

His Holiness Pope Kyrillos (Cyril) Guards the wall's stones

While our friend Dr. “....” was sitting on the beach with his family last summer, one of the locals approached them and started a conversation. He said, “My job here is to guard a piece of land owned by the Patriarchate of Alexandria. One of my relatives guards the buildings of Abou Mina’s Monastery. I’d like to tell you a story. My cousin, who used to guard the stones of the Monastery’s wall during its construction, was paid one cent for each piece of land that he watched over. He had, however, a son who used to steal the stones by night and smuggle them to his home. Suddenly, while he was stealing, his hand was immobilized. His parents then took him to some of the best known doctors in Alexandria; they said, though, that the sickness was too advanced and very difficult to cure. They returned to their home, in Mariotis, in a state of despair and helplessness. In a dream, a great bearded man appeared to the father and said, “Order your son to return the stones and he will be healed!!!” The father got up, and ordered his son thus. As the last stone was returned, the boy’s hand was cured.”

My dear friend, meditate with me on the greatness of our Church that believes in the prayers and intercessions of those who have departed to heaven. For this reason we celebrate, in their names, holy liturgies, and we remember them in our prayers. We are all members of one body. They are in heaven, always praying for us; we are thus supported by the power of their prayers.

Do you have a patron saint who prays for you, and who creates within you a longing for eternal life in heaven? Do you have an intercessor who helps you in your prayers and your Bible studies, as did St. Paul with St. John Chrysostom during the latter’s studies of St. Paul’s epistles? St. John’s relationship with St. Paul was so close, that those around him could hear someone dictating him!

What is the name of your patron saint?

Father Bishoy Kamel.

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