

# Coptic Church Ritual Service Books

Dec 2020

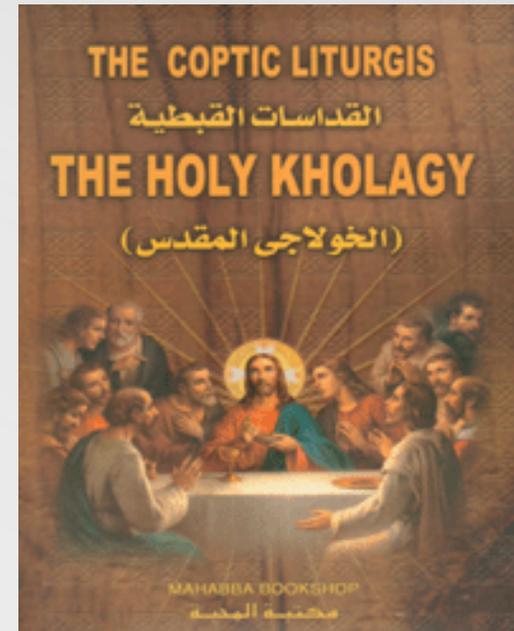


# Reading and Service Books



# Reading and Service Books

- The Holy Bible
- Agpeya
- Kholagy
- Katamars
- The Synaxarium
- The Holy Psalmody
- Special occasions
- The Service of the Deacons

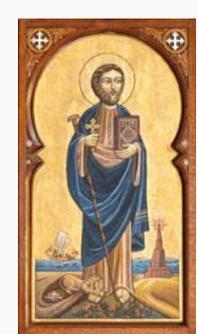


# Agpeya.. Coptic Orthodox Prayer Book



*Seven times a day I praise You because of Your righteous judgments” (Psalms 119:164)*

- The word, Agbeya, is a Coptic word meaning “Book of Hours.” It is based on the Coptic root word, ti agp, which means “hour.”
- The Agpeya is primarily used by the Coptic Orthodox Church.
- It contains prayers for seven different hours throughout the day.
- Each hour containing a theme corresponding to events in the life of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- The hours of the day start from sunrise and end at sunset.



# Agpeya.. Coptic Orthodox Prayer Book

- Each hour is composed of an introduction which includes the Lord's Prayer, the Prayer of Thanksgiving, and Psalm 50.
- It is followed by various Psalms, an excerpt from the Holy Gospel, and Litanies.
- The Hymn of the Trisagion Ἄγιος ὁ Θεός Holy God, holy Mighty, holy Immortal
- The Orthodox Creed
- Lord Have Mercy is then chanted 41 times (representing the 39 lashes Christ received before the crucifixion, plus one for the spear in His side, plus one for the crown of thorns), followed by several other prayers and a conclusion.



# Agpeya.. Coptic Orthodox Prayer Book



- First hour or "Prime," we commemorate the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ and our daily resurrection to begin a new life in Him. Moreover, we admit that He is the True Light and we pray that He shines in us and enlightens our being.



- Third hour," we commemorate the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the disciples, and pray that It may work within us.



- Sixth hour, we commemorate the Lord's crucifixion and all the emotions associated with this event...



# Agpeya.. Coptic Orthodox Prayer Book



- "Ninth hour", we commemorate confession of the thief at the Lord's right hand, and the Lord's death on our behalf.



- "Eleventh hour" or "Vespers," we remember the removing of our Lord's Body from the cross, and those who came to the Lord at the end of the day, and asking Him that we might spend the night in peace.



- "Twelfth hour" or "Compline," we remember death, the transient world, and the final judgment; and how we should get ready of that day.



# Agpeya.. Coptic Orthodox Prayer Book



- The Midnight prayer: commemorates the second coming of the Lord. and what that involves in the way of vigilance, repentance and tears...
- The Midnight prayer consists of three services, corresponding to the three stages of Christ's prayer in the garden of Gethsemane (Matt. 25:1-13).



- The prayer of Veil is prayed daily by monks and bishops.



# PRAYING THE PSALMS DURING THE HOLY LITURGY

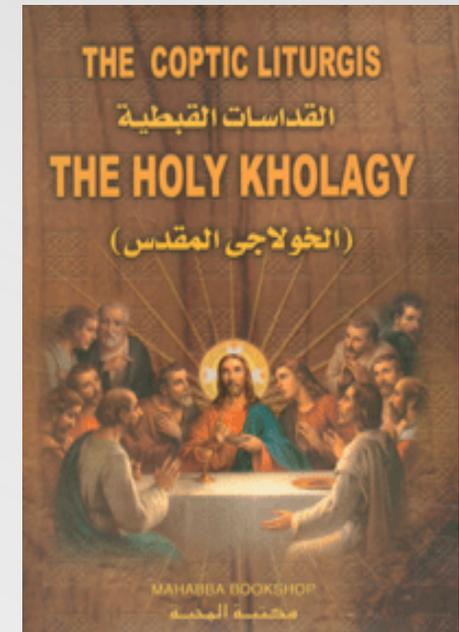
- The Psalms are read before offering the lamb as they are prophecies about the incarnation of the Lord Jesus for the salvation of the world.
- On Saturdays and Sundays and during non-fasting periods the church prays the Third and Sixth Hour.
- During periods of fasting, the church also reads the Ninth Hour.
- During Holy Lent and Jonah's fast the Eleventh & Twelfth Hour is also prayed.



