The Apostle Readings

of the

Coptic Rite

The Apostle Readings of the Coptic Rite

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# Annual Time

## September or Ⲑⲟⲟⲩⲧ

### August 29 (30) / Ⲑⲟⲟⲩⲧ 1

Joyful Tune

**The Feast of Nairouz**

St. Bartholomew the Apostle

St. Militeus, the 3rd Patriarch of Alexandria

#### The Pauline Epistle

##### 2 Corinthians 5:11-6:13

A chapter from the Second Epistle of our teacher Paul the Corinthians. His blessing be upon us. Amen.

But since we know the fear of the Lord, let us try to persuade others. What we are is revealed to God, and I hope that we are also revealed to your consciences. For we are not trying to obtain your approval once again, but we say this to give you an occasion to be proud of us, so that you may have something to answer to those who boast in appearances—not in the heart [of things]. If we are unreasonable, it is for God, and if we are reasonable, it is for you. Indeed, the love of Christ overwhelms us, because we consider this: that one died for all, therefore all have died. He died for all, so that those who live should no longer live to themselves but to him who died and rose again for them. Therefore, we do not think of anyone according to the [old] flesh any more. Even though we used to think of Christ according to the flesh, we no longer think of him this way. Therefore, anyone who is in Christ is a new creation! The old things have passed away. Behold, all things have become new! But all things are of God, who reconciled us to himself through Jesus Christ and who gave to us the ministry of reconciliation. What I mean is that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not imputing sins, but having entrusted us with the word of reconciliation. Therefore, we are ambassadors of Christ: it is as if God was making [his] supplication through us: we beg you, on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God! God made him who knew no sin to become sin for our sake; so that in him, we might become the righteousness of God.

Since we are God’s fellow-workers, we also entreat you not receive his grace in vain, for he says,

*At an acceptable time I listened to you,*

*in a day of salvation I rescued you.*

Behold, now is the acceptable time! Behold, now is the day of salvation! We give no occasion for stumbling in anything, so that our service may not be blamed. Instead, we seek to be approved as servants of God in everything, in great endurance, in afflictions, in hardships, in distresses, in beatings, in imprisonments, in riots, in labors, in vigils, in fastings; in purity, in knowledge, in patience, in kindness, in the Holy Spirit, in sincere love, in the word of truth, and in the power of God. There is also the armor of righteousness on the right hand and on the left, glory and dishonor, evil report and good report; being thought to be deceivers, and yet true; unknown, and yet well-known; dying, and behold, we live; punished, and yet not killed; sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; poor, yet making many rich; thought to have nothing even though we possess all things!

We have spoken freely to you, O Corinthians, and our heart is open wide. We are not withholding our affection from you, but you are withholding yours from us! In return, I speak to you as to my children: be open [to what we have to say].

The grace of God the Father be with you all. Amen.

#### The Catholic Epistle

##### 1 John 2:7-17

The Catholic Epistle from the First Epistle of our teacher John. His Blessing be upon us. Amen.

Brethren, I am not writing a new commandment to you. This is an old commandment which you have had since the beginning. This old commandment is the word which you heard from the beginning. Yet, in another way, it is a new commandment that I write to you; it is true in him and in you because the darkness is passing away and the true light already shines! Anyone who claims to be in the light and hates his brother [or sister] is still in the darkness. Anyone who loves his brother [or sister] remains in the light, and there is no occasion for stumbling in such a person. But whoever hates a brother [or sister] is in the darkness and walks in the darkness; such a person does not know where he is going because the darkness has blinded his eyes.

I write to you, children, because your sins are forgiven through his Name. I write to you, fathers, because you know the one who has existed from the beginning. I write to you, young men, because you have overcome the evil one. I write to you, children, because you know the Father.

I have written to you, fathers, because you know him who is from the beginning. I have written to you, young men, because you are strong; and the word of God remains in you, and you have overcome the evil one.

Do not love the world or the things that are in the world. The love of the Father is not in those who love the world; because everything that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, pride in possessions, is not from the Father but from the world. The world is passing away with its lusts, but the one who does the will of God remains forever.

Do not love the world, nor the things which are in the world. The world shall pass away and all its desires; but he who does the will of God shall abide forever. Amen.

#### The Praxis

##### Acts 17:16-34

A chapter from the Acts of our fathers the pure Apostles, who were invested with the grace of the Holy Spirit. Their blessing be with us all. Amen.

Now, as Paul was in Athens, waiting for them, his spirit was greatly distressed to see that the city was full of idols. And so, he reasoned in the synagogue with the Jews and the [Gentile] God-fearers, and every day in the marketplace with the people that he met. Some of the Epicurean and Stoic philosophers also had discussions with him. Some said, “What is this babbler trying to say?”

Others suggested, “He seems to be advocating foreign deities,” because he was preaching Jesus and [Anastasin] ‘the resurrection’.

So they took him [by the arm] and brought him to the Areopagus, saying, “May we know what this new teaching that you proclaim is all about? For you bring some strange things to our ears! Therefore we want to know what these things mean.” Now, all the Athenians and the strangers living there spent their time doing nothing else, but either to tell or to hear some new thing.

So Paul stood in the middle of the Areopagus, and said, “Athenians! I perceive that you are very religious in all things. For as I passed along and observed your sacred monuments, I also found an altar with this inscription: ‘To an unknown God.’ What therefore you revere in ignorance, this is what I announce to you! The God who made the world and all things in it, being Lord of heaven and earth, does not dwell in sanctuaries made with hands! Neither is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all life, breath, and everything else. From one, he has made every nation to dwell on the entire surface of the earth (having determined the times and boundaries of their habitation). God did this so that people should seek the Lord and perhaps reach out for him and find him, although he is not far from each one of us. ‘For in him we live, and move, and have our being!’ As some of your own poets have said, ‘For we are also his offspring.’ Since we are God’s offspring, we should not think that the divinity is like gold, silver, or stone, engraved by human art and imagination. In the past, God overlooked such ignorance, but now, he commands that all people everywhere should repent, because he has appointed a day in which he will judge the world in righteousness by the man whom he has ordained. He has given assurance of this to all by raising him from the dead.”

Now, when they heard of the resurrection of the dead, some mocked; but others said, “We want to hear you again on this matter.”

Then Paul left their company. But certain men joined with him and believed. Among them was Dionysius the Areopagite, a woman named Damaris, and others with them.

The word of the Lord abides in this church and in every church. Amen.

### August 30 (31) / Ⲑⲟⲟⲩⲧ 2

Joyful Tune

**Martyrdom of St. John the Baptist**

St. Dasya the Soldier and Martyr

#### The Pauline Epistle

##### Hebrews 11:32-12:2

A chapter from the Epistle of our teacher Paul to the Hebrews. His blessing be upon us. Amen.

What more shall I say? Time would fail me if I mentioned Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, David, Samuel, and the prophets. Through faith, they overpowered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched the power of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, became strong in weakness, grew mighty in war and caused foreign armies to flee. Women received their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured, not accepting their deliverance, that they might obtain a better resurrection. Others were tried by mocking and scourging, yes, by bonds and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn apart, they were tempted and they were slain with the sword. They went around in sheep and goat skins, being destitute, afflicted and ill-treated. And yet the world was not worthy of them! They wandered in deserts, mountains, caves, and the holes of the earth. All of them received a testimony through their faith but they did not receive the promise, for God had made provision for us to have something better, and they were not to reach perfection apart from us.

And so, seeing that we are surrounded by such a great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight and the sin which so easily entangles us. Let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith. For the joy that was set before him, he endured the cross, despising its shame, and he has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

The grace of God the Father be with you all. Amen.

#### The Catholic Epistle

##### James 5:9-20

The Catholic Epistle from the Epistle of our teacher James. His Blessing be upon us. Amen.

