

**The Pastoral Care**  
In the life of  
**POPE SHENOUDA III**

2012

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*To my blessed father's soul Pope Shenouda the third*

I know that now you don't care about what is being said and what is written about you. What you care about is your glorify meeting with God, and your enjoy with the company of the heavenly and the saints.

You present to God the soul carried by angels and acclaimed with her departure in peace and glory, which the heavenly receive, and enter her to the celestial paradise.

Your soul that challenge the weakness of the suffering body, and wasn't destroy by the pains, the tribulations and the troubles. Now you have been liberated and launched to the savior of the world, with the spirit of the cheer and the familiarity of the sonship you request for the church in the whole world, you even request for the peace and the salvation of the human.

With your marvelous love you have embraced, with gentle, wise and smile, a lot of people, even those that u know that they resist you, and how much now you longed for their peace and their salvation.

God who helped you, helps whole the human.

On the day of the departure of our beloved father Bishoy Kamel, you said about him that he has a great soul in a suffering body. So what we can say about you O, the great soul.

Remember us, in order to the Lord give every human a great soul full of love like you, so the earth turn up to a new heaven, and our human to be like heavenly.

We will never forget you, and certainly you don't forget us in front of the Lord, the lover of mankind.

The traits of your marvelous love still touch our hearts, and remain working in you after your crossing in front of the Lord, so you claim about us

*Fr. Tadros Yacoub Malaty.  
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## Wondrous processions

### Meeting of millions



On March 17, the long trip of pain which the holiness Pope Shenouda the third has lived had ended, and begin the trip of the glories, appears and hidden from the human eyes.

I have been invited those days on which Egypt has been lived with his departure to the paradise "Meeting of millions"

That meeting included all the Egyptian categories; it included Christians with all the sects and Muslims, leaders and people. He had been the messenger of peace struggling in a difficult era, and a peaceful man even in his transition from this world.

The all express with all their heart the deep grief, which shared by a lot of world's presidents and institutions in a unique and wonderful way.

His marvelous love to the leadership in the Arab countries, makes most of them say: "*He isn't the Pope of only the Christians, but he is the Pope of all the Arab countries*".

In meekness, the people crowded in which 3 people died, and 6 ambulances carried those who couldn't handle the terrible crowd. One of the broadcasters said: "*I don't wonder if some people preferred to die while they crowded to have the blessings from his corpse*".

Really the unique way that we have seen in meekness after his departure from this world, is a natural fruit for the seeds of love which he planted in his life and resulted Love.



### Wondrous processions

This procession is accompanied by hidden processions. Saint John, the golden mouth tells us about a hidden procession, this is believed to be that in a Faithfull's transition, God send one angel or more as delegates from the heaven, to accompanied him in his trip to the paradise, they welcome him, walk with him to recognize the heavenly hosts, to see the throne of God and enjoy with things cannot be uttered. This is like he participates with Paul the messenger which his soul has been gone to the third heaven, to see *What no eye has seen, what no ear has heard, and what no human mind has conceived the things God has prepared for those who love him.* (1co 2:9)

Yesterday, I was talking with the wife of a departed priest about the Pope Shenouda's love for her husband, she said: *The talk about his love for her husband needs long hours. And I think that everyone who met with him said the same phrase. He is the man of the true love and the wondrous fidelity!* As she said: *I feel that when Pope Shenouda passes away, Pope Kirollos welcomes him with his famous phrase: "O come father's dear!"*



## An interesting meeting with God



And what is the greatest thing from all of that is his meeting with God; he consecrated his life, his feelings, his energy and his time, to express his Love to God, responsive with the Love of the lover of mankind to him.

Wondering with which language the human can record a meeting of a spirit which has been expanded with Love, and who desired the happiness of those who met him in the world, and which it worship in front of the Lord when it saw him face to face!?

Wondering who knows the secret of that Love that the spirit has received from the hidden grace of the Lord, embraced him, kept him and proud of him like a hidden treasure, no one knows even the closest people to it.

