



El-Keraza Magazine

Editor-in-chief: His Holiness
Pope Shenouda III

Thirty Second Year

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Three Events at the Same Time

Because some newspapers presented this issue in a way that did not reflect the whole truth but harmed us, it became necessary that we explain what happened with accuracy. We did not have the intention to talk in the first place because we leave our matters for God to handle, and He handles them always, and we always have faith in His solutions...

Three events coincided with each other and had an effect that showed in an obvious rage that reached the level of demonstrations gathered in St. Mark Cathedral in Cairo. These three events are:

1. Incidents of Assiout that caused pain:

This pain showed sometimes, and was oppressed other times and finally exploded. And Wattani newspaper talked about it in the opening article on Sunday 28-11-2004 and inside the newspaper. It contained events about the conversion of girls and men from Christianity to Islam and it accused the President of the National Party of Assiout and his helpers of being the ones behind. Added to this the troubles that Copts face in terms of building churches and even in planting trees in the area of Dronka.

And Fr. Abanoub Thabet the responsible in Assiout has submitted a report to HH the Pope about these events.

2. Events in Manqattin Village, Samallout:

HG the Bishop of Samallout presented a report about these events to HH the Pope. In this

report HG mentioned that this village is inhabited by five thousand Christians and they have no place to pray in, to the extent that they hold their funeral prayers in the streets. And they bought a land since 1977 and they tried to build a church but their request was rejected because of security reasons. Then they were allowed to have a limited religious activity in a known Coptic Association like funeral prayers, wedding prayers and Sunday School but the Mayor of the village went against this.

Then serious harassments took place on Friday 3-12-2004 starting 6:30 PM. During which Dr. Reda Morgan's Pharmacy was robbed and then completely burnt, Mr. Thabet Qastour's car was burnt, Mr. Youssef Henein's house that is right next to the association was attacked and Mr. Zakareya Ghattas' Clothes Shop was robbed. Then some grocery shops owned by Mr. Ishaq Tadros and Mr. Girguis Azer were robbed then Dr. Osama Ghali's Pharmacy was robbed.

All this happened and policemen did not make a move

until all the damages were done and afterwards they arrested some of the attackers.

3. The disappearance of the wife of the Priest of Abou El Mattamir and what was said about her conversion to Islam and marriage to a Muslim:

And unfortunately this provocative news was posted in Al Ahras Newspaper on Tuesday 7-12. And this is unreasonable because how can a woman marry two at the same time? For her to marry another man she must get a divorce from her husband first. And this requires a lawsuit in the Personal Status Court in which her Christian husband is first offered to convert to Islam and if he accepts she remain to be his wife. And if he refuses she gets a divorce. And how would they offer conversion to Islam to a Christian Priest?! This is a scandal that had its effect and bad impact all over everywhere.

The most important thing is that this event was "the last straw". And demonstration started.

And here we talk about how events went on.

(Cont'd p.3)



Illustrated Church News

In the Opening Session of the Middle East Council of Churches Meeting

On the main table we see HH Pope Shenouda III surrounded by Their Holiness Mar Aghnadius Hozeim the Patriarch of the Roman Orthodox and Mar Zakka Eiwas the Patriarch of the Syrian Orthodox. And we can also see HE Metropolitan Youhanna Qolta, Fr. Safwat El Baiady who is one of the Council Heads and Mr. Girguis Saleh the Secretary General of the Council.



The Departure of Mr. Said Sonbol

We are sorry for the departure of this great reporter, the noble in his ethics, the strong in his style, and the descent in his behavior...

He left to the other world on the dawn of Friday 3-12. HH the Pope prayed the funeral prayers on his soul in the Grand Cathedral in a solemn funeral that was attended by heads of Press Foundations and thousands of his lovers. And a large number of reverend bishops and priests. HH the Pope gave the consolation word in which he explained the good characteristics that the deceased had.

In one of the Halls of Sheikh Kaftaro Complex, Damascus

We can see in the photo HH the Pope among a group of the Sheikhs of the complex after His Holiness' lecture.

We also can see HE Metropolitan Bishoy, HE Metropolitan Moneib (Of the Lutheran Church in Jerusalem) and Mr. Girguis Saleh.



