

"Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us" Hebrews 12:1



† My beloved children; St. Bakhomios Youth

Peace & grace from our Lord, God & Saviour Jesus Christ be with you.

Here is your 2010 calendar; I am sorry for the delay. We always have a

theme for our yearly calendar. This year I took the above verse (Heb 12:1)

In particular, in our Coptic Orthodox church we have an out of count *Me*

of martyrs & saints. I have chosen 12 youth martyrs & saints who are in

your age & younger; one for each month. For each one I put a glimpse on

his/her life ended by a spiritual benefit to take & meditate on for the month

with the grace of God; if you do this, you will achieve a great spiritual

growth by the end of the year

Happy new year to you, God be with you
Pray for me

Fr. Tadros
01/01/10

2010 YOUTH CALENDAR

2010 YOUTH CALENDAR

2010

January 2010

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February 2010

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April 2010

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August 2010

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September 2010

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October 2010

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November 2010

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JANUARY



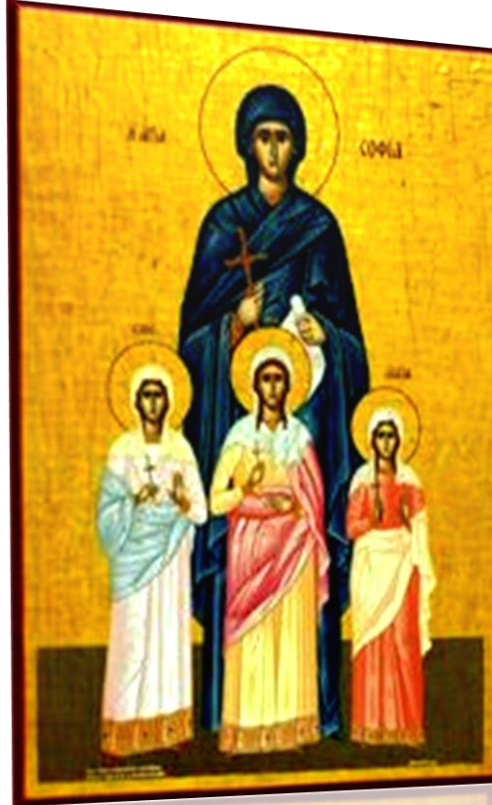
Departure of Saint John the Beloved 12th January = 4th Tooba

Saint John the beloved when the Lord chose him was young in age (in his early 20's). He also was very rich and well known to the high priest and the authorities; but he sacrificed everything and followed the Lord. The important aspect in his life was that he dedicated his heart for the love of the Lord, accordingly the Love the Lord reflected on him and was called the beloved. The Lord entrusted him to his mother saint Mary and he deserved to see the revelation of Heaven.

How much of your heart are you giving to the love of the Lord?



FEBRUARY



The Martyrdom of Saints Pistis(faith), Helpis(hope), Agape(love), and their Mother, Sophia 7th February = 30th Tooba

Their mother (Sophia) was from the richest families of Antioch, the eldest daughter was 12 years, the second was 10, and the third was 9 years old. In spite of their very young age, their love for the Lord was great because of the way their mother brought them up. King Hadrianus arrested them and offered Pistis (faith) the eldest to be a wife to him but she refused, seeking the kingdom of heaven and didn't fear the terrible instruments of torture he demonstrated in front of her. The three young girls stood very strong in the terrible tortures until they were all beheaded and their mother was encouraging them all along the way.

How much are you are ready to endure for the sake of the Lord and how will you bring up your children when you have them?



MARCH



The Martyrdom of St. Eusebius, Son of Basilides, the Prime Minister March 2nd = 23rd Amshir

He was in his mid 20's being a son of the prime minister of Rome and a general in the army.

He returned from the war victorious and heard that king Diocletian denied the Lord and worshiped idols. He drew his sword to kill the king, who escaped him like a coward. Then he said to the king, "I wasn't about to kill you but I wanted to prove to you that you are weak and I don't want anything but only the kingdom of heaven". The king sent him to Egypt fearing the riot of the people if he tortured him in Rome and Eusebius offered himself a sacrifice to the Lord.

What are you ready to offer for the sake of our Lord and your eternal life?



APRIL



The Departure of St. Eupraxia, the virgin nun 4th April =26th Baramhat

She was from the royal family of king Anorius of Rome. Her dad passed away when she was 8 years and the king personally was her guardian after her father. When she was 9, her mother took her to Egypt to manage their affairs. While they were there, they visited a convent for nuns and when the young girl saw how the nuns were living in their asceticism, she desired to be like them, so her mum tried to take her back, but she refused saying “I have vowed to be a bride for Christ”. Her mum seeing this gave authority to the pope to manage all their possessions and gave the rest of the money to the Churches and needy then stayed with her in the convent until she passed away. In spite of Eupraxia’s young age, she pushed herself to a high spiritual life. One night the mother of the convent saw a vision where an angel was coming with a very beautiful crown and asked the angel for whom this was for; the angel answered “It is for your daughter Eupraxia and she is coming to us soon”.