# The Divine Liturgy (Kholagy)

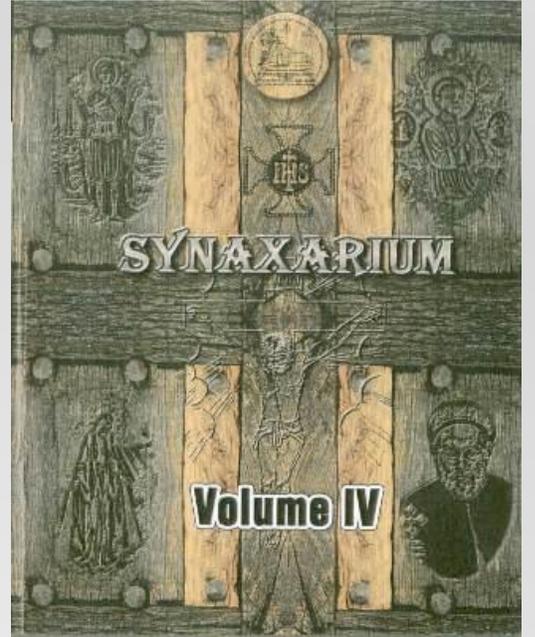
This is a Divine Liturgy book contains:

- The offering of evening incense
- The offering of morning incense
- The Divine Liturgies of
  - St Basil
  - St Gregory
  - St Cyril



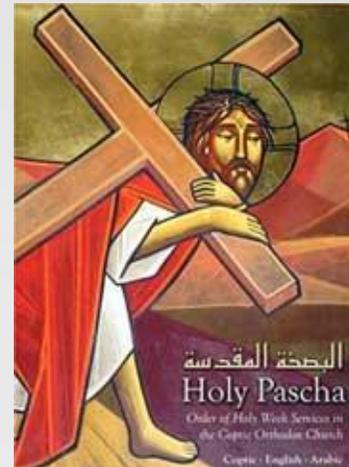
# Coptic Synaxarium (Coptic Orthodox Calendar)

- Synaxarium, Synaxarion, Synaxaria (from a Greek word meaning "to bring together").
- It's a compilation of biography Saints and Martyrs, along with some Church-related events, arranged in the order of their anniversaries.



# Katameros

- Katameros is a Greek word meaning the readings according to the day (Kata .. according to & Mareos ... day)
- contains the readings of service (Vespers, morning and the Liturgy) according to this day
- Types of Katamars in the church:
  - i. The annual: Daily readings
  - ii. Readings of Sundays
  - iii. The Great lent: readings of the Great lent and the lent of Jonah.
  - iv. The Holy Week: readings of the Holy week.
  - v. The Holy Fifty days (Khamasin) :the readings of the holy fifty day after the resurrection.



# Katamareos

- Readings during the raising of incense (evening and the morning):
  1. The psalm
  2. The gospel
- Readings during the Divine Liturgy
  1. Pauline Epistles
  2. Catholics Epistles
  3. Praxeis
  4. The psalm
  5. The gospel



# Katamaeros

Readings during the Divine Liturgy (5 readings):

1. **Pauline Epistles:** Part of the Epistle of the Apostle shows: the work of grace in the life of man.
2. **Catholic Epistles:** Part of the universal Epistles (Jacob - Peter - John - Judah) shows :the spiritual work of the believer and the disciplined Christian behavior.
3. **Praxeis:** Acts of the Apostles (shows: the work of the Holy Spirit in the church as a community and individuals. (**πραξεις** in Greek means Actions))
4. **The psalm:** Shows prophecies about Christ and His work of salvation.
5. **The gospel:** the gospel of salvation and the true promises of God.

[https://st-takla.org/zJ/index.php?option=com\\_katamaros&sm=3-3&c=&tht=&dbl=en&Itemid=3](https://st-takla.org/zJ/index.php?option=com_katamaros&sm=3-3&c=&tht=&dbl=en&Itemid=3)

<http://www.copticchurch.net/classes/getLectinary.php>



# Katamars - Taut

- The year ended with the month of Mesra which its readings revolve around self judgement and the world will be ended.
- and the year will end and we will begin a new life in heaven and start a new year here on earth and the month of TUT.
- the month of TUT is the first month of the New Year and the readings of Tut indicate how we begin a new beginning and have fruit.
- The focus of the readings of the month of Tut is repentance and who offers repentance will have fruits rejoice the heart of God.



# Katameros

We notice that, on the 12th day of every Coptic month, Archangel Michael is commemorated, on the 21st day of every Coptic month, the Blessed Virgin Mary is commemorated. We also remark that, on the 29th day of every Coptic month (except the months of Tubah and Amshir), the Annunciation, Nativity and the Resurrection of the LORD are commemorated



# Coptic Reader

Coptic Orthodox Diocese of  
the Southern United States



Selected Season  
3rd Sunday of Koiahk  
Koiahk 20, 1730  
Sunday, December 29, 2013

## Content Library



Agpeya



Psalmody



Bible



Liturgies



Readings



Melodies



Index



Clergy



Special



# The Coptic Church a Prayerful Church

- The Coptic Church lives the spirit, and practices according to the Words of the Holy Scriptures.
- The divine liturgy in Sunday's, the preparation begins on the previous day .
  - Agpya and vesper praise
  - The evening raising of incense
  - Agpya - midnight prayers
  - The midnight praise
  - The morning raising of incense
  - Agpya - The Divine Liturgy.



**Kholagy**

Vesper      Matins      Divine Liturgy

The Gospel

The Gospel

The Gospel

Psalms

Psalms

Psalms

***Katamars***

**Synaxarium**

Praxeis

Catholics

Pauline

Prophesies

Agpya

Agpya

Agpya