Brethren, do not grumble against one another, so that you will not be judged. Behold, the judge stands at the door! Brethren, consider as an example of suffering and patience the prophets who spoke in the Name of the Lord. Behold, we call them blessed who endured. You have heard of the patience of Job and you have seen the Lord in the outcome, how the Lord is full of compassion and mercy.

But above all things, my brethren, do not swear, neither by heaven or earth, nor by any other oath. Instead, let your “yes” be “yes,” and your “no,” “no;” so that you may not fall into hypocrisy.

Are any among you suffering? Let them pray. Are any cheerful? Let them sing praises. Are any among you sick? Let them call for the presbyters of the Church: they should pray over them and anoint them with oil in the Name of the Lord. The prayer of faith will heal those who are sick and the Lord will raise them up. If they have committed sins, they will be forgiven. Confess your offenses to one another and pray for one another in order to be healed. The insistent prayer of a righteous person is powerfully effective! Elias was a man with a nature like ours, and when he prayed earnestly that it might not rain, it did not rain on the earth for three years and six months! When he prayed later on, the sky gave rain and the earth brought forth its fruit.

Brethren, if someone among you wander from the truth and is brought back by another, know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save a soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

Do not love the world, nor the things which are in the world. The world shall pass away and all its desires; but he who does the will of God shall abide forever. Amen.

#### The Praxis

##### 12:1-12

A chapter from the Acts of our fathers the pure Apostles, who were invested with the grace of the Holy Spirit. Their blessing be with us all. Amen.

About that time, King Herod took actions to oppress some of the [members of the] Church. He had James, the brother of John, killed with the sword. When he saw that it pleased the Jews, he proceeded to arrest Peter as well. (This was during the days of unleavened bread). After arresting Peter, he put him in prison and delivered him to four squads of four soldiers to guard him, intending to bring him out to the people after the Passover. And so, Peter was kept in the prison, but constant prayer was made by the Church to God for him. The same night, when Herod was about to bring him out, Peter was sleeping between two soldiers, bound with two chains, while guards in front of the door were keeping watch over the prison.

And behold, an angel of the Lord stood by him, and a light shone in the cell. Stricking Peter on the side, he woke Peter up, saying, “Stand up quickly!”, and Peter’s chains fell off from his hands. The angel said to him, “Get dressed and put on your sandals!”, and Peter did so. Then the angel said, “Put on your cloak, and follow me!” And Peter went out and followed the angel, but he did not realized that what was being done by the angel was real, thinking that he was seeing a vision. When they were past the first and the second guard, they came to the iron gate that leads into the city, and it opened to them by itself. Having gone through, they went down one street, and immediately the angel departed from him.

When Peter came to himself, he exclaimed, “Now I truly know that the Lord has sent out his angel and delivered me out of the hand of Herod and from all that the Jewish people were expecting.” After pondering on this, he went to the house of Mary, the mother of John whose surname was Mark, where many were gathered together and praying.

The word of the Lord abides in this church and in every church. Amen.

### August 31 (Sept 1) / Tho-out 3 through September 4 (5) / Ⲑⲟⲟⲩⲧ 7

August 31 (September 1) / Ⲑⲟⲟⲩⲧ 3, see June 27 / Ⲉⲡⲏⲡ 3, page 264.

Joyful tune. **Commemoration of the Council held in Alexandria.** St. Theodora of Alexandria. A great earthquake in 1112 A.D.

September 1 (2) / Ⲑⲟⲟⲩⲧ 4, see September 5 (6) / Ⲑⲟⲟⲩⲧ 8, page 22.

Joyful tune. St. Macarius, the 69th Patriarch of Alexandria. St. Verena.

September 2 (3) / Ⲑⲟⲟⲩⲧ 5, see January 25 (26) / Ⲧⲱⲃⲓ 30, page 177.

Joyful tune. St. Sophia the Martyr.

September 3 (4) / Ⲑⲟⲟⲩⲧ 6, see September 5 (6) / Ⲑⲟⲟⲩⲧ 8, page 22.

Joyful tune. **Isaias** the Prophet. St. Basilissa the martyr.

September 4 (5) / Ⲑⲟⲟⲩⲧ 7, see June 27 / Ⲉⲡⲏⲡ 3, page 264.

Joyful tune. **St. Disocorus,** the 25th Patriarch of Alexandria. Rebecca and her children, the martyrs. St. Severian of Gabala.

### September 5 (6) / Ⲑⲟⲟⲩⲧ 8

Joyful Tune

St. Zachariah the Priest and Martyr

**Moses the Archprophet**

St. Diomede the Martyr

#### The Pauline Epistle

##### Hebrews 11:17-27

A chapter from the Epistle of our teacher Paul to the Hebrews. His blessing be upon us. Amen.

By faith, Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac [in sacrifice]. Yes, he who had joyfully received the promises was now offering up his uniquely loved son, the very one of whom it was said, “In Isaac will your seed be called”. Abraham concluded that God was even able to raise up the dead and figuratively speaking, he did receive Isaac back from the dead. By faith, Isaac blessed Jacob and Esau, even regarding future events. By faith, Jacob, when he was dying, blessed each one of Joseph’s and worshiped, leaning on the top of his staff. By faith, Joseph, when his end was near, made mention of the exodus of the children of Israel and gave instructions concerning his bones. By faith, Moses, when he was born, was hidden for three months by his parents because they saw that he was a beautiful child and they were not afraid of the king’s commandment. By faith, Moses, when he had grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh’s daughter, choosing to share ill-treatment with God’s people rather than enjoy the pleasures of sin for a time. He considered the disgrace of the Anointed one greater wealth than the treasures of Egypt, for he had his eyes fixed on the reward. By faith, he left Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king, but he persevered as if he was seeing him who is invisible.

The grace of God the Father be with you all. Amen.

#### The Catholic Epistle

##### 2 Peter 1:19-2:8

The Catholic Epistle from the Second Epistle of our teacher Peter. His Blessing be upon us. Amen.

Therefore, we have the word of prophecy made even more certain, and you should pay attention to it as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star arises in your hearts. Know this first of all, that no interpretation of Scriptural prophecy happens as something private, because no prophecy ever came by human will: holy men of God spoke, being moved by the Holy Spirit.

But false prophets also arose among the people, as false teachers will also be among you. They will secretly bring in destructive heresies, even denying the Master who bought them, bringing upon themselves swift destruction. Many will follow their immoral ways and as a result, the way of the truth will be brought into disrepute. They will exploit you greedily with deceptive words. Their sentence, pronounced long ago, does not linger, and their destruction does not slumber.

For God did not spare angels when they sinned but cast them down to Tartarus and committed them to pits of darkness to be reserved for judgment. He did not spare the ancient world but preserved Noah (a preacher of righteousness) with seven others when he brought a flood on the world of the ungodly. He also turned the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah into ashes, condemned them to destruction and made them an example to those who would lead ungodly lives. He delivered the righteous Lot who was very distressed by the lustful behavior of these wicked people; that righteous man was living among them and was tormented every day in his righteous soul when he saw and heard lawless deeds.

Do not love the world, nor the things which are in the world. The world shall pass away and all its desires; but he who does the will of God shall abide forever. Amen.

#### The Praxis

##### Acts 15:21-29

A chapter from the Acts of our fathers the pure Apostles, who were invested with the grace of the Holy Spirit. Their blessing be with us all. Amen.

For from generations of old, Moses has had in every city those who preach him, being read every Sabbath in the synagogues.” Then it seemed good to the apostles and the presbyters, along with the whole Church, to choose some of their own men and to send them to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas: Judas (called Barsabbas) and Silas, leading men among the brethren. Through their hands, they wrote:

“The apostles, the presbyters, and the brethren; to the brethren who are of the Gentiles in Antioch, Syria, and Cilicia: greetings! We have heard that some who went out from us have troubled you with words and unsettled your souls by saying: ‘You must be circumcised and keep the law’, although they had no such commission from us. Having assembled with one accord, it has seemed good to us to select men and to send them to you with our beloved Barnabas and Paul, men who have risked their lives for the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, we have sent Judas and Silas, who will also tell you the same things by word of mouth. It has seemed good to the Holy Spirit and to us to impose no greater burden on you than what is necessary: that you abstain from things sacrificed to idols, from blood, from the meat of strangled animals and from sexual immorality. If you abstain from these things, it will be well with you. Farewell!”

