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Πιπνευμα Ἐθογαν : ἰτριάς ετχηκ ἐβολ :
τενοωωτ ἡμος τενῆωον νας.

[Ge efesmarou-oat enje Efioat nem Epsheeri : nem Piepnevma Ethowab : Tietrias etjeek evol : tenou-oasht emmos tentioa-ou nas.]

Blessed is the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, the Perfect Trinity; we worship Him and glorify Him.

Hymns for Saint Mary's Fast – Holy Liturgy

Hymn of Intercessions

ΘΙΤΕΝ ΝΙΠΡΕΒΙΑ : ΝΤΕ †ΘΕΟΤΟΚΟΣ ΕΘΥ ΜΑΡΙΑ :
ΠΟΣ ΑΡΙΘΜΟΤ ΝΑΝ ΞΠΙΧΩ ΕΒΟΛ ΝΤΕ ΝΕΝΝΟΒΙ.

[Hiten niepresvia : ente titheotokos ethowab Maria :
Erchois ariehmot nan empikoa evol ente nennovi.]

Through the intercessions of the Theotokos
Saint Mary, O Lord, grant us the forgiveness
of our sins.

Acts Response

ΧΕΡΕ ΝΕ ΜΑΡΙΑ : †ΒΡΟΜΠΙ ΕΘΝΕΣΩΣ :
ΘΗΕΤΑΣΜΙΣΙ ΝΑΝ : ΞΦ† ΠΙΛΟΣΟΣ.

[Shere ne Maria : tiechrompi ethnesoas : thee-etasmisi
nan : emEfnouti Piloghos.]

Hail to you O Mary, the beautiful dove, who,
for us, has given birth, to God the Word.

ΚΣΜΑΡΩΟΥΤ ΑΛΗΘΩΣ : ΝΕΜ ΠΕΚΙΩΤ ΝΑΓΑΘΟΣ
: ΝΕΜ ΠΙΠΝΕΥΜΑ ΕΘΥ : ΧΕ (ΑΚΙ)* ΑΚΣΩ† ΞΜΟΝ.
ΝΑΙ ΝΑΝ.

[Ekesmaroa-out aleethoas : nem Pekioat enAghathos :
nem Piepnevma Ethowab : Je (aki)* aksoati emmon.
Nai nan.]

Blessed are You in truth, with Your Good
Father, and the Holy Spirit, for You [have
come]* and saved us. Have mercy upon us.

* On Sundays during Saint Mary's Fast, "have
come" [ΑΚΙ] is replaced with "have risen"

[ΑΚΤΩΝΚ] in commemoration of the Lord's
resurrection on Sunday.

Liturgy Gospel Response

ΤΕΝΒΙΣΙ ΞΜΟ ΔΕΝ ΟΥΕΜΠΣΑ : ΝΕΜ ΕΛΙΣΑΒΕΤ
ΤΕΣΥΣΤΕΝΗΣ : ΧΕ ΕΤΣΜΑΡΩΟΥΤ ΝΘΟ ΔΕΝ
ΝΙΖΙΟΜΙ : ΨΣΜΑΡΩΟΥΤ ΝΧΕ ΠΟΥΤΑΔ ΝΤΕ
ΤΕΝΕΣΙ.

[Tenechisi emmo khen ouemepsha : nem Elisabet
tesingenees : je etesmaroa-out entho khen nihiomi :
efesmaroa-out enje epoutah ente teneji.]

We exalt you worthily, with Elizabeth your
relative, saying "Blessed are you among
women, and blessed is the Fruit of your
womb."

ΑΡΙΠΡΕΣΒΕΥΙΝ ΕΞΡΗΙ ΕΧΩΝ : Ω ΤΕΝΒΟΙΣ ΝΗΝΒ
ΤΗΡΕΝ †ΘΕΟΤΟΚΟΣ : ΜΑΡΙΑ ΘΜΑΥ ΞΠΕΝΣΩΤΗΡ :
ΝΤΕΥΧΑ ΝΕΝΝΟΒΙ ΝΑΝ ΕΒΟΛ.

[Ariepresvevin e-ehreei egoan : Oa tenchois enneeb
teeren titheotokos : Maria ethmav emPensoateer :
entefka nennovi nan evol.]

Intercede on our behalf, O Lady of us all the
Theotokos, Saint Mary the mother of our
Saviour, that He may forgive us our sins.