The Opening Article of P1 (Cont'd)

❖ The priest's wife disappearance problem happened in a contained place which is Abou El Mattamir. And it could have been resolved locally and finalized without letting the rest of the country hear about it. But it was not resolved although HE the Metropolitan of Behera met with HE the Governor who was very understanding. Then joint them the Local Governing Minister and the Security Department... This was on Thursday 2-12.

And when the subject was not resolved on the local level, everyone (Security and the Metropolitan) agreed to take this subject to Cairo. And two buses took off to Cairo with the knowledge of the security department then they were followed by a third bus. They faced obstacles in the way but they finally made it...

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❖ Objection to this situation was moved to Cairo. And news there spread on a much larger scale than it could in Abou El Mattamir. And this was on Friday 3-12.

❖ **On the dawn of Friday the great reporter Mr. Said Sonbol died and his family requested to hold his funeral in the Grand Cathedral in Abbaseya** to honor him and so that HH the Pope can hold the prayers himself on the honorable deceased. And it is not true what was mentioned (to provoke) in one of the newspapers that the place changed to be the Cathedral and that the raging



Some of the fathers of Abou El Mattamir and Behera in the Cathedral

youth were brought from Abou El Mattamir on there funeral time! The funeral was held on Sunday 5-12 and demonstrations started on Friday. And Mr. Said Sonbol's family was the one who requested that the funeral be held in the Grand Cathedral.

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❖ After the funeral, HH the Pope received in his office Dr. Osama El Baz and Dr. Mustafa El Fiqi and explained to them the seriousness of the situation in that the priest's wife is not just an ordinary woman but she is considered as a spiritual mother to Christians in this church. And that what is being said about her conversion to Islam is too provocative to people. And that among the shouts there was the phrase: (They took the priest's wife and tomorrow they will take my wife). And how this indicates how insecure people feel about

their houses and wives. Also HH explained that this subject is not just an individual incident but it has to do with a woman who has a certain specialty that affects the public opinion...

And during this visit there was a phone call between HH the Pope and HE Dr. Nazif the Prime Minister. **And HH the Pope said that there are problems that needs speed in resolving because slowness in resolving them might complicate them and spread them more.**

And when Dr. Osama El Baz went out of the meeting, he himself got to know the demonstrating youths thinking and opinion so that he takes a comprehensive picture about the situation and the public feelings...

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❖ **What increased the tension was the huge police crowd surrounding the Cathedral.**

Some said that there were more than fifty Central Security Forces Cars and police forces among which there were high ranks to the extent that some Copts outside the Cathedral were worried about HH the Pope himself when they saw in the media the Cathedral surrounded by this huge number of policemen. And they called by telephone to assure HH safety.

❖ Policemen acted slowly in solving this issue and it was known that the priest's wife was at their possession. Not only did they not solve it at Abou El Mattamir and not in Cairo before Mr. Said Sonbol's funeral nor after it. This caused the tension to go on without any interference to solve the problem.

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Some of the policemen in front of the Cathedral Doors

❖ And on Sun. 5/12, the Pope traveled to Syria to chair the previously scheduled Middle East Council of Churches which was convened in Damascus. And on his flight back on Tues. evening, HH read the News item published in Al Ahram Newspaper about a Priest's wife having converted to Islam and being married to a Muslim engineer!!

❖ The Pope arrived at the Patriarchate at about 23:00 hrs. And started His communications to resolve the matter so that the Patriarchate would take a chance to sit with the Priest's wife as the Security Officials did for they had plenty of opportunities to contact her, the Islamic Influence did also had plenty of opportunities to contact her and also did her boss at work...

❖ **President Mubarak's reaction was in a cooperative way to resolve the matter in spite of his travel outside the country.** Communication were carried on with Dr. Zakareya Azmy till more than two hours after midnight to set a place where the Priest's wife will come for the Fathers to sit with her... security forces set a condition that it should not be at a Churchly area, nor a convent, nor a house of devotion, nor..., nor....

Finally, it was agreed upon a Villa affiliated to us which is surrounded by a yard and a fence with no objection of the presence of some devoted Sisters with her. She was to be brought to us on Wed. morning. Security forces investigated the place and agreed upon it.

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❖ And on the morning, HG Bishop Youanes contacted the Head of the National Security who said to him that she will be brought to us at that villa between 12:00 and 13:00 hrs, which didn't happen and they said that they sent her for medical examination and that she was on the way.