Considering the struggle of this young girl and the sudden transformation from a very luxurious life to the most simple life in the convent, what do you think you will answer Christ in the last day about your negligence and lack of struggle from the very little spiritual requirements?



MAY



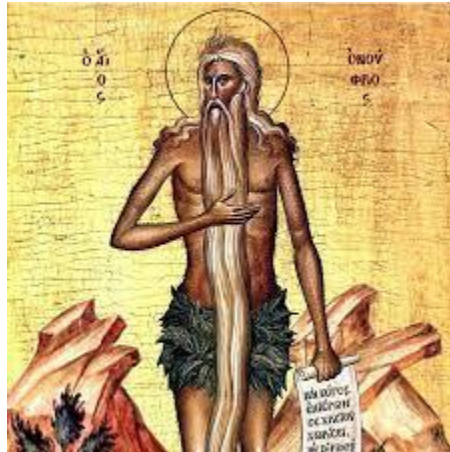
**The Departure of the Three Hebrew Young Youths -
Sedrak, Misak and Abdenagho (Jewish names-Hananiah,
Azariah and Mishael) 18th May= 10th Bashans**

For sure, from your Bible reading, most of you know about the 3 young youths and how they struggled to keep their faith and fasting. They insisted on obeying the Word of God against the word of the king- in spite of the terrible furnace of fire the king threatened them with and they were happy to be thrown in the fire but not to disobey God.

How much are you ready to endure for the sake of God and what is your status concerning the fasting?



JUNE



Departure of Saint Nofer the hermit 23rd June=16th Baouna

Saint Nofer the hermit left everything and started his monastic life in his early 20's.

His love to the Lord grew rapidly through his struggle and different spiritual practices, so that he desired to spend all the time with the Lord without hindrance, even from his brothers the monks. So he walked at night out of the monastery to wander in the deserts, relying fully on the Lord to guide his way and care for him. The Lord led him to one of the hermits and then settled in another cave where the Lord grew for him a palm tree and a spring of water. He stayed 60 years without seeing a face of a man until the Lord sent saint Paphnautios to him at the point of his departure to tell us about his life.

Review yourself; what have you left? And what are you ready to leave for the sake of your Lord's love compared to what that great hermit left?



JULY



Martyrdom of saint Tadros Pistratilatees (El-Shatby)

27TH July=20th Apib

He was born from an Egyptian father who married one of the girls of the royal family in Antioch and when he grew up, he became a general in the army. His mother was pagan but his Christian father baptized him when he was young and when his mother knew this, she kicked his father out and he returned to Egypt. When Tadros grew up, he visited his family in Egypt and confirmed his faith in Christ and when he returned to Antioch, he found Diocletian the king persecuting the Christians, so he confronted him and rebuked him. The king ordered his soldiers to put him in the fire after many tortures.

Many times we are not willing to sacrifice any worldly thing for the sake of our faith and eternal life; what answer do you think you can give compared to what saint Tadros the Martyr gave up.



AUGUST



The Departure of St. Mary Magdalene 4th August= 28th Apip

Saint Mary Magdalene was a sinner and the Lord casted 7 demons out of her. She repented, changed her life and followed the Lord until His crucifixion and burial. Due to her great love; she was the first to witness the resurrection of our Lord and announcing the news to the disciples.

The Lord loves the sinner to repent and He came from heaven to save the sinners. Are you a sinner? Come to the Lord He will accept you but you have to change your life.



SEPTEMBER



The Martyrdom of Saint John the Baptist 12TH September=2nd

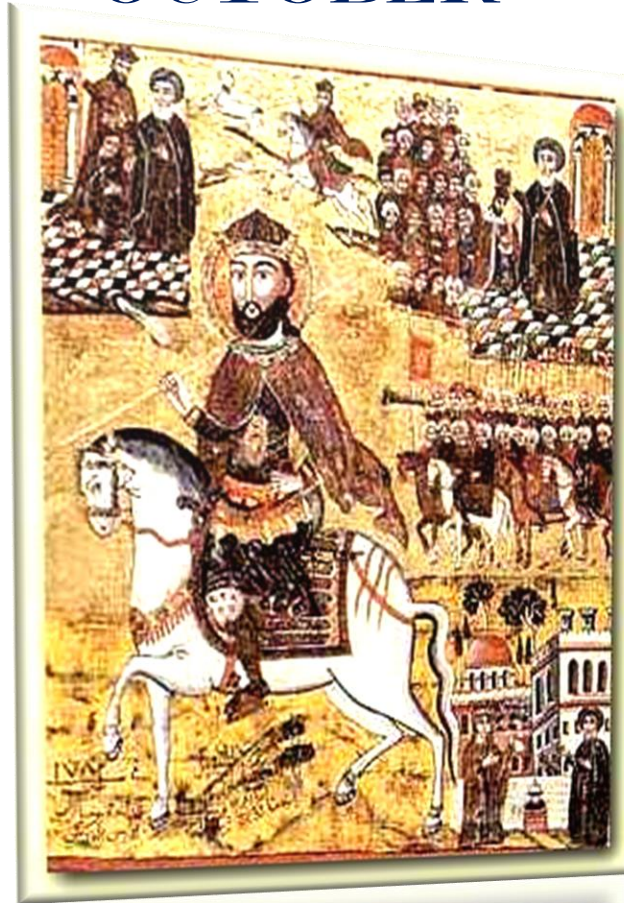
Toot

This amazing and great saint was brought up in the deserts without any care from a father or mother since the age of 2 years; he ate nothing but only wild honey and locusts. He was very strong in the truth and feared the face of no man when it came to saying the truth, even if it was before a king who would kill him. He also achieved a great deal of service to prepare souls for the coming of our Lord in a very short time, leading them all to repentance.