Now, he listen to the divine voice: "*Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things.*" (Math 25:21)

Really, he loved many of believers and non-believers.

From those who love him and who resist him.

From the Greats, Scientists, Anonymous, and simples people.

From his relatives by blood or by soul.

From those he knows by name and those he doesn't.

The one who practice the Love in a suffering and a weak body, now his heart expanded more to love, to demand, and to support, after the liberation from the earthy body, to enjoy it on the resurrection.

We saw, we see and we will see those who served in the earthy body in this world, became the secret of blessings with their prayers and their love to the human when they were in front of the lover of mankind.

Really no one, since Adam till the last coming of our Lord, is justified in front of the Lord. Every human being has his weaknesses even the great saints, even the saint students, but when their souls went to the paradise, they will not suffer from the needs of nature (such like food, drink, comfort, care about the physical health, fight of an enemy, war of thoughts) What they practice except the lord's love?

The lord demands us, in the earthy body, to consider the brotherhood love like the Lord's love, and when we leave that body, we declare our love to the human while we praise the Lord with the heavenly. The worship of the human souls mixed with their demands for the human's peace, the joy in the Lord and the internal glory!



### The godly person is characterized by the Lord's fear



Father Bishoy Kamel told me that his holiness Pope Shenouda, bishop of education, asked to have the blessings from the church in the evening, and we will be alone in the church.

We went to the church waiting for him, when he came, he entered into the church, walking directly to the temple, and he didn't even talk to us. He prostrated and prayed, entered into the temple and kissed it, and then we went to him.

After he left the church, father Bishoy told me: *"Definitely, this beautiful tradition, to start the meeting with the Lord through the temple before he met any human, he received it from one of the elder monks, who carries the Lord's fear."*

From that moment, Father Bishoy become to do the same tradition whenever he entered any church.

From our father's words about the Lord's fear:

*"The Lord's fear teaches the human the diligence and audit, so he will be auditor in what he does or says. And he will be careful in all what he intend to do because he fears to fall and let the Lord angry."*

But if there is no Lord's fear in the heart, it is easy for that person to do what he wants, as the phrase which said: *"If you are not shy, then do what you want"*.

The Lord's fear leads us to the serious in the spiritual life, and till the human become committed and honest even in the few things. (Mat 25:12,23/ Lo16:10, 19:17), that's because the Lord's fear is always in front of his eyes.

Saint John, the golden mouth said:



*"The Lord's fear includes all the needs for the "constant joy". Because the human who fears the Lord as he should be, and trust him, collect all the sources of the joy, and he keeps the complete*

*fountain of the joy. Like the drop of water which fall into a wide ocean, and totally disappear, so whatever comes to who fears the Lord, disappear in the ocean of the great joy. Really it's very amazing, with the presence of what causes the grief, you find the human cheered. So if nothing brings grief, then it will have no value for him versus his constant joy."*

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### **The sufferer who participate those who suffer**



In his meetings with priests, he frequently urges them to care about those who suffer, and those in need. And as we know, he used to attend personally the committee of the charity in Cairo and Alexandria.

But what I wonder about is what happened one week before his departure, during his deep suffer, did he feel a man who consecrate his life for preaching among the pagans with a catholic mission.

One of our beloved in Los Anglos recorded what happened with him, and he announced that before the Pope's departure:

"Early in the morning on March 11-2012, I woke up after I dreamed that I went to visit Pope Shenouda the third, and he was very sick in that time.

He smiled a big smile and gave me a paper. On that paper there was a name which written with a blue ink. And asked me to help that person financially. I looked at him with some hesitation, and wanting to ask him if that person really needs money, and before I finish my word, he stopped me saying: (Give him and don't comment if that person needs or not. Let the Lord condemns, the most important thing is to give with your heart, any other thing is none of our business.)