❖ And the time 14:00 came, then it was 15:00 and 16:00 and nothing took place. The time of the Pope's weekly Sermon approached, it is a meeting which is attended by thousands of the congregation. How would the Pope confront the people? How would He answer the furious angry youth? Would He tell them that the problem had been resolved when it wasn't? Would He tell them that the Priest's wife had been brought to us while she hadn't? And what if some of the intruders sneaked into the meeting and cheered with hostility?!

Finally, at 16:40 HH the Pope left the Papal residence heading to the Monastery. And while in His car after an hour of traveling, and at 17:40 He received a Tel. call that the woman reached the villa!

So what was the point behind delaying things till after the Pope had traveled, as delaying things till Mr. Said Sonbol's Funeral took place?!

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What is left to be said is that the villa to which the Priest's wife reached, was surrounded by almost ten Central Security Police Forces wagons, with a group of supreme Police Force Officers. It was then obvious to the whole neighborhood that there was something unusual going on.

When the woman arrived, she was not completely sober for a period of two days, and then she started to talk...

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One of the Rev Priests injured by the Police attacks, his forehead was stitched and bandaged. He is seen in the photo in pain.



One of those who were injured also by the Police attacks with blood on his face.

After the Pope had left, the Police started attacking the gathering youth, they started beating them and provoking them to react accordingly...

We have the whole situation recorded on photographs and video tapes. They went up the roof of the Botroseya Church; they broke up the roof tiles and hit the gathering youth. One of the Rev Fathers had his forehead injured and had some stitches and another one was also injured with lots of the youths. They then stirred things up by causing injuries to some of them!!

They arrested some youths from the street and presented them to the prosecution Office. They were put into custody for 15 days subject to renewal. And as a major evidence that they are from the street is that the Police didn't enter the Patriarchate's yard to arrest anyone, as it is an inviolable area, so all the youth who are in custody were present in the street.

I will give an example: a Youngman who came to attend the Pope's meeting as usual on every Wed. evening, he was told that the meeting was canceled as the Pope traveled, so he went out to return home, they then arrested him and became one of those who are in custody though he had nothing to do with the gathering of people. There are many more examples. Some of them are students in universities who have forthcoming exams, they are in custody and their educational life is at risk.

From our side, we reported to the Attorney General about our sons' injuries, and the damages which occurred at the Patriarchate, all that is illustrated with photos and documents. The Attorney General promised to set the students free.

We are inquiring, why such raising up of events by Police forces takes place? Who benefits from all that? Is this a way to resolve a

situation or to complicate it?!

And what made things worse is some Newspapers which published news items in a way which agitates the situation and on the other hand affects the National Unity. Though those who wrote didn't investigate the matter from both sides, they didn't take into consideration the reactions and the influence of what they write on the public opinion and its consequences...

* * *

No one wrote about the incidences in Samalut in a way which makes the Copts feel that there is someone who feels what they are in and is affected by the assaults they were subject to and who take their feelings into consideration...

No one wrote defending the incidences in Assuit or the complaints by Copts, only one of the University Professors in Assuit did so in the Watany Newspaper.

We are brothers to you in this country, and we expected you'd be there beside us in our pain, not attacking...

As for the Priest's wife, she is still Christian. She uttered aloud the Orthodox Creed, she prayed with the Rev. Fathers and the devoted Sisters, she sang the Praise and prayed the Prime and finally she is back to us (look p. 6). That is because she was away from the Security force pressure and from the religious influence which is against her faith.

We still have the incidences of setting fires, robbery and assaults in one of the villages in Samalut, in which law suits are filed seeking legal remedy.

And we still have the incidences in Assuit and the sufferings of the Copts with no interference of anyone to solve their problems.

Anyway, the story hasn't finished yet, and we are waiting for resolutions.

Miscellaneous News... Miscellaneous News...

Press Conference with the Rev Fathers

HG Bishop Bakhumious, HE Metropolitan Bishoy and HG Bishop Mousa met with some of the Newspapers Representatives to declare the situation and to answer their questions. Details of this meeting have been broadcasted and they presented to HH the Pope an audio copy of it

Some Declarations by Rev. Fathers

The Rev. Priests of Cairo issued a declaration after their meeting with HH the Pope.

Also the Priests of Shubra Al Kheima issued another declaration in their meeting with their Bishop HG Bishop Markos.

And the Rev. Priests of Assuit issued another declaration about the incidences there which they've sent to HH the Pope.

HH also received declarations from many Rev. Bishops...