The word of the Lord abides in this church and in every church. Amen.

### September 6 (7) / Tho-out 9 through Ⲑⲟⲟⲩⲧ 15

September 6 (7) / Ⲑⲟⲟⲩⲧ 9, see November 24 (25) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 28, page 100.

Joyful tune. St. Pisora the bishop and martyr.

September 7 (8) / Ⲑⲟⲟⲩⲧ 10, see January 25 (26) / Ⲧⲱⲃⲓ 30, page 177.

Joyful tune. **St. Matruna the martyr.** Sts. Basin and her three children, the martyrs.

September 8 (9) / Ⲑⲟⲟⲩⲧ 11, see April 22 / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙⲟⲩⲧⲉ 27, page 213.

Joyful tune. St. Basilides the martyr.

September 9 (10) / Ⲑⲟⲟⲩⲧ 12, see November 5 (6) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 9, page 77.

Joyful tune. Commemoration of Archangel Michael. **Council of Ephesus.**

September 10 (11) / Ⲑⲟⲟⲩⲧ 13, see November 13 (14) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 17, page 86.

Joyful tune. **St. Metthias II**, 90th Patriarch of Alexandria. Miracle performed by St. Basil.

September 11(12) / Ⲑⲟⲟⲩⲧ 14, see July 27 / Ⲙⲉⲥⲟⲣⲏ 3, page 290.

Joyful tune. St. Agathon the stylite. Sts. Felix, Rigula, and Exuperius of the Theban Legion.

September 12 (13) / Ⲑⲟⲟⲩⲧ 15, see December 27 (28) / Ⲧⲱⲃⲓ 1, page 138.

Joyful tune. Translocation of the relics of St. Stephen the protomartyr.

### September 13 (14) / Ⲑⲟⲟⲩⲧ 16

Joyful Tune

**Dedication of the Church of the Resurrection**

Translocation of the Relics of St. John Chrysostom

#### The Pauline Epistle

##### Hebrews 9:1-10

A chapter from the Epistle of our teacher Paul to the Hebrews. His blessing be upon us. Amen.

Even the first tabernacle and covenant had ordinances of divine service and an earthly sanctuary. A tabernacle was set up; in the first part which is called the Holy Place were the lampstand, the table, and the show bread. Beyond the second veil was found the tabernacle which is called the Holy of Holies. It had a golden altar of incense and the Ark of the Covenant all covered with gold. The Ark contained a golden jar holding the manna, Aaron’s rod that budded and the tablets of the covenant. Above it, cherubim of glory overshadowed the mercy seat, but now we cannot speak about these things in detail. According to this arrangement, priests are continually entering the outer tabernacle, accomplishing the rites of offering divine service. Into the second tabernacle, only the high priest enters, once in the year and with blood, which he offers for himself and for the sins committed in ignorance by the people. The Holy Spirit is indicating that the way into the Holy Place was not yet revealed, [at least] while the first tabernacle was still standing. It is a figure of the present age, where the gifts and sacrifices that are offered are incapable, as far as conscience is concerned, to make the one who offers divine service perfect. The reason is that they are only carnal ordinances (with meats, drinks and various washings), imposed until a time of reformation.

The grace of God the Father be with you all. Amen.

#### The Catholic Epistle

##### 1 Peter 2:1-10

The Catholic Epistle from the First Epistle of our teacher Peter. His Blessing be upon us. Amen.

[And this is the word which by the Gospel is preached to you.]\* Therefore, putting away all wickedness, deceit, hypocrisy, envies, and all evil speaking, as newborn babies, long for the pure milk of the Word, so that you may grow from it. If indeed you have tasted that the Lord is gracious, come to him who is a living stone, rejected by men but chosen by God and precious. You also, as living stones, are being built up as a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, in order to offer up spiritual sacrifices that are acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. As the Scripture has it:

*Behold, I lay in Zion a chief cornerstone, chosen, and precious:*

*Whoever believes in him will not be disappointed.*

For you who believe, this brings honor, but for those who are disobedient:

*The stone which the builders rejected,*

*has become the chief cornerstone,*

and:

*a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense.*

For they stumble at the word and they are disobedient, which is what they were laid aside for. But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for God’s own possession, so that you may proclaim the wonderful deeds of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. In the past, you were not a people, but now, you are God’s people. In the past, you had not obtained mercy, but now, you have obtained mercy.

Do not love the world, nor the things which are in the world. The world shall pass away and all its desires; but he who does the will of God shall abide forever. Amen.

\*This verse is found only in Coptic.

#### The Praxis

##### Acts 9:31-43

A chapter from the Acts of our fathers the pure Apostles, who were invested with the grace of the Holy Spirit. Their blessing be with us all. Amen.

And so, the Churches throughout all Judea and Galilee and Samaria had peace and were edified. Walking in the fear of the Lord and in the comfort of the Holy Spirit, they continued to grow.

Now, as Peter traveled through all those regions, he also came down to the saints who lived in Lydda. There, he found a certain man named Aeneas, who was paralyzed and who had been bedridden for eight years. Peter said to him, “Aeneas, Jesus Christ heals you! Get up and make your bed!” And immediately, he arose. All who lived in Lydda and Sharon saw him and turned to the Lord.

Now, there lived in Joppa a certain disciple named Tabitha, (which, when translated, means Dorcas). This woman was full of good works and acts of mercy. But it happened that at this time, she became ill and died. She was washed and placed in an upper room. As Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, hearing that Peter was there, sent two men to him, imploring him, ‘Do not to delay in coming to help us!” So Peter arose and went with them. When he arrived, the disciples led him into the upper room. All the widows stood by him weeping, showing [to Peter] the coats and garments which Dorcas had made while she was with them. But having put everyone out [of the room], Peter knelt down and prayed. Turning towards the body, he said, “Tabitha, get up!” She opened her eyes, and when she saw Peter, she sat up. Then Peter gave her his hand and raised her up. Calling the saints and widows, he presented her alive. This became known all over Joppa, and many people believed in the Lord. Then he stayed in Joppa for a while, lodging with Simon, a tanner.

The word of the Lord abides in this church and in every church. Amen.

### September 14 (15) / Ⲑⲟⲟⲩⲧ 17

Palm Tune

Exaltation of the Holy Cross (Dedication of the Church of the Holy Cross)

#### The Pauline Epistle

##### 1 Corinthians 1:17-31

A chapter from the First Epistle of our teacher Paul to the Corinthias. His blessing be upon us. Amen.

Indeed, Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the Good News—not in wisdom of words, so that the cross of Christ would not be made void. For the word of the cross is foolishness to those who are dying, but to us who are saved it is the power of God. As it is written:

*I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,*

*I will bring the discernment of the discerning to nothing.*

Where is the wise? Where is the expert of the law? Where is the debater of this world? Has not God ridiculed the wisdom of this world? Since in God’s wisdom, the world through its ‘wisdom’ did not know God, it was God’s good pleasure through the foolishness of the preaching to save those who believe. Jews ask for signs and Greeks seek after wisdom, but we preach Christ crucified; a stumbling block to Jews, and foolishness to Greeks. However, to those who are called, (both Jews and Greeks), Christ is the power of God and the wisdom of God, because God’s ‘foolishness’ is wiser than human wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than human strength. Consider your calling, brethren, that not many [among you] were wise according to the flesh, not many powerful, and not [many] of noble birth. Nevertheless, God chose the foolish things of the world to put to shame those who are ‘wise’. [Yes], God chose the weak things of the world in order to put to shame the things that are strong. God also chose the lowly things of the world, the things that are despised, and the things that are not, so that he might bring to nothing the things that are; so that no flesh should boast before God. But by God’s doing, you are in Christ Jesus, who was made to us wisdom from God, as well as righteousness, sanctification, and redemption; so that, according as it is written, “He who boasts, let him boast in the Lord.”