I was near his bed, he put his arms around my neck and said: "*That enough, I did my turn....It is time for my departure.*"

I woke up trying to put him back to his bed. My mind was busy, who is that person who the Pope talked about, and I was said for his departure.

On Monday March 12, I received a phone call followed by an e-mail from an ex-employee who took his family to a mission in south of Africa; he had financial troubles for 5 months, he had 3 kids learning at school and he had no money. He apologized for calling me, but in grief he felt that he wanted to call me to ask if I can help him.

And immediately it comes up to my mind: How come that the church doesn't care for him financially? And in a few minutes, I remembered the dream, I check that he was the person sender by the Lord to Pope Shenouda asking me to help that family, and I consider that as honor and blessing for me.

His Holiness's picture doesn't leave my mind; he offers me the greatest lesson in my life.

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### His care about patients



With his holiness's care about salvation of souls, he feel that the priest's work, whatever their grade is, is to let every human meet with the Savior, and to enjoy with his company. He had

famous words: "*When the priest visits a house, he come in with God, and left it leaving God in every heart to live in.*"

His care about the soul's heal is completed with the body's heal too. He was known with his special care to visit patients, even as a Pope and Patriarchal. He usually visits hospitals and spread the spirit of hope with his prayers and smiles in Christians and even in Muslims too, and sometimes he visits patients at their home too.

The history will never forget how he cares about "El Sheikh Metwaly Elsharawy" during his sickness in London, when he demands Christians to ask about him, even he visited him when he

came back and became his friend; that one who used to attack him, attack the bible and the Christian faith. The Love that comes from the heart, especially in sickness, is able to do miracles.

He was known by his wondrous tenderness, he couldn't see any one taking an injection. His tears flow when he saw someone crying, so he usually avoids to meet a cried person.

If he intervene in a problem, and the person cry even he was wrong; his holiness keeps away till the person stops crying. He was afraid to cry in front of him so the person will exploits those holly tears.

Saint Gherighorios Alnazizi mentioned in his article about Saint Basilios that the saint used to visit hospitals, and among those patients there were persons who had leprosy disease, and the monks were serving in that hospital.



### Sender of joy for a lot of people

When the President Anwar Elsadat identifies the residence of Pope Shenouda in Anba Bishoy's monastery, the army surrounded the monastery, the major Nabil Eitta the responsible for the affairs of the Copts used to visit him.

His holiness said that he transfers those meetings to joyful sessions, till the major told him: "*I never laugh in my life like the way I laughed with you.*"

He knows how to gain peoples by spreading the spirit of joy in their lives.

When they allow the visits to his holiness, a lot of people find it difficult to visit him under strict guard! But they always wonder about his internal peace, his trust in God's work and how he turns all things for good. And these sessions were a wondrous source of joy with everyone meet with him.

In his speech with some priests, he said: "In my meetings with any president, my sessions were dominated by joy and the sense of humor. The only one who was rigid was the ex-president of Libia "Alkazzafy". Although, in one of his meetings with the ex-president "Hosny Mubarak", he whispers to him: "*What did "Alkazafy" want from you? He always ask my about you?*"

Saint Basilios invite us to the life of joy and cheer, and warn us from the excessive grief and corrupts the mind. (*The cheer is an unspoken scream, which all the warriors agreed on and screamed it in the same time, and had been associated all with the bond of Love.*) (*Don't be depressed, the excessive grief becomes the source of the sin. The grief overflows on the mind and corrupt it, the deficit causes confusion, and the confusion causes many thoughts of ingratitude.*)



### His care about the children



During his visits, a lot of people asked him to baptize their children.

In the one of his visits to the church of Saint Marc in London, the baptism's room was so crowded, so he demands only the family to assist. So they get out and among of them there was a child.

And on his next visit, he was told that a child thought that his holiness doesn't love him because he get him out of baptism room, so he asked them to bring this child. He cares about him and courted him, and he was moving with him holding his hand. After his holiness's travel, the child told his friend proudly: "*His Holiness the Pope loves me much.*"

In that way, he cares about the children's feelings, so they can see the picture of the Lord, the human lover, in him.