During the Pope's Meeting with the Rev. Priests of Cairo and some Bishops.



Church's News



HH the Pope in the Monastery

HH the Pope arrived at the monastery at around 6:30PM on Wednesday 8-12 where a large number of reverend bishops visited him. He also received a round 300 priests from Cairo and 120 priests from Alexandria along with the Alexandrian Lay Council members. Then around 250 priests from Menia and some of the Northern Dioceses.

HH also received other hundreds of priests from Ismaelia, Bani Swaif, Mansoura, Port Said, Akhmim, Qena, Niqada, Luxor, Sharqeya, Dshna and others...

Everyone came to check on HH, show their feelings towards him and check the news.

HH also received a delegate from Assiout.

HH received the Deputy and the Secretary of the General Lay Council, a group of Councilors and Mr. Mounir Fakhry Abd El Nour, The People's Assembly member.

Receiving the Two Priests' Wives

In the monastery, HH the Pope received deaconess Wafaa' Constantine the wife of Fr. Youssef, the priest of the Virgin's Church in Abou El Mattamir after she spent some time in one of our houses in Cairo, and after she met with Head Prosecutor and declared in front of him that she is Christian and will remain Christian. This was in the presence of the two lawyers of HH the Pope: Mr. Fekry Habib and Mr. Monssef Soliman and they both received her from the Prosecutor Office and brought her to the monastery to meet HH the Pope who will arrange her future.

Also HH the Pope while in the monastery received deaconess Mary Abdullah the wife of Fr. Rowais of El Zawia El Hamra and talked with her about arranging her future in the presence of HG Bishop Ermia, Hegomen Anestasi El Samouely and her father of confession Hegomen Youssef.

We thank the Lord and we congratulate those two ladies, their families and the church for their safe return.

The Christology Conference with Representatives of the Russian Church

This meeting started on Monday 13-12-2004 in St. Mark's Center, Heliopolis. It was attended by HE Metropolitan Bishoy and HG Bishop Serabion on behalf of the Coptic Church.

Also attended it from the US Fr. Shenouda Maher Ishaq who will give a speech about a research discussing the Orthodoxy of Mar Sawires the Patriarch of Antioch.

Who will Succeed HH Patriarch Botros in the Middle East Council of Churches

The Council has four heads representing the four church families of which it consists.

HH Patriarch Botros VII was one of the heads of the council representing the Roman Orthodox. And since he died in the sad plane crash accident, the Middle East Council of Churches in the meeting of 7-12-2004 and after praying for mercy for the honorable deceased soul chose HH Patriarch Irenaeus I The Patriarch of Jerusalem, Palestine and Jordan of the Roman Orthodox to succeed HH as one of the heads of the council. We offer HH our congratulations.

Regional Conference about AIDS

The Regional Conference for the Religious Leaders in the Arab World was held in Cairo from 11 to 13 December. The conference was about AIDS. Talked in this Conference: HE Dr Tantawi the Sheikh of Al Azhar, Dr. Hamdi Zaqqouq the Minister of Religious Endowments, Dr. Mohamed Ali Goma'a the Mufti of Egypt, Mr. Amr Mousa the Secretary General of the Arab League, Dr. Mohamed Awad Tag El Dein the Minister of Health and many of religion men and doctors.

It was planned that HH the Pope attends this conference but HH apologized and delegated HG Bishop Youanes to attend on his behalf.

In the Middle East Council of Churches: The Pope with Some of the Church Heads and Members of the Executive Committee of the Council



Lay up for yourselves Treasures in Heaven (Mt 6:20)

The Lord Christ-Glory is to Him- said "Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth...but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven..." (Mt6:19-20).

Treasures on earth are subject to be lost, they are not stable.

Man doesn't take it with him when departing this world. Rather he says as Job the righteous has said "Naked I came from my mother's womb, and naked shall I return there". So whatever treasures he collects, he will depart the world with nothing. Unless he is saving money for a specific reason as one who saves some money for the marriage of his daughter. He should then spend what he saved...

But anyone who says "I am saving money to leave it to my children", he doesn't know how his children will use the money, in virtuous deeds or will mess around with it and sin. If they will use it in virtue, so they are the ones who will be rewarded for that and not himself.

So lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, because heaven is your everlasting home. Wise is the man who prepares himself for his eternity and lay up treasures for it...

So, how can people lay up treasures in heaven?