The grace of God the Father be with you all. Amen.

#### The Catholic Epistle

##### 1 Peter 2:11-25

The Catholic Epistle from the First Epistle of our teacher Peter. His Blessing be upon us. Amen.

Beloved, I beg you as exiles and pilgrims [in this world] to abstain from carnal lusts which war against the soul. Live righteous lives among the nations so that if they accuse you of being evildoers, they may, by your good works which they see, glorify God in the day of visitation. Therefore, for the Lord’s sake, submit yourselves to every human institution: to the emperor as supreme [law-giver], or to governors as commissions by him to punish those who do evil and to praise to those who do good. For this is the will of God: that by going good you should silence the ignorance of foolish men. Be free, but do not use your freedom for a cloak of wickedness, but as slaves of God.

Honor everyone. Love the [family of] brethren. Fear God. Honor the king. Servants, be in subjection to your masters with full reverence, not only to the good and kind but also to the wicked. For it is worthy of praise if someone endures pain and suffers unjustly because of conscience toward God. But what glory is there if when you sin, you patiently endure a beating? But if you patiently endure suffering when you do good, this is worthy of praise with God. You were called to this, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example so that you should follow in his steps. Yet he did not sin, “neither was deceit found in his mouth” and when he was cursed, he did not curse back. When he suffered, he did not threaten but committed himself to the one who judges righteously. In his body, he bore in himself our sins on the tree, so that having died to sins, we might live to righteousness; and ‘by his stripes you were healed’. Indeed, you were going astray like sheep, but now, you have returned to the shepherd and overseer\* of your souls.

Do not love the world, nor the things which are in the world. The world shall pass away and all its desires; but he who does the will of God shall abide forever. Amen.

\*or “bishop” or “episcopos”

#### The Praxis

##### Acts 10:34-43

A chapter from the Acts of our fathers the pure Apostles, who were invested with the grace of the Holy Spirit. Their blessing be with us all. Amen.

Peter opened his mouth and said, “Truly, I perceive that God does not show favoritism; but in every nation, whoever fears him and works righteousness is acceptable to him. God sent his word to the children of Israel, and the Good News of peace was preached by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. You know what happened since the Good News was proclaimed throughout all Judea, beginning from Galilee, after baptism was preached by John. You know how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses of everything he did in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They put him to death, hanging him on a tree, but God raised him up the third day and allowed him to be seen. Yet, he was not manifest to all the people but [only] to witnesses who were chosen beforehand by God, that is to us who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one who is appointed by God as the Judge of the living and the dead. It is to him that all the prophets bear witness: that through his Name, everyone who believes in him will receive remission of sins.”

The word of the Lord abides in this church and in every church. Amen.

### September 15 (16) / Ⲑⲟⲟⲩⲧ 18

Palm Tune

Second Day of the Feast of the Cross

St. Prophyrius the Martyr

Commemoration of St. Stephen the priest, and St. Niketa the martyr

#### The Pauline Epistle

##### Galatians 6:11-18

A chapter from the Epistle of our teacher Paul to the Galatians. His blessing be upon us. Amen.

See with what large letters I write to you with my own hand! It is those who desire to make a good showing in the flesh who are trying to compel you to be circumcised; and it only so that they may not be persecuted for the cross of Christ. Even those who receive circumcision do not themselves keep the law, but they desire to have you circumcised so that they may boast in your flesh. As for me, I shall find glory in nothing, except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which the world has been crucified to me and I to the world. In Christ Jesus, circumcision and uncircumcision mean nothing; only a new creation {is significant}. To those who live by this rule, may there be peace and mercy upon them, and on the Israel of God. From now on, let no one cause me any trouble, for I bear the marks of the Lord Jesus branded on my body.

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brethren. Amen.

The grace of God the Father be with you all. Amen.

#### The Catholic Epistle

##### 1 Peter 1:3-12

The Catholic Epistle from the First Epistle of our teacher Peter. His Blessing be upon us. Amen.

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to his great mercy, became our father again. This is to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an incorruptible and undefiled inheritance that does not fade away. It is reserved in heaven for you, who by the power of God are protected through faith for a salvation which is ready to be revealed in the last time. In this, you greatly rejoice, although for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials. This way, may the demonstration of your faith (which is more precious than gold that perishes even though it is tested by fire), be found to result in praise, glory, and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ! Even though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with unspeakable joy and glory. And so you are receiving the result of your faith, the salvation of your souls. About this salvation, the prophets who prophesied of the grace that would come to you did much research and investigation. They were searching the person and time that the Spirit of Christ (which was in them) pointed to by predicting the sufferings of Christ and the glories that would follow them. They received revelation that they were servants of these things not for themselves but for you. These [things] have now have been announced to you by those who preached the Good News by the Holy Spirit sent out from heaven, and [even the] angels desire to gaze upon these things.

Do not love the world, nor the things which are in the world. The world shall pass away and all its desires; but he who does the will of God shall abide forever. Amen.

#### The Praxis

##### Acts 4:8-18

A chapter from the Acts of our fathers the pure Apostles, who were invested with the grace of the Holy Spirit. Their blessing be with us all. Amen.

Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, addressed them: “Rulers of the people and presbyters of Israel; if we are examined today concerning a good deed done to a crippled man and by what means this man has been healed, let it known to you all and to all the people of Israel that is it in the Name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth (whom you crucified and whom God raised from the dead) that this man stands here before you whole. Jesus is ‘the stone which was regarded as worthless by you, the builders, which has become the head of the corner.’ There is salvation in no one else, and there is no other Name under heaven that is given among mortals by which we should be saved!”

Now, when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were unlearned and untrained men, they marveled. They [also] recognized that they had been with Jesus. Seeing the man who was healed standing with them, they could say nothing against it. But when they had commanded them to step aside out of the council, they conferred among themselves, saying, “What shall we do to these men? Indeed, a remarkable miracle has been accomplished through them, as can plainly be seen by all who dwell in Jerusalem, and we cannot deny it. But to prevent this from spreading any further among the people, let us threaten them so that from now on, they will no longer speak to anyone in this Name.” They called the apostles and ordered them not to speak at all or to teach in the Name of Jesus.

The word of the Lord abides in this church and in every church. Amen.

### September 16 (17) / Ⲑⲟⲟⲩⲧ 19

Palm Tune

**Third Day of the Feast of the Cross**

St. Gregory the Armenian

#### The Pauline Epistle

##### Colossians 2:6-19

A chapter from the Epistle of our teacher Paul to the Colossians. His blessing be upon us. Amen.

As you received Christ Jesus as the Lord, walk also in him, rooted and built up in him, established in the faith just as you were taught, overflowing from faith into thanksgiving.

Be careful not to let anyone rob you through philosophy and vain deceit, according to human tradition and the basic things of the world, and not after Christ. For in him all the fullness of deity dwells bodily, and in him who is the head of all principality and power, you are made full. In him, you were also circumcised with a circumcision not made with hands, by casting off the sinful nature in the circumcision of Christ. You have been buried with him through baptism in which you were also raised with him through faith in the working of God, who raised him from the dead. You were dead in your sins and in the uncircumcision of your flesh, but he made you alive with him by forgiving us all our trespasses and by wiping out the handwriting of ordinances which was against us. He removed it out of the way, nailing it to the cross, having exposed the principalities and powers, making a public display of them and triumphing over them.

Therefore, let no one judge you in matters of eating, drinking, or regarding a feast day, new moon or a Sabbath day. These are a shadow of the things to come, but the body belongs to Christ. Let no one rob you of your prize by false humility and a religion of angels, dwelling on things which such a one has not seen, vainly puffed up by a carnal mind. Such a person is not holding firmly to the head, from whom the whole body, being supported and knit together through the joints and ligaments, grows with the growth given by God.