Indeed, he was very firm; however he plays with children, loves to sit with them without any formalities

I remember in the sixties, he invited the responsible of the church education and the priests to care about the publications of books for children. In his speeches, he invites the attendants to study how to present the Christian thought for the children, to suit the age and the modern technology.

If he designates a bishop for the youth, "Anbba Moussa", one of the important branches to serve the new generation was the children's education.

In his visits to the book fairs, he was asking for a copy from every thing published for the children even the unchristian publications.

I feel that the most important thing to present in his memorial feasts, not to talk about him, but even more, to realize his heart's desire for Jesus Christ, and so we establish seminars for all the stages from the childhood till the old age, and if possible, we can present awards in his name for the best presented works.



*His appreciation for those who have principles*



In a quiet session in El Soryan Monastery, after my return from America in 1972, Pope Chenouda knew that Our beloved father Bishoy Kamel preferred that the Pope should be chosen from the monks and not from the bishops, Pope Chenouda told me: *"I love father Bishoy Kamel and I appreciate him, because when he demands that the Pope shouldn't be selected from the bishops, he did that because he believes in this principle, and I respect who*

*defend for his principals and does not mean certain people."*

Father Bishoy Kamel had a special status near his holiness in all his life. On the day of his departure, his holiness attends the funeral by himself, and he expressed his love and appreciation to him.

For many years Pope Chenouda used to inaugurate the week celebration for father Bishoy. And in every occasion, he mentioned his name, appreciating him about his life, service and devotion.



*A great humble soul**My beloved father....*

The most thing I am concerned about, not your wondrous popularity on the international way, so most people love you even the presidents and leaders, they admire you and your great role to maintain the unity of the Egyptian nation despite of the bad circumstances which Egypt had passed through, which could be convulsed by the successive sectarian events for a long time.

But what I am concerned about now is your great soul expanded with love which seeks for the salvation of many people.

*A sincere and wondrous friend!*

Pope Chenouda had a charismatic personality, wherever he exists, he attracts people; no one was bored from his words. I don't forget what Prof. Dr. Roberson, head of Coptic Department in Clarmont (a university in California) at the end of his holiness's speech: "This hall have not seen a person talking for almost 2 hours and no one was being bored from his speech like what happened today!"



What was wondrous, that when he met with someone alone, this person, whatever was his age, work or capacity, feels that he is talking with him in a family atmosphere tainted by Love, simplicity and openness!

The person wonders, was he talking with a giant in the spirituality and wisdom, knowledge and dignity, or with a simple child, tender meek and humble!

*I remember, for example:*

1. A young man from Alexandria visited him when he was bishop of education. After their conversation, his holiness asked his permission to go and came back carrying a tray of food, and he presented to him so no longer the person returns hungry! This scene was repeated with him and others.

2. Before his Monasticism, he had a younger friend since they were youth, and because of ecclesiastical conditions, this person take a hostile attitude from him, and each time he saw him, even after he became a bishop of education, he turn his face and does not go to greet him. His holiness heard that this person suffered a serious disease, so he went to his house, spend many hours talking with him, served him by himself till he was cured. Then he get back his friendship with his holiness, and his heart was inflaming for love towards him.
3. Since almost a year, he told "Tasonry Mary": "I owned for father .....", so she wondered about that. He continued: "He gave me a book when I was a monk, and till now I didn't give it back to him!" With this wondrous humble, he remembered that I gave him a book to review it 50 years ago or even more. Those touches reveal his love and wonder audit.
4. Few months ago, I sat with him apart, as I feel my dereliction, I said to him: "I want to confess something....I feel my dereliction in my service, and I take the place of somebody else who will rather take it. I don't know what to tell the Lord?" And I was shocked when he replied: "What can I say about myself? Those were his humble feelings. He didn't care about his position or his popularity all over the world, and none about the words of his heart's crushing in front of God. Although it was with the hope's spirit. His famous words in the inauguration of any church, or when someone recites his pastoral works: "The others work and get tired, and I take the compliments!!"