Firstly: by giving. The Lord said "It is more blessed to give than to receive" (Acts20:35). And as He will say on the day of condemnation to those who are on His right " for I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink, I was naked and you clothed Me" then He says to them about the poor " inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me" "And these will go into eternal life" (Mt25:35, 40, 46).

So, through giving you can lay up for yourself treasures in heaven.

Everyone should then think: how much is his account in heaven? How much did he give so that it will be treasured for him in heaven?

And here I'll tell you a story: there was once a person who was so ungenerous, who didn't like to pay anything. A poor widow came to him asking that he might give her something and he refused. She insisted and again he refused. And finally because he was pissed off as a result of her persistence, he threw her a piece of bread which was in front of him.

On that night, this stingy man slept, and in a night vision he saw an angel taking his soul upwards to let it see what its destiny will be? The angel took him to a dark room, where the man fetched its contents and there was nothing except this piece of bread which he threw to the widow...

The story says that this ungenerous man was very much touched by this vision and was very much concerned with his eternal destiny. So when he woke up he distributed all his money on the poor so that he might find it there in eternity after his death.

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Pope Shenouda III



God's counting is different from the Mathematics which students are learning at schools.

There is the element of the depth of giving and not just the quantity. It is clear from the story of the woman who paid the two mites out of her abundance, so the Lord told her that "she has put in more than all" (Lk21:3, 4). That is why if you pay out of your abundance, you've got then a big treasure in heaven. Some of the Saints were paying all what they'd got, like St. Abraam of Fayoum. This Saint how much would it be his treasures which are in heaven.

And like the saint who saw a poor man who hasn't got something to put on, so he took off his clothes and gave it to him, then he saw another poor man who was in need, but as he hadn't have anything to give him, he sold his bible and gave him the price. So when this saint returned back to his cell without his clothes and without his bible, his disciple asked him about the matter, and the saint replied that Christ has wore his clothes and about the bible he said: the bible was ordering me "sell whatever you have and give to the poor" so I gave it to them...

He who gives, God will bless what he has on earth too.

As God said about rewarding that "open for you the windows of heaven And pour out for you such blessing that there will not be room enough to receive it" (Mal3:10). Until you say enough, enough.

It is like one who throws some wheat seeds on his land, so he harvests a quantity of wheat. As a poet once said about money which you spend:

By means of spending it lasts and by means of not spending it vanishes

So what you give to others is not lost, it rather stays, here and in heaven. I once said during the charity committee meeting: God wants unfolded hands which give, those which He can entrust with helping the needy, as then He will know that those hands will give others, so He will as well give them so that they can give others...

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We don't mean just the financial giving, but also the moral and psychological.

Of the treasures which are preserved for us in heaven is every word of condolence to a distressed person, and every word of sympathy to whoever needs tenderness, any kind of gentleness by which you treat any stressed soul, and all what you do to comfort others. All these are preserved for you in heaven...also any kind of sympathy on a crying child, every tear you wipe away of his eyes...

What is treasured for you also in heaven is: the service which you offer to others.

All kinds of righteousness which you present to others, through which you win a word of good wish for yourself which rises up to heaven, and is treasured for you there...and so does each blessing which anyone one blesses you with of those whom you offer support and relief.

The story of St. Andrew Niquos and the lion, which this Saint pulled out a spine of the lion's foot which was hurt. It is a clear proof of the reward for comforting others...

This shows us that sympathy which we offer even to animals is also treasured for us and its reward is never lost, this goes also for the food which we offer to an animal...

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Forgiveness also is one of the treasures which are preserved for us in heaven.

God said "Judge not, and you shall not be judged" (Lk6:37). And God commented on that point which we pray in the Lord's Prayer and said "For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you" (Mt6:14).

We pray "forgive us ... as we forgive those who trespass against us"

So when you forgive others, you are then preserving a treasure of forgiveness by which God forgives for you your trespasses...

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The same goes for judging others, the Lord says " Judge not, and you shall not be judged " (Lk6:37). So if you don't judge others, God will not judge you.

There is a story of a Monk who was always missing his prayers. The other Monks saw him happy and smiling at the time of his death, they asked him about the reason behind that and he replied that he told God: as much as I could I didn't judge anyone in my life, and I cling to your saying "Judge not and you shall not be judged" and also to your saying "For with the same measure that you use, it will be measured back to you." (Lk6:38).

