

## Language of The Heavenly Creatures

One moonlit night in Alexandria, the governor's daughter went for a walk with her maids, as she did so she passed by house and heard some beautiful chanting which she didn't understand. She stopped to listen and heard some ladies praising their God in a very heart warming tune. When she asked about the source of the voice she was told that this is a Christian convent. The princess went home quickly and asked her Christian cousin George about what she heard; he started telling her about Christianity and God opened her heart and she believed and became a martyr for the sake of our Lord Jesus.

This is the story of St. George of Alexandria, who became a martyr after he endured lots of persecution because through him the governor's daughter had believed in Jesus Christ.

**My Dearest, this soul was attracted to God through hymns and praise which came out of faithful hearts, full of love.**

"Kiahk" is a coptic month known for its many beautiful hymns and lovely religious songs and mid-night vigils, by which we get ready to celebrate the birth of Christ who loved us and came for the sake of our salvation, that we may be found worthy to inherit the Kingdom of God, enjoy His love and praise him with all our hearts, just like the heavenly creatures.

*“ The voice I heard was like the sound of harpers playing on their harps, and they sing a new song before the throne. No one could learn that song except the 144,000 who had been redeemed from earth” (Rev 14:2-3)*

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*A boy's dairy:*

## No More Promises

When I thought about the last New year's eve I felt so depressed. I had spent that night in church making lots of promises. But, alas, I hadn't kept even half of them, so I decided that I won't go to church this New year's eve.

But why does this happen every year? I remember that I had really good intentions, so what happened? and what is the solution? Is it not going to church this year? Or should I try once more?

**Lord Jesus,** *I know what I will do, I will go to church but this time I won't make new promises.. I will only ask you to open my eyes that I may see You, I will ask You to come and dwell in me and print your image upon me ...*

**Lord Jesus**, I thank you for making me realize my weakness, I can't promise you anything, I can't promise to be righteous. The righteous were so because you shined upon them. My life is from you, with you, to you and in your hands my Lord.

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*A candle of love:*

## **A Man of Prayer And Praise**

When Fr.Pishoy Kamel was spending the 40 days in the monastery after his ordination, he had a difficult time learning the hymns. But he realized how important they are and he always said: “ **The hymns are a pleasure and a way of worship just like the angels**”. So he asked God so many times in prayer to help him learn them quickly, and God answered his prayers!! as he wrote in his dairy of the forty days after the ordination.

When he went to USA in 1969 he found that the children who were born there couldn't understand neither Arabic nor Coptic. So he started teaching them Coptic so that they would be able to participate in the liturgy.. But there remained another problem- the Sunday school hymns - in which language should they learn it? He would say that the Coptic hymns are dialogues with Jesus Christ, and not just like any other hymns. So With the help of his wife Taconi Angel he started composing hymns in English but in Coptic music. He also translated many parts of the Holy Liturgy, so that everyone would understand it.

Fr. Pishoy Kamel never reduced any of the Liturgies but took time to complete them. Even the Kiahk vigils were for the very first time practiced in the USA. Fr.Pishoy Kamel said that the Coptic fathers showed that the name of Jesus Christ is the center of worship. “ *And there is no salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved*”. Acts 4:12.

It remains for us to say that Fr.Pishoy Kamel didn't spend more than a year in the USA, but in it he established the basis of Coptic service there.

**Let's now learn how to love the Coptic hymns and our lovely Coptic language.  
Let's us ask God to help us to praise Him.**

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## ***Mother Teresa: Victory of The Commandment***

Do you know Mother Teresa? You must have heard or read something about her. If not, let's read these few lines about her.

Mother Teresa was born in 1910 in Albania taking the name of Agnes, and although she didn't get married, she was the mother of many, a mother to all the needy, that people called her "The mother of the poor".

Her heart was full of Jesus' love and it over flew upon others .....**This Mother lived 87 years giving love to whoever she met without return**, that we see no picture of her in which she is not smiling lovingly.

She started her mission when she was 18, in India where there was great need. She would go to the poor by herself, giving them her love. She always said that **the poverty lies in the lack of love rather than money, and that the poor need to be loved and patted even before their need for money.**

So she established many orphanages for the orphans and the disabled of all the religions giving them, with the help of the other sisters, the true love of Christ in a practical way. **She knew that the true love is stronger than pain, so she accepted the pain with joy, sure that they are a way to heaven.** She traveled a lot establishing homes for the needy in many countries.

Mother Teresa encouraged many to give from their hearts, everyone saw how happy she was to give, give her love and tenderness. She would say : **'Never let anyone come to you and leave unless he is happier'**.

**When this Mother died on September, 5th 1997, people around the world mourned. Although the world knows only how to take but not give, but this Mother found joy in giving, she obeyed God's commandment and went against the human nature, but in the end the world paid tribute to her.**



## Other Types of Friendship

*By Father Andrawes Matta*

### + **FRIENDSHIP WITH YOUR SUNDAY SCHOOL SERVANT:**

This is a very successful type of friendship. Although the age is not close, your servants know all about the feelings and problems of your age. They can help you and guide you to solve your problems according to the will of God.

### + **FRIENDSHIP WITH YOUR PARENTS:**

I would like to encourage this type of friendship, because you won't find anyone who loves you more than they do. Be close to them because they are the closest people to you.

### + **FRIENDSHIP WITH SAINTS:**

This is a very wonderful type of friendship, it goes beyond place and time, even if I tried to explain it you won't understand it unless you try it your self ..Just like Pope Kyrellos and St. Mina. Let everyone of you now take a saint as a friend and an intercessor. You will find how loyal they are, praying for your victory and asking God on our behalf.