In his special sessions with many, he was repeating these words, he feel that what was attributed to him was the fruit of the tire of many persons, and that it was attributed to him because it was done in his era.



5. In the early years, after he was chosen as a patriarch, I remember that he said in a session of a small group:

"What the human judges, when he is outside, condemned others, doesn't know the reality unless he will be in the place of others." , With those words, he meant himself, when he became a patriarch, he understood the behavior of his holiness Pope Kirolos the sixth, which he couldn't realize his stance, till after he became in his place.



*His words about modesty:*



(Modesty is the wall which protects the virtues and the talents, every virtue with no modesty, is susceptible to be taken by the demon of the false glory, and wasted by pride and self-admiration.

So, if God give you a talent, pray for him to give you modesty with it, or he takes it from you, so as not to fall in pride and to be destroyed because of it.

The modesty is the foundation upon with we build all the virtues.)

To know who you are? You are from the dust, but even the dust is elder than you. It was before you were born. God create it first, and then he created you from it.



From the beginning, modesty was the picture of Christians. Even it was said about the Christian's spirit in the apostolic age: "When one of the pagans meet his associate, and find him optimistic and calm...he told him: Perhaps you met a Christian on your way!" By that, he means that his meeting with one of the Christians, his face should be reflected by this Christian's meekness."



*Examination things without rigidity*

In a gathering of the priests in Alexandria, the subject of oil, which was coming from a girl, was opened. And the oil was coming sometimes after having the communion and before having the holly blood, so she get out of the church and many persons went after her.

A priest said: "That is a devil's work!"

His holiness said: "Does the devil create oil?"

The priest tells a story about a family in "Armant" who had a pious girl, she prays in the middle of the night, and get out from the room with "orbana", cotton and oil with her, and she say: Saint Mary appears to her and give her those things.



Father Matta Roufaeil, the priest who serve in the church of "Al om Doulagy", did the prayer of the sickness in the house, sprayed it with water, and he demands her that when Saint Mary appears to her and give her those things, she should scream: "O Holly saint Mary, help me!"

In the middle of night, this happens, the light fills the house, Saint Mary appears and told the girl: "The one who appears to you is a devil, and he steal the oil from the house because the housewife does not do the cross when she use it, and the "orban" from the church because the responsible doesn't pray the Psalms while he make it, and the cotton from the pharmacy.....and since that night, there was no more of those events. A lot of priest talks about the misleading stories of oil.

His holiness didn't take a rigid stance, but he said quietly: "There is no need to do confusion, and for my part, I don't allow to publish this kind of stories till we check them."

After a while, one of the closest bishop to his holiness told me that he makes sure of the delusion of that oil.

Here, I feel commitment to honor the Pope who treats things wisely, without any rigidity, and give the chance to discuss, and did not consider that changing his opinion was an insult.

It's a practical lesson, spiritual and wise for every leader, whether he was priest or even among families.

The allegation of the oil which comes from a tree in Abba Antonios monastery was repeated. Many priests from Los Anglos talked to him about this subject. His holiness told them: "I will not publish anything about that oil."



Indeed the Pope is considered like a great example for priests and leaders, the human is being worthy of research and changing his opinion doesn't afflict his personality, but he has a lived Christian thought.

I remember that many persons, in which the Pope trust, distorted his holiness's image, and when the Pope realizes that, he was able to gain them wisely. One of them told me, after his meeting with the Pope: "Indeed he is a wondrous father; I never imagined that he will treat me with that kind of Love!"

He used to do every effort to study everything deeply.

When he was going to visit Libya, for example, he demands from the Libyan embassy all that they have (books, and publications) about Libya. And when he spoke in the presence of



the ex-president Alkazafy, the president wondered about his precise informations, which some of the Libyan leaders don't know about.