You too can benefit from not talking about others, and not judging them; rather you sympathize with whoever had fallen and pray for his mercy, thus laying up treasures for you in heaven, and with this same measure of sympathy it will be measured back to you.

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Of the treasures that are preserved for you in heaven is: the good deeds.

Every good work which you accomplish, of any kind, is laid up for you in heaven...and here I will tell you a story from the Paradise of Monks about a Father who was always serving others, he used to take his water vessel to where the water source was and fill it up. He then fills with it the vessels of the other fathers specially the elders...and then repeats this good work. Then one day-while he was walking-he became very tired, and he felt that someone is

walking behind him with a paper on which he was writing. So he asked him who he was and what was he doing and he replied: I am the Angel of God whom He sent me to count every step you make while serving others so that God rewards you on it. The Father then was consoled; he forgot his pain and served even more.

There is a registry which is called "the Book of Life" in which God writes every good deed you accomplish. In the Book of Revelation it was mentioned "books were opened. And another book was opened, which is the Book of Life. And the dead were judged according to their works, by the things which were written in the books. " (Rv20:12).

And so is each sin you commit, it is counted on you. And also every good work you do it is also counted on you, and is laid up for you in Heaven, as in the Book of Esther say, they brought the book of the records of the chronicles to King Ahasuerus, and the good deed of Mordecai was read in front of the king, and the king rewarded him for that (Est6:1, 2).

And so will be written in the Book of Life all the good works which you'd done so that God would reward you for them.

The Saint with the Golden Mouth said that every single tear you've dropped for the Lord's sake, God will take it so that He will reward you for it before Satan of the falsified glory takes it away from you...

God rewards you even for the cup of cold water which you give to one of the little ones, you will by no means lose your rewards (Mt10:42).

Even patience which you endure for God's sake, God never forgets it. It was mentioned in the Epistle of St. James "You have heard of the perseverance of Job and seen the end intended by the Lord" (Jb5:11). So if you endure any pain with patience and without complain, God will lay it up for you in Heaven. So how much more will it be if you endure and thank.

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Last point which I say to you about what is laid up for you in heaven is: the good deeds which you do in secret.

There are charity deeds which you do and you are rewarded for it on earth: a prize or a praise...but the good deed which you do in secret, is laid up for you as treasures in heaven according to the Lord's saying " your Father who sees in secret will Himself reward you openly " (Mt6:4)...He rewards you on earth and in heaven, at the present time and in eternity.

And so is every work which you are not paid for on earth, it is all treasured in heaven.

This is clear in the story of the rich man and Lazarus (Lk16). How dangerous is what our Father Abraham said to the rich man "... in your lifetime you received your good things" (Lk16:25).

Brother, try as much as you can not to receive your good things on earth regarding every good work you do, get to know that all your charitable works are those for which you don't get a reward here, not even a word of thanks, these are treasures for you in heaven.

Christmas and Epiphany Assignments

In Europe:

HG Bishop Maximous: in New Castle-England.
Hegomen Hedra Ekdawy: at the Diocese of Eastern UK.
Heg. Sarabamoon Atteya; in France (Angel's Church).
Fr. Suriel Henry: Virgin's Church-Paris.
Fr. Peagol Mosaad: Holland.
Fr. Domadius He Sarabamoon: Amsterdam.
Fr. Morcos Gamil: Virgin Mary, Golders Green-London.
Fr. Girguis Michael: Northern France.

In USA:

HG Bishop Disqoros: in Las Vegas.
HG Bishop Youhanna: New Jersey.
HG Bishop Ermia: in Toledo.
Fr. Ishaq Shokry: in Howell.
Fr. Bishoy Abd El Malak: in Richmond.
Fr. Rofael Anis: in Demowin, Aiwa.
Fr. Mikhail El Qommos Youssef: in Roanoke.
Fr. Bishoy Ray: in Cincinnati.
Fr. Youhanna Luka: Serakouz.
Fr. Mikhail Atteya: in Albany.
Fr. Bishoy Fayeq: in Montre, California.
Fr. Mikhail Sedrak: in Nebraska.
Fr. Youhanna Bekheilt: in West Chester.
Fr. Aughnotious Fouad: in Fruit Mayer, Florida.
Fr. Shenouda Anis: Bakersville, Los Angeles.

In Canada:

Fr. Abram Aziz: in St Mina Church, Calgary.
Fr. Bigaol Saleh Nakhla: in the new church in Vancouver.
Fr. Mina Adel: in St Bishoy Church, York.