How much do you care for food and drink and how much do you winge about fasting foods and submit to the stomach more than the commandment of the Lord? Also how strong are you in witnessing to the truth no matter who you are standing before? It is a good idea to review this with yourself.



OCTOBER



The Martyrdom of Saints Abadir and Eraee, His Sister 8th October=28th Toot

They were two children of the prime minister of Antioch and when Abadir grew up, he was appointed a minister. They were true Christians and Abadir had in his palace a private room for prayer in which he used to spend long hours in spite of his busy schedule in his ministerial role. Once while he was praying, the Lord appeared to him and told him to take his sister and go to Egypt to gain the crown of martyrdom. When his mother knew it, she tried all her best to forbid them but they obeyed the Lord and left everything willingly to offer themselves an accepted sacrifice and they were both in their 20's. After Erianus the ruler of Ansena (Upper Egypt) tortured them and it came the time of martyrdom, he found out about their royal origin and was troubled but Abadir said to him, "it is my will to have the crown of martyrdom for my Lord and you also will martyr later on" and this happened. They were great examples in obeying the Lord and sacrificing everything.

It is better while you still have time to check how your obedience is to the Lord?



NOVEMBER

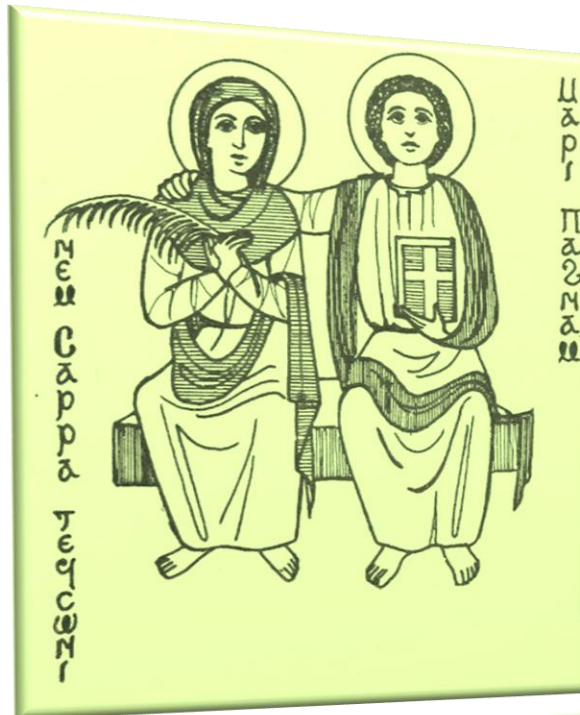


The Martyrdom of St. George of Alexandria 16th November=7th Hatour

He was the nephew of Arminius- the ruler of Alexandria in the days of Diocletian the king. He practiced his Christianity knowing that his uncle was worshipping idols, who tried to get him to deny Christ. His cousin (the daughter of the ruler) went once to walk with him and they saw a monastery on the way. She heard the praises of the monks and asked her cousin George about it. He used the chance to preach her and she believed and was baptized. Her father once called her to share with him in worshipping the idols but she refused saying "I am Christian", all his trials failed in changing her mind so he beheaded her. When he knew that this was because of George, in revenge he put him in great deals of torture then beheaded him. The Lord said "He who confesses Me before men, him also I will confess before the angels of heaven"; are you ready to confess your true Christianity before anyone you deal with no matter what?



DECEMBER



The Martyrdom of Saints Pahnam and Sarah, His Sister 23rd December=14th Koiak

They were the children of Sanhareeb -the king of Persia. Once when Pahnam was in a hunting adventure with a group of servants in the forests, at night an angel appeared to him and said to him, “seek to find father Matthew the monk who is living in a cave here, he will pray for your sister to be healed” (his sister had leprosy). In the morning he kept searching until he found father Matthew, who was aware of his visit by the angel and told him to go bring his sister and return. His mother allowed him to take his sister as she was anxious for her healing and when they arrived to father Matthew, he preached them; and they asked to be baptized. Saint Matthew prayed then suddenly a spring of water was opened for them, he baptized them and his sister was healed. When they returned to the palace and the king asked how she was healed, they told him the truth and he became very angry and threatened to kill them if they don’t deny Christ. In spite of their young age and the severeness of their father, they stood strong in the faith, they went to farewell father Matthew before their martyrdom and the king sent a troop of soldiers to kill them in the forest.

They are a great example of 2 youths who are supposed to be a king and a queen but they preferred the kingdom of heaven more than anything else on earth. Review yourself and check what are your preferences in life and what are the priorities that you set in your daily routine and put your plan for the coming new year.

2010

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