*His wisdom in dealing matters*

In a session with a young man in El soryan monastery, his holiness was the bishop of education; the young man complains from his fear from dark, so he can't walk in a dark place.

He started to talk about the no fear, then he discusses some of the spiritual things, and after a while, he told him: "Come with me into the monastery, and when both of them sit, he told him I need something from my place, and he gave him the key.

The young man take the key and went in fear, the place of his holiness was far, a lot of shadow's trees. He was imagining that someone was hiding behind those trees.

When he came back, his holiness told him: "So, what happened to you? You walked in the middle of shadows and came back safely; try to train yourself in order to challenge the fear, so the Lord will give you peaceful thoughts.



*Doesn't know the fear*

It was said, in the beginning of being a teacher, he was living with some of his colleagues in a far village which had no electricity. He was known that he doesn't fear, his colleagues wanted to fright him. In a Thursday, they told him that they will spend the weekend in the city, and they pretended to do that and they left him.

In the middle of the night, they tried to annoy him by knocking on the window and then they hide, and when he came out to look, he couldn't find anyone.

Suddenly, he noticed that the light of the "gaz lamp" was increased gradually, and when he tried to make a weak light to sleep, it was repeated again, he started to observe and he noticed a hand which came from under the bed to increase the light.

Without any fear, he grabbed the hand, looked under the bed, and found one of his colleagues who were trying to fright him.



*God works by him*

1. On his way with our beloved father Bishoy Kamel to the church of Saint George in sporting. Suddenly and without any reason, in a corner of Port said street, he told father Bishoy: "Watch out." Father Bishoy was wondering and didn't know the reason. On the next day, when I reached the same place, I remembered his words, so I slow down, and the Lord saved me from an accident if I didn't slow down.

2. Another example for God's work, someone who hated to hear his holiness's name told me that his son had "loukimya", and he demands me to ask the Pope to pray for him.

I was preparing to go to Abba Bishoy Monastery, I met his holiness, I gave him the name of the son, his family and I didn't mention the father's name. I told him: "His father believes that if you pray for him, the Lord will cure him. He was so impressed, and told me: "I am on my way to the mass." And he took the name carefully.

After a week, his father called me and asked about what happened and I told him.

He told me: "We got the results of the analysis this week with no sign for the disease, the doctors were wondering. Since that



day, he become to love his holiness, and the son is still living till now.

*His care about the immigrant's service*

This service was established in the era of holiness Pope Kirolos the sixth. In the era of the president Gamal Abdel Nasser, the immigrants were considered as traitors, and everyone who immigrated, he was certain that he won't see the Egypt land another time, and will never meet his family however in one of the cities of Europe or Lebanon, which caused psychological crises, specially for wives. The state was looking forward, to those who represent the church in the International Christian conferences, in a suspicious way, even for Abba Samuel bishop of services who serves frequently the state abroad.

It wasn't easy to the church to send priests to serve abroad in Europe, America or in Australia.

The Pope Chenouda sits on Marc's chair, and the priests in immigrant's service were six, 2 in each of America, Canada and Australia.

The first conference for the priests of the immigrant had 4 members of priests.

I remember, one of the servant in Seattle, when I went for the mass in 1971, told me: "We have never dreamed of the presence of a priest in Los Angeles, who can remind us in the divine temple, and now we are celebrating the mass in Seattle.

Those are the Copts feelings in the United States in this time.



Through the era of his holiness Pope Kirolos, it wasn't easy for priests or bishops to go there for the pastoral work, not even for a few days. I don't remember, during my service in Los Angeles for 2 years and 3 months and in New York, that I saw a bishop, only the seryan patriarch Mar Eghnatio Yacoub, and the soryan bishop in new York, who visited our Coptic church, and the people welcome them in a wondrous joy.