The rest of the assignments will be published in the coming issue, God's willing.

With Reverend Bishops Coming from the Lands of Immigration

Came to Egypt, their grace:
Bishop Serabion of Los Angeles
Bishop Kirolos of Milan
Bishop Angaelos, the General Bishop of Stevenage

Bishop Athanasious of Bani Mazar who was under medical care in the USA.

And HH the Pope received them. HH also met in Damascus with HG Bishop Abraham of Jerusalem and the Jerusalem See.

The Travel of a Priest to Copenhagen

HH the Pope delegated Fr. Angaelos Girguis Shenouda to serve in Copenhagen, Denmark. And he left to Copenhagen on Saturday 18-12-2004.

The Travel of a Priest to Ireland

HH the Pope delegated Fr. Bigol El Suriyany to serve in Ireland based on request by HG Bishop Antony of the Diocese.

Ordaining Three New Priests to serve in the Diocese of Zaqazeeq and Menia El Qamh

On Friday 26-11-2004, HG Bishop Yaqobous ordained Fr. Metias as a priest for the Virgin and St John (Mar Youhanna) Church in Zaqazeeq, Fr. Timothaous as a priest for St Paul (Mar Bolos) Church in Zaqazeeq and Fr. Philopateer as a priest for St. George Church in Zaqazeeq and the new priests are spending their forty day period in the inhabited Syrians Monastery.

Our Priests and Monks in Milan Master the Italian Language

For our congregation who need to learn, for our youngsters and for preaching, HG Bishop Kirolos our Bishop of Milan has been spending time with his priests and monks there to study the Italian Language to be used in praying and sermons there. And the outcome of this was:

1. They finished reading the whole New Testament in Italian and now they are reading the Old Testament.
2. Spiritual Renaissance: On the evening prayer of the Archangel Michael Feast the fathers gave 3 sermons to the congregation of Brescia in Italian and the rest in Arabic.
3. On the Feast of St. Abou Sefein 3 priests were talking in Italian so that our children can understand.
4. All the fathers (7 priests and 9 monks) are well-acquainted with

the Divine Liturgy prayers in Italian.

5. The Diocese held a Spiritual Day for our children about the Epistle of James and the whole day talks were in Italian where the fathers talked about:

Who wrote the Epistle? Its Subjects: faith and works, the tongue from the medical point of view, biblical parables about the tongue, Italian allegories about the tongue and the tongue mistakes. Then they showed a movie about the amends of lying. Then the children played an act about Faith and Works.

All this made the pastoral work easier with youth and children since it is in their language in sermons, visits or confession.

Our congratulations to HG Bishop Kirolos and all the fathers and monks working with him.



With Those with Special Needs

The photo is taken at St. Mark Center in Rashid. And we see Deaconess Raouth Elia the devoted for serving the handicaps surrounded by servants of the Bishopric of General Services for Those With Special Needs during their lesson.

Illustrated Church News

A photo taken while giving medical treatment to one of the brothers after the police assaults and we see his shirt covered with blood.



Divine Liturgy in Hong Kong

This divine liturgy was held in China. Prayed by Hegomen Youhanna Bastawrous delegated by HG Bishop Daniel of Sydney, Australia.

We see him in the photo and on his right hand the HE Egyptian Ambassador Youssef Bortos and some Christian Families of businessmen.

HG Bishop Makarios the Eritrean

The photo is taken for HG in St. George Church in Chicago in the middle of a group of the church's deacons and some children in the Psaltos rank.



Illustrated Church News

With the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Qatar

The photo is taken in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Qatar with HH Sheikh Hamad Ben Jassem Ben Jabr Al Thani, the First Vice Prime Minister and the Minister of Foreign Affairs.

This meeting was also attended by HE the Ambassador of Egypt and Their Grace Bishop Abraham our bishop of Jerusalem and Bishop Youanes the Secretary of HH the Pope.



Their Grace Bishop Rowais and Bishop Youssef in the Family Convention surrounded by some of the priests of the Southern USA Diocese.

The Divine Liturgy in Thailand

This divine liturgy was held in St Mark Church in Thailand on Sunday 4-11-2004.

We can see at the end of the photo the Coptic priest surrounded by some of the brothers baptized by him in Thailand and they are 98, baptized in three months from various ages young and old.