The grace of God the Father be with you all. Amen.

#### The Catholic Epistle

##### 1 John 5:13-21

The Catholic Epistle from the First Epistle of our teacher John. His Blessing be upon us. Amen.

I have written these things to you who believe in the Name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life and continue to believe in the Name of the Son of God.

This is the boldness which we have toward him: if we ask anything according to his will, he listens to us! And if we know that he listens to

us, no matter what we ask, we [also] know that we have obtained the petitions which we have asked of him.

If you see one of the brethren committing a sin that does not leads to death, you should intercede in prayer and God will give life to those brethren whose sin do not lead to death. But there is a [type of] sin that leads to death, and I do not say that you should make a request in this case. All unrighteousness is sin, yet there is a [type of] sin which does not lead to death. We know that whoever is born of God does not practice sin; whoever has been born of God is protected [by God], and the evil one does not take hold of such a one. We know that we are of God and that the whole world lies in the power of the evil one. We know that the Son of God has come, and he has given us understanding so that we may know him who is true. Indeed, we are in him who is true, in his Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God, and eternal life.

Dear children, keep yourselves from idols.

Do not love the world, nor the things which are in the world. The world shall pass away and all its desires; but he who does the will of God shall abide forever. Amen.

#### The Praxis

##### Acts 3:12-21

A chapter from the Acts of our fathers the pure Apostles, who were invested with the grace of the Holy Spirit. Their blessing be with us all. Amen.

When Peter saw this, he answered to the people, “Men of Israel, why do you marvel at this man? Why do you gaze at us, as though by our own power or godliness we had made him walk? The God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, the God of our fathers, has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you delivered up and denied in the presence of Pilate, when he had determined to release him. But you denied the Holy and Righteous One and asked for a murderer to be granted to you. Then you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. By faith in his Name, this man whom you see and know was made strong. Yes, the faith which comes through Jesus has given him this perfect soundness as you all can see.

Now, brethren, I know that you did this in ignorance, as did your leaders. Yet, this is how God fulfilled what he had announced by the mouth of all his prophets, [namely] that Christ should suffer.

Repent therefore, and turn back [to God], so that your sins may be blotted out, that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord, and that he may send Christ Jesus who was in advanced ordained for you. He must remained in heaven until the times of restoration of all things, which God announced long ago by the mouth of his holy prophets.

The word of the Lord abides in this church and in every church. Amen.

### September 17 (18) / Ⲑⲟⲟⲩⲧ 20

See January 25 (26) / Ⲧⲱⲃⲓ 30, page 177.

Annual tune. St Athanasius II, 28th Patriarch of Alexandria. St. Melitina the virgin and martyr. **St. Theopista** the ascetic.

### September 18 (19) / Ⲑⲟⲟⲩⲧ 21

Annual Tune

Commemoration of the Theotokos

**St. Cyprian the bishop and martyr**

St. Justina the martyr

#### The Pauline Epistle

##### Philippians 1:1-11

A chapter from the Epistle of our teacher Paul to the Philippians. His blessing be upon us. Amen.

Paul and Timothy, servants of Jesus Christ;

To all the saints in Christ Jesus who are at Philippi, with the overseers and deacons: Grace to you and peace, from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ. I give thanks to my God whenever I remember you, and I always pray with joy when I intercede on your behalf because of your partnership in the furtherance of the Good News, even from the very first day until now. I am confident of this very thing: that God who began a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to think this way about you, because I have you in my heart and because you are all partakers with me of grace, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the Good News. For God is my witness: I long for all of you in the tender mercies of Christ Jesus!

I pray [especially] for this, that your love may overflow even more, with an increase of knowledge and all discernment. This way, you will be able to discern what things are excellent, so that you may be sincere and without offense to the day of Christ, filled with the fruits of righteousness which are through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God!

The grace of God the Father be with you all. Amen.

#### The Catholic Epistle

##### 1 John 2:7-11

The Catholic Epistle from the Epistle of our teacher N. His Blessing be upon us. Amen.

Brethren, I am not writing a new commandment to you. This is an old commandment which you have had since the beginning. This old commandment is the word which you heard from the beginning. Yet, in another way, it is a new commandment that I write to you; it is true in him and in you because the darkness is passing away and the true light already shines! Anyone who claims to be in the light and hates his brother [or sister] is still in the darkness. Anyone who loves his brother [or sister] remains in the light, and there is no occasion for stumbling in such a person. But whoever hates a brother [or sister] is in the darkness and walks in the darkness; such a person does not know where he is going because the darkness has blinded his eyes.

Do not love the world, nor the things which are in the world. The world shall pass away and all its desires; but he who does the will of God shall abide forever. Amen.

#### The Praxis

##### Acts 19:11-17

A chapter from the Acts of our fathers the pure Apostles, who were invested with the grace of the Holy Spirit. Their blessing be with us all. Amen.

God worked remarkable miracles by the hands of Paul, so [much] that even handkerchiefs or aprons that had touched him were taken to the sick, and the evil spirits were expelled.

But some of the itinerant Jews who were exorcists took it on themselves to invoke the Name of the Lord Jesus over those who had the evil spirits. They said, “We adjure you by Jesus whom Paul preaches.” There were seven sons of a certain Sceva, a Jewish chief priest, who did this.

But the evil spirit answered, “Jesus I know, and Paul I know, but who are you?” The man in whom the evil spirit was leaped on them and overpowered them. He gave them such a beating that they escaped from that house naked and wounded. This became known to all who lived at Ephesus, both Jews and Greeks. Fear fell on them all, and the Name of the Lord Jesus was magnified.

The word of the Lord abides in this church and in every church. Amen.

### September 19 (20) / Ⲑⲟⲟⲩⲧ 22 through September 22 (23) / Ⲑⲟⲟⲩⲧ 25

September 19 (20) / Ⲑⲟⲟⲩⲧ 22, see April 22 / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙⲟⲩⲧⲉ 27, page 213.

Annual tune. **Sts. Cotylas and Axoua and the friend, Tata, the martyrs**. St. Julian the martyr.

September 20 (21) / Ⲑⲟⲟⲩⲧ 23, see September 18 (19) / Ⲑⲟⲟⲩⲧ 21, page 35.

Annual tune. **Sts. Eunapios and Andrews the martyrs**. St. Thecla the martyr. The reopening of the Church of the Virgin in 1029 A.D.

September 21 (22) / Ⲑⲟⲟⲩⲧ 24, see December 27 (28) / Ⲧⲱⲃⲓ 1, page 138.

Annual tune. **St. Quadratus the Disciple.** St. Gergory ascetic.

September 22 (23) / Ⲑⲟⲟⲩⲧ 25, see September 5 (6) / Ⲑⲟⲟⲩⲧ 8, page 22.

Annual tune. **Jonas the prophet.** St. Maurice and his companions.

### September 23 (24) / Ⲑⲟⲟⲩⲧ 26

Annual Tune

Annunciation of the nativity of St. John the Baptist

#### The Pauline Epistle

##### Romans 1:1-17

A chapter from the Epistle of our teacher Paul to the Romans. His blessing be upon us. Amen.

Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the Good News of God, which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the Holy Scriptures. [This is the Good News] concerning his Son, who was born of the seed of David according to the flesh, who was declared to be the Son of God with power, according to the Spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord. Through him, we received have grace and apostleship, for obedience of faith among all the nations, for his Name’s sake. Among them, you are also called to belong to Jesus Christ.

To all who are in Rome, beloved of God, called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for all of you, that your faith is proclaimed throughout the whole world. For God, to whom I offer divine service in my spirit in the Good News of his Son, is my witness; how unceasingly I always make mention of you in my prayers. I request, if by any means now at last I may be blessed by the will of God to come to you. For I long to see you, so that I may impart to you some spiritual gift with the purpose that you may be established; that is, that I with you may be encouraged in you, each of us by the other’s faith, both yours and mine.