After the departure of Pope Kirolos, Abba Antonious and Abba Samuel went to a quick trip to America. And now after the departure of Pope Chenouda the third, we had 4 bishops who live in America, 3 bishops in Australia, 2 bishops in South of America, bishops in Europe, 2 bishops in South Africa and Kineya.....etc

The number of priests now in America is over 200.

As for the attention of his holiness for the immigrant's service, I wish to publish reflections and memories of an immigrant priest which were published in 1972, and the second part which had never been published, I wrote in in the end of nineteen upon the request of his holiness, it includes a lot of service's details in that time, with also display for what we hope for the immigrant's service.

He cares about the young priests, especially in America; he cares about the development of the church by ordination of priests, whom were born abroad.

When it was said that he made the Coptic Church all over the world, he said: "It hasn't done yet, there are places which we didn't send any preachers.



*His care about the Ecumenism*

He has a true longing in his heart for the church's unity all over the world. This unity doesn't base on just a company of the representative of the Coptic church in many of Ecumenism sessions around the world and the middle east.....etc

He had visited most Orthodox's churches like: the church in Russia, the Arman's church, and also the ex-Pope of Catholics. He gave a special attention to the Ethiopian Church and the church of Ariteria....etc

In his era, he did all the Theological with the Chalcedonian orthodoxy's churches on Common concepts of theology, from his part, he lead them and announce that we welcome for every Chalcedonian orthodoxy's church, and we deal with it like they want and with the same way that it works with us.

He was always waiting for the official decision from the Chalcedonian orthodoxy's churches; we can say that the patriarchs of these churches had a special love for his holiness.

I remember what Dr. Devas told me, he was one of the most important theologians for these churches: "Now we feel that you are closest to us in, our unity is more than ours like a chalcedonian orthodoxy's church.

The heart of Pope Chenouda, who is longing for the unity of the church, has an effective role in the life of the representatives of the chalcedonian orthodoxy's church in their Ecumenism conver





### *Bless us all*

If Lord Jesus waits his priests with joy, and grants them to serve in the paradise like angels; this service pushes them more to serve the humanity. Their transition from the world to the paradise, won't change their love for the humanity, and they will not lose their hunger for the salvation of the world, it push them to pray for the people.



As St. Mar Yacoub El Serougy said, on the occasion of a priest's departure:

O holder of holies blesses us all, they were sad because of the departure.

Bless your sons, accompanying you in prayers and service.

Stand on the pulpit, and I heard you words, those are your sheep listening to you.

Raise your voice and bless them, Here they are looking to you, to have your blessings.

O good shepherd, invite your sheep to your fount, give them to drink.

Give peace to the holly temple where you were priest, here; they wear black for your departure.

Bless your sons of Baptism, bless the elders, the youth which had been educated on wisdom.

The beloved children who were born in your church, so they will be save from troubles with your prayers.

With your prayers, bless your people who honored you to be in peace for now and forever.

Give peace to the church, because death separates you from your sons.

Open your holly lips and give peace to those priests and those beloved brothers and sons.

Warn and set them, to walk in the faith's way in this world.

Beg them to remember you in prayers, to have the presence of your memory in that church.

***Goodbye my father!***



Yacoub was in trouble, running from his brother Eissou, he had no one to help him; he saw a stair from the ground till the sky, and saw God standing on it to welcome him. Now, Saint Elserougy sees God waiting in front of the door of heaven to welcome the priest who was honest in his service. Greet him for his transition; he is no more serving on earth but serving to serve on the right Jesus, his lord, offering him a great award.

Go in peace our glorious priest, full of charities; you had prepared the life's table in heaven.

Go you the reverend, who serves the Lord's house, here your God is waiting in front of the heaven's door.

Go in peace and the delight of face to the light, here the holly temple that you served it waiting for you.

Go and accept that right which has given to you, in the most holy light and spirit.

Go and serve on the right of Jesus, he remembers you when he distribute his holly presents.

Go in peace, you the priest full of understanding, because the son of God rewards you according to your works.

*Saint Mar Yacoub Elsoryany*

