



ORTHODOXY



CHURCH HISTORY (ELEMENTARY SCHOOL)

Learning about our Church history is very important. We see God's Hand in protecting our Church even until today. Throughout the years, our Faith has been protected and handed down to us. The more we learn about our Church History, the more we are proud of our Church and its traditions.

"In that day there will be an altar to the Lord in the midst of the land of Egypt." (Isaiah 19:21)



What does "Coptic" mean?

- The word 'Copt' derives from 'Aigyptios' (Greek) which means Egyptian.
- "Coptic" describes the Christian Egyptians.

An important event that happened in Egypt:

The Holy Family visited Egypt for about 3 years.

- Egypt was the only country visited by the Holy Family!
- "Blessed is Egypt My people" (Isaiah 19:25)
- Tradition tells us that the idols fell in the towns visited by the Holy Family
- Many churches and monasteries were built in the locations which have been blessed by their visit.
- Many miracles took place and still occur
- We celebrate the commemoration of the Holy Family's visit on June 1
- Isaiah the prophet prophesied about that when he said:

**"Behold, the Lord rides on a swift cloud
And will come into Egypt;
The idols of Egypt will totter at His presence, ...
In that day there will be an altar to the
Lord in the midst of the land of Egypt,
and a pillar to the Lord at its border."
(Isaiah 19:1, 19)**





When did our beloved Coptic Church begin AND by who?

- The Coptic Church was established in the year 1 AD.
- St. Mark is the founder of the Coptic Church.
- The Coptic Orthodox Church is an Apostolic Church.

WHO IS ST. MARK?

- St. Mark was born in Africa of Jewish parents who belonged to the tribe of Levi.
- He was one of the 70 apostles appointed by the Lord Jesus Christ Himself.
- He also accompanied St. Paul and St. Barnabas in their 1st missionary to Antioch, Cyprus and Asia Minor (Acts 13).
- He preached in North Africa then in Egypt.
- The Lord Jesus Christ celebrated the Passover with His disciples and established the Holy Eucharist at the house of St. Mark.
- St. Mark was the person who carried the pitcher of water followed by the two disciples according to God's plan when they celebrated the Passover (Mark 14:13,14).
- He was one of those who received the Holy Spirit at Pentecost.
- He was martyred when he was celebrating the feast of the Resurrection in 68 AD.
- As Christianity in Egypt spread, churches were built throughout the country.

Titles of St Mark:

1. The Apostle
2. The Evangelist
3. The beholder of God
4. The Martyr



**Our Church even though it is Ancient Church, it is still fruitful even until today!
May the Lord bless our beloved Church.**