Now, I do not desire to have you unaware, brethren, that have I often planned to come to you, but so far, I have been hindered. [My goal] is that I might have some fruit among you also, even as I have among the rest of the Gentiles. I am debtor both to Greeks and to foreigners, both to the wise and to the foolish. This is why there is so much eagerness on my part to preach the Good News to you also who are in Rome.

Indeed, I am not ashamed of the Good News of Christ! It is the power of God for salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first, and also for

he Greek. For in the Gospel God’s righteousness is revealed from faith to faith. As it is written, “But the righteous shall live by faith.”

The grace of God the Father be with you all. Amen.

#### The Catholic Epistle

##### James 1:1-18

The Catholic Epistle from the Epistle of our teacher James. His Blessing be upon us. Amen.

James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, to the Twelve tribes which are in the Dispersion: Greetings!

Consider it as all joy, my brethren, when you fall into various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance. Let endurance have its full effect, so that you may be perfect and whole, lacking in nothing. But if any of you lacks wisdom, let such one ask of God who gives to all abundantly and without finding fault; and it will be given to him. But ask in faith, without any doubting, for whoever doubts is like a wave of the sea, driven by the wind and tossed. Such a person should not think that anything will be received from the Lord. This is being double- minded, unstable in every way.

But let the brethren of humble circumstances glory in their high position. But the rich should rejoice in being made humble, because like the flower in the grass, they will pass away. For the sun arises with the scorching wind and withers the grass, its flower falls and the beauty of its appearance perishes. Likewise, the rich shall fade away in their pursuits.

Blessed is the one who endures temptation, for when he has been approved, he will receive the crown of life which the Lord promised to those who love him. When temptations come, let no one say, “I am tempted by God,” because God cannot be tempted by evil and he himself tempts no one. But a person is tempted when drawn away and enticed by his own lust. Then the lust, when it has conceived, gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full grown, results in death. Do not be deceived, my beloved brethren! Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom can be no variation or shifting shadow. He brought us forth of his own will by the word of truth, so that we should be a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

Do not love the world, nor the things which are in the world. The world shall pass away and all its desires; but he who does the will of God shall abide forever. Amen.

#### The Praxis

##### Acts 7:2b-7

A chapter from the Acts of our fathers the pure Apostles, who were invested with the grace of the Holy Spirit. Their blessing be with us all. Amen.

The God of glory appeared to our father Abraham when he was [still] in Mesopotamia, before he lived in Haran. And God said to him, ‘Leave your land and your relatives, and come into a land which I will show you.’ This is how Abraham came out of the land of the Chaldaeans and lived in Haran. From there, when his father was dead, God moved him into this land, where you are now living. He gave Abraham no inheritance in this land, no, not so much as to set his foot on it. But God had promised that he and his descendants would possess this land, even when Abraham was still without child. God spoke in this way: that Abraham’s descendants would live as aliens in a foreign land, and that they would be enslaved and mistreated for four hundred years. ‘I will judge the nation to which they will be in bondage,’ said God, ‘and after that [time], will they come out and offer me divine service in this place.’

The word of the Lord abides in this church and in every church. Amen.

### September 24 (25) / Ⲑⲟⲟⲩⲧ 27 through September 31 (Oct 1) / Ⲡⲁⲱⲡⲉ 3

September 24 (25) / Ⲑⲟⲟⲩⲧ 27, see November 18 (19) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 22, page 90.

Annual tune. St. Eustathios, his wife, and their two sons, the martyrs.

September 25 (26) / Ⲑⲟⲟⲩⲧ 28, see November 18 (19) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 22, page 90.

Annual tune. Sts. Apater and Eraee the martyrs.

September 26 (27) / Ⲑⲟⲟⲩⲧ 29, see January 25 (26) / Ⲧⲱⲃⲓ 30, page 177.

Joyful tune. Commemoration of the Annunciation, Nativity and Resurrection. **St. Repsim and her companions, the virgins.**

September 27 (28) / Ⲑⲟⲟⲩⲧ 30, see November 13 (14) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 17, page 86.

Annual tune. Micracle at the hand of St. Athanasius.

September 28 (29) / Ⲡⲁⲱⲡⲉ 1, see January 25 (26) / Ⲧⲱⲃⲓ 30, page 177

Annual tune. St. Anastasia the martyr.

September 30 (31) / Ⲡⲁⲱⲡⲉ 2, see June 27 / Ⲉⲡⲏⲡ 3, page 264.

Annual tune. The arrival of St. Severus of Antioch in Egypt.

September 31 (Oct 1) / Ⲡⲁⲱⲡⲉ 3, see November 13 (14) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 17, page 86.

Annual tune. St. Simon II, the 51st Patriarch of Alexandria. St. John the soldier and martyr. Sts. Ursus and Victor of the Theoban Legion.

## October or Ⲡⲁⲱⲡⲉ

### October 1 (2) / Ⲡⲁⲱⲡⲉ 4 through October 8 (9) / Ⲡⲁⲱⲡⲉ 11

October 1(2) / Ⲡⲁⲱⲡⲉ 4 see March 9 / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙϩⲟⲧⲡ 13, page 201.

Annual tune. St. Bacchus, the friend of St. Sergius, the martyr.

October 2 (3) / Ⲡⲁⲱⲡⲉ 5 see November 13 (14) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 17, page 86.

Annual tune. St. Paul the Patriarch of Constantinople.

October 3 (4) / Ⲡⲁⲱⲡⲉ 6 see January 25 (26) / Ⲧⲱⲃⲓ 30, page 177.

Annual tune. Hannah, the mother of Sammuel the prophet.

October 4 (5) / Ⲡⲁⲱⲡⲉ 7 see May 15 / Ⲡⲁϣⲁⲛⲥ 20, page 233.

Annual tune. St. Paul of Tamoah.

October 5 (6) / Ⲡⲁⲱⲡⲉ 8 see November 21 (22) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 25, page 95.

Annual tune. **St. Matra the elder and martyr.** Abba Hor, Susanna and her children, and Abba Agathon the hermit, the martyrs.

October 6 (7) / Ⲡⲁⲱⲡⲉ 9 see November 13 (14) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 17, page 86.

Annual tune. **St. Eumenius** the 7th Patriarch of Alexandria. Eclipse of the sun in 958 A.M. St. Simon the bishop.

October 7 (8) / Ⲡⲁⲱⲡⲉ 10 see March 9 / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙϩⲟⲧⲡ 13, page 201.

Annual tune. St. Sertius, the friend of St. Bachus, the martyr.

October 8 (9) / Ⲡⲁⲱⲡⲉ 11 see June 27 / Ⲉⲡⲏⲡ 3, page 264.

Annual tune. **St. James the Patriarch of Antioch.** St. Pelagia the virgin.

### October 9 (10) / Ⲡⲁⲱⲡⲉ 12

Annual Tune

Commemoration of Archangel Michael

**St. Matthew the Evangelist**

St. Demetrius, the 12th Patriach of Alexandria

#### The Pauline Epistle

##### Ephesians 4:11-19

A chapter from the Epistle of our teacher Paul to the Ephesians. His blessing be upon us. Amen.

He gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some shepherds and teachers, for the perfecting of the saints, for a work of ministry, to build up of the body of Christ. This is until we all attain to the unity of the faith and to the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, having reached the very fullness of Christ. The goal is that we may no longer be children, tossed back and forth and carried about by every wind of doctrine through human trickery, according to clever deceits and mistaken schemes. Instead, speaking the truth in love, may we grow up in all things into him who is the head, Christ. From him, the whole body, being fitted and knit together, as every joint supplies and according to the participation of each part, grows and builds itself in love.

Therefore, I say and testify in the Lord that you no longer walk as the rest of the Gentiles also walk, in the futility of their mind. They are darkened in their understanding, cut off from God’s life because of theirignorance and because of the hardening of their hearts. Having become hardened, such people gave themselves up to lust and they pursue what is impure with greed.

The grace of God the Father be with you all. Amen.