ΧΕ ΨΣΜΑΡΟΥΤ ΝΧΕ ΦΙΩΤ ΝΕΜ ΠΩΗΡΙ : ΝΕΜ
ΠΙΠΝΕΥΜΑ ΕΘΟΥΑΒ : †ΤΡΙΑΣ ΕΤΧΗΚ ΕΒΟΛ :
ΤΕΝΟΥΩΟΥΤ ΞΜΟΣ ΤΕΝ†ΩΟΥ ΝΑΣ.

[Ge efesmarou-oat enje Efioat nem Epsheeri : nem
Piepnevma Ethowab : Tietrias etjeek evol : tenou-oasht
emmos tentioa-ou nas.]

Blessed is the Father, the Son, and the Holy
Spirit, the Perfect Trinity; we worship Him and
glorify Him.

Hymns for Saint Mary's Fast – Holy Liturgy

Adam Aspasmos – Rejoice

**Οἴνοϋ ἰμο Μαρῖα : †βωκι οἴνοϋ †μαϋ : κε
φῆετῶεν πεἶμηρ : νιἄγγελοϋ σερωϋ εῖροϋ.**

[Ounof emmo Maria : tivoaki owoh timav : je Fee-
etkhen pe-ameer : niangelos cehoas erof.]

Rejoice O Mary, the handmaiden and mother,
for He who is on your lap, the angels praise
Him.

**Οἴνοϋ Νιχηροβιμ : σεῶτωϋτ ἰμοϋ αξιωϋ :
νεμ Νισεραφιμ : δεν ουμετατμοϋνκ.**

[Owoh Nisherobim : seou-oasht emmof axios : nem
Niserafim : khen oumetatmounk.]

And the Cherubim, worship Him worthily, and
the Seraphim, without ceasing.

**Ἐμμοῖν ἔταν ἠνοϋπαρρηϋια : δατεν Πενοϋ Ιηϋϋ
Πηϋϋ : χωριϋ νετωβη, νεμ νεπρεϋβια : ὦ τενοϋ
ἠνηβ τηρεν †θεῶτοκοϋ.**

[Emmon entan enouparreesia : khaten Penchois
Ieesous Piekhristos : khoaris netoabh nem ne-epresvia
: Oa tenchois enneeb teeren titheotokos.]

We have no boldness, before our Lord Jesus
Christ, apart from your prayers and
intercessions, O Lady of us all the Theotokos.

**Θῖνα ἠτενηωϋ εῖροϋ : νεμ Νιχηροϋβιμ : νεμ
Νισεραφιμ : ενωϋ εῖβολ εηϋω ἰμοϋ.**

[Hina entenhoas erok : nem Nisheroubim : nem
Niserafim : enoash evol engoa emmos.]

That we may praise You, with the Cherubim,
and the Seraphim, proclaiming and saying.

Χε χοϋαβ χοϋαβ χοϋαβ : Ποϋ

**Πιπαντοκρατωϋ : †φε νεμ ἠκαϋι μεϋ εῖβολ :
δεν πεκῶοϋ νεμ πεκταιοϋ.**

[Je ekouab ekouab ekouab : Epchois Pipantokratoar :
ette nem epkahi meh evol : khen pekoe-ou nem
pektaiou.]

“Holy, holy, holy, Lord the Pantocrator
(Almighty), Heaven and Earth are full, of Your
glory and Your honour.

**†εν†ϋο εῖροϋ ὦ †ιοϋ Θεοϋ : εῖρεκ ἄρεϋ
εἶπωνδ ἠπενπατριαρχηϋ : παπα αββα Ξενοϋ†
πιἄρχηῖρεϋϋ : ματαϋροϋ ϋιϋεν πεϋῆρονοϋ.**

[Tentiho erok Oa Eyos Theos : ethrek areh e-epoankh
empenpatriarshees : papa ava Shenouti piarshee-erevs
: matagrof hijen pefethronos.]

We ask You O Son of God, to keep the life of
our Patriarch, Pope Abba Shenouda the high
priest, confirm him upon his throne.

**Νεμ πεϋκεϋϋφηρ ἠλιτοϋργηϋοϋ : πενωτ εῖοϋαβ
ἠλικεοϋ : Αββα Δαηνηλ πιεπισκοποϋ :
ματαϋροϋ ϋιϋεν πεϋῆρονοϋ.**

[Nem pefke-eshfeer enlitourghos : Penioat ethowab
enzikeos : Ava Danieel piepiskopos : matagrof hijen
pefethronos.]

And his partner in the ministry, our holy and
righteous father, Abba Daniel the Bishop,
confirm him upon his throne.