#### The Catholic Epistle

##### 1 Peter 1:3-12

The Catholic Epistle from the First Epistle of our teacher Peter. His Blessing be upon us. Amen.

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to his great mercy, became our father again. This is to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an incorruptible and undefiled inheritance that does not fade away. It is reserved in heaven for you, who by the power of God are protected through faith for a salvationwhich is ready to be revealed in the last time. In this, you greatly ejoice, although for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials. This way, may the demonstration of your faith (which is more precious than gold that perishes even though it is tested by fire), be found to result in praise, glory, and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ! Even though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with unspeakable joy and glory. And so you are receiving the result of your faith, the salvation of your souls. About this salvation, the prophets who prophesied of the grace that would come to you did much research and investigation. They were searching the person and time that the Spirit of Christ (which was in them) pointed to by predicting the sufferings of Christ and the glories that would follow them. They received revelation that they were servants of these things not for themselves but for you. These [things] have now have been announced to you by those who preached the Good News by the Holy Spirit sent out from heaven, and [even the] angels desire to gaze upon these things.

Do not love the world, nor the things which are in the world. The world shall pass away and all its desires; but he who does the will of God shall abide forever. Amen.

#### The Praxis

##### Acts 5:12-18

A chapter from the Acts of our fathers the pure Apostles, who were invested with the grace of the Holy Spirit. Their blessing be with us all. Amen.

Even more, by the hands of the apostles, many signs and wonders were accomplished among the people, and they were all [gathered] with one accord in Solomon’s porch. No one else dared to join them, even though they were honored by the people. More believers were added to the Lord, multitudes of both men and women. People even carried out the sick into the streets, placing them on cots and mattresses, so that as Peter came by, at the least his shadow might fall on some of them. Crowds also formed from the cities around Jerusalem; they brought sick people, and those tormented by unclean spirits, and all were healed.

However, the high priest took action, along with all his associates (which is the sect of the Sadducees). Filled with jealousy, they had the apostles arrested and placed in public custody.

The word of the Lord abides in this church and in every church. Amen.

### October 10 (11) / Ⲡⲁⲱⲡⲉ 13

See May 15 / Ⲡⲁϣⲁⲛⲥ 20, page 233.

Annual tune. St. Zachariah the ascetic.

### October 11 (12) / Ⲡⲁⲱⲡⲉ 14

Annual Tune

St. Philip the Deacon and Martyr

#### The Pauline Epistle

##### Titus 2:11-3:7

A chapter from the Epistle of our teacher Paul to Titus. His blessing be upon us. Amen.

Truly, the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all. It has taught us that we should deny what is ungodly and worldly lusts, that we should live soberly, righteously, and in a godly way in this present world; waiting for the blessed hope: the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ. He gave himself for us in order to redeem us from all iniquity and to purify for himself a people for his own possession, zealous for good works. Teach these things, exhort and reprove with all authority. Let no one despise you!

Remind the people to be in submissive to rulers and authorities, to be obedient and ready for every good work, not speaking evil of anyone and not contentious. They should also be gentle, showing great humility toward everyone. Indeed, we used to be foolish, disobedient, deceived, serving various lusts and pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful, and hating one another. But when the kindness of God our Savior and his love toward mankind appeared, (not by works of righteousness, which we did ourselves, but according to his mercy), he saved us through the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit. Yes, God richly poured out this Spirit on us, through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that being justified by his grace, we become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

The grace of God the Father be with you all. Amen.

#### The Catholic Epistle

##### 1 John 5:5-13a

The Catholic Epistle from the First Epistle of our teacher John. His Blessing be upon us. Amen.

And who overcomes the world? Is it not the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? This is the one who came by water and blood: Jesus Christ; not with water only, but with water and blood. It is the Spirit who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth. There are three who bear witness <in heaven: the Father, the Word, and the Holy Spirit; and these three are one. And there are three that testify on earth>: the Spirit, the water, and the blood; and the three agree as one. If we accept human testimony, God’s testimony is greater because this is God’s testimony concerning his [very] Son! Whoever believes in the Son of God has the testimony in himself, but whoever does not believe God has made God to be a liar, because such a person has not believed in the testimony that God has given concerning his Son. This is the testimony: God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son! Whoever has the Son has {the} life, but whoever who does not have God’s Son does not have {the} life.

I have written these things to you who believe in the Name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life.

Do not love the world, nor the things which are in the world. The world shall pass away and all its desires; but he who does the will of God shall abide forever. Amen.

#### The Praxis

##### Acts 8:26-39

A chapter from the Acts of our fathers the pure Apostles, who were invested with the grace of the Holy Spirit. Their blessing be with us all. Amen.

But an angel of the Lord spoke to Philip, saying, “Arise, and go toward the south, to the way that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza. This is a desert.”

So Philip arose and went; and behold, there was a man of Ethiopia, a eunuch of great authority under Candace, queen of the Ethiopians. He was in charge of all her treasure and had come to Jerusalem to worship. He was returning and sitting in his chariot, reading the prophet Isaias.

The Spirit said to Philip, “Go near, and join yourself to this chariot.”

Philip ran to the eunuch and heard him reading Isaias the prophet. He asked, “Do you understand what you are reading?”

The man replied, “How can I, unless someone explains it to me?” He then begged Philip to come up and sit with him. Now, the passage of the Scripture which he was reading was this:

*He was led as a sheep to the slaughter.*

*As a lamb before his shearer is silent, so he does not open his mouth.*

*In his humiliation, his judgment was taken away.*

*Who will declare His generation?*

*For his life is taken from the earth.*

The eunuch asked Philip, “Who is the prophet talking about? About himself, or about someone else?”

Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning from this Scripture, he proclaimed {the Good News about} Jesus to this man. As they went on the way, they arrived to [a placed with] some water, and the eunuch said, “Behold, here is water! What is keeping me from being baptized?”

Philip said, ‘If you believe with all your heart, you may.’ The man answered, ‘I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God!’ He commanded the chariot to stand still, and both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away. The eunuch did not see him any more and went on his way rejoicing.

The word of the Lord abides in this church and in every church. Amen.

### October 12 (13) / Ⲡⲁⲱⲡⲉ 15 through October 18 (19) / Ⲡⲁⲱⲡⲉ 21

October 12 (13) / Ⲡⲁⲱⲡⲉ 15 see July 14 / Ⲉⲡⲏⲡ 20, page 287.

Annual tune. St. Pantilemon the physician and martyr.

October 13 (14) / Ⲡⲁⲱⲡⲉ 16 see November 25 (26) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 29, page 103.

Annual tune. St. Agathon the 39th patriarch of Alexandria.

October 14 (15) / Ⲡⲁⲱⲡⲉ 17 see June 27 / Ⲉⲡⲏⲡ 3, page 264.

Annual tune. St. Dioscorus II the 31st Patriarch of Alexandria.

October 15 (16) / Ⲡⲁⲱⲡⲉ 18 see November 25 (26) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 29, page 103.

Annual tune. Assembly of the Council of Antioch against Pau lof Samosta**. St. Theophilus the 23rd Patriarch of Alexandria.**

October 16 (17) / Ⲡⲁⲱⲡⲉ 19 see July 14 / Ⲉⲡⲏⲡ 20, page 287.

Annual tune. Council of Antioch against Paul of Samosata. St. Theophilus and his wife.

October 17 (18) / Ⲡⲁⲱⲡⲉ 20 see January 27 (28) / Ⲙϣⲓⲣ 2, page 179.

Annual tune. St. John colobus.

October 18 (19) / Ⲡⲁⲱⲡⲉ 21 see September 5 (6) / Ⲑⲟⲟⲩⲧ 8, page 22.

Annual tune. Commemoration of the Theotokos. Translocation of the relics of Lazarus to Constantinople. **Joel the prophet**. St. Tegi.

### October 19 (20) / Ⲡⲁⲱⲡⲉ 22

Annual Tune

St. Luke the Evangelist

#### The Pauline Epistle

##### Colossians 4:2-18

A chapter from the Epistle of our teacher Paul to the Colossians. His blessing be upon us. Amen.

Persevere in prayer, even in vigils of thanksgiving. Pray for us as well, so that God may open to us a door for the word, [an opportunity] to speak the mystery of Christ for which I am in chains. Pray also that I may reveal it as clearly as I should. Live wisely before those who are ‘outside’, and make the most of your time. Let your speech always be pleasant, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to properly answer those who have questions.

All my affairs will be made known to you by Tychicus, the beloved brother, a faithful servant and fellow-slave in the Lord. I am sending him to you for this very purpose, that he may know your circumstances and comfort your hearts, together with Onesimus, the faithful and beloved brother, who is one of you. They will tell you everything that is happening here. Aristarchus, my fellow-prisoner, greets you, and Mark, the cousin of Barnabas (concerning whom you received instructions, “if he comes to you, receive him”), and also Jesus who is called Justus. These are my only fellow-workers for the Kingdom of God who are of the circumcision, and they have been my consolation.

Epaphras (who is one of you), a servant of Christ, salutes you. He is always wrestling for you in his prayers, so that you may stand perfect and fulfill in all things the will of God. I can testify about him: that he has devotion to you, and also to those in Laodicea and Hierapolis. Luke, the beloved physician, and Demas greet you. Greet the brethren who are in Laodicea; and also Nymphas, along with the Church which meets in her house. When this letter has been read among you, please have it also read in the Church of the Laodiceans; and also read the letter from Laodicea. Tell Archippus this, “Be mindful of the ministry which you have received in the Lord, and fulfill it.”

Here is my greeting: Paul, with my own hand! Remember my chains... Grace be with you! Amen.

The grace of God the Father be with you all. Amen.

#### The Catholic Epistle

##### 1 Peter 3:15b-22

The Catholic Epistle from the First Epistle of our teacher Peter. His Blessing be upon us. Amen.

Always be ready to give a verbal defense to everyone who asks you an explanation for the hope that is in you; [and do so] with humility and fear. Have a good conscience, so that even while some speak against you as evildoers and curse your good way of life in Christ, theymay be disappointed. It is better, if it is God’s will, that you should suffer

for doing what is good rather than for doing what is evil.

Christ also suffered for sins once, the righteous for the unrighteous, so that he might bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh but [made] alive in the spirit, and thus he also went [down] and preached to the spirits in prison. In the past, those had been disobedient, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, while the ark was being built. In this ark, a few, that is eight souls, were saved through water. This is an antitype of baptism, which now saves you. It is not the putting away of the impurity of the flesh but the answer of a good conscience toward God, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ. He is at the right hand of God, having gone into heaven, with angels, authorities and powers being subject to him.

Do not love the world, nor the things which are in the world. The world shall pass away and all its desires; but he who does the will of God shall abide forever. Amen.

#### The Praxis

##### Acts 1:1-14

A chapter from the Acts of our fathers the pure Apostles, who were invested with the grace of the Holy Spirit. Their blessing be with us all. Amen.

The first book I wrote, Theophilus, dealt with all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning, until the day in which he was taken up, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. After he suffered, he also presented himself alive to them by many proofs, appearing to them over a period of forty days, and speaking about God’s Kingdom. And being assembled together with them, he commanded them, “Do not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which you heard from me. For John indeed baptized in water, but not many days from now, you will be baptized in the Holy Spirit.”

Therefore, when they had come together, they asked him, “Lord, are you now restoring the kingdom to Israel?”

Jesus told them, “It is not for you to know the times or seasons which the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

When he had said these things, as they were watching, he was taken up and a cloud took him out of their sight. While they were gazing into the sky as he was going, behold, two men in white clothing stood by them. They said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing into the sky? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into the sky will come back in the same way as you saw him going into heaven.”

Then, they returned to Jerusalem from the mountain called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day’s journey away.

After entering the city, they went up into the upper room where they were staying; that is Peter, John, James, Andrew, Philip, Thomas, Bartholomew, Matthew, James the son of Alphaeus, Simon the Zealot, and Judas the son of James. With one accord, all these were continuing steadfastly in prayer and supplication, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus and his brothers.

The word of the Lord abides in this church and in every church. Amen.

### October 20 (21) / Ⲡⲁⲱⲡⲉ 23 through October 23 (24) / Ⲡⲁⲱⲡⲉ 26

October 20 (21) / Ⲡⲁⲱⲡⲉ 23 see November 24 (25) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 28, page 100.

Annual Tune. **St. Joseph** the 52nd Patriarch of Alexandria. St. Dionisius of Corinth.

October 21 (22) / Ⲡⲁⲱⲡⲉ 24 see January 17 (18) / Ⲧⲱⲃⲓ 22, page 172.

Annual Tune. **Sts. Paul, Longinus, and Zena** the martyrs. Abba Hilarion the ascetic.

October 22 (23) / Ⲡⲁⲱⲡⲉ 25 see May 15 / Ⲡⲁϣⲁⲛⲥ 20, page 233.

Annual Tune**. Sts. Apollo and Apip.** Consecration of the Church of St. Julian el-Akfahsee.

October 23 (24) / Ⲡⲁⲱⲡⲉ 26 see December 27 (28) / Ⲧⲱⲃⲓ 1, page 138.

Annual Tune. **St. Timon the Disciple and martyrs.** Commemoration of the seven martyrs on the mount of St. Anthony.

### October 24 (25) / Ⲡⲁⲱⲡⲉ 27

Annual Tune. Abba Macarius the bishop of Tkoou, the martyr.

#### The Pauline Epistle

##### Hebrews 11:17-31

A chapter from the First Epistle of our teacher Paul to Timothy. His blessing be upon us. Amen.

By faith, Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac [in sacrifice]. Yes, he who had joyfully received the promises was now offering up his uniquely loved son, the very one of whom it was said, “In Isaac will your seed be called”. Abraham concluded that God was even able to raise up the dead and figuratively speaking, he did receive Isaac back from the dead. By faith, Isaac blessed Jacob and Esau, even regarding future events. By faith, Jacob, when he was dying, blessed each one of Joseph’s and worshiped, leaning on the top of his staff. By faith, Joseph, when his end was near, made mention of the exodus of the children of Israel and gave instructions concerning his bones. By faith, Moses, when he was born, was hidden for three months by his parents because they saw that he was a beautiful child and they were not afraid of the king’s commandment. By faith, Moses, when he had grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh’s daughter, choosing to share ill-treatment with God’s people rather than enjoy the pleasures of sin for a time. He considered the disgrace of the Anointed one greater wealth than the treasures of Egypt, for he had his eyes fixed on the reward. By faith, he left Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king, but he persevered as if he was seeing him who is invisible. By faith, he kept the Passover and the sprinkling of the blood, so that the destroyer of the firstborn should not touch them. By faith, they passed through the Red Sea as on dry land and when the Egyptians tried to do likewise, they were swallowed up. By faith, the walls of Jericho fell down, after they had been encircled for seven days. By faith, Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient because she had had received the spies in peace.

The grace of God the Father be with you all. Amen.

#### The Catholic Epistle

##### James 1:12-21

The Catholic Epistle from the Epistle of our teacher James. His Blessing be upon us. Amen.

Blessed is the one who endures temptation, for when he has been approved, he will receive the crown of life which the Lord promised to those who love him. When temptations come, let no one say, “I am tempted by God,” because God cannot be tempted by evil and he himself tempts no one. But a person is tempted when drawn away and enticed by his own lust. Then the lust, when it has conceived, gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full grown, results in death. Do not be deceived, my beloved brethren! Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom can be no variation or shifting shadow. He brought us forth of his own will by the word of truth, so that we should be a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

Know this, my beloved brethren: be swift to hear, slow to speak, and slow to anger! Anger does not produce the righteousness of God. Therefore, putting away all [moral] impurity and remains of wickedness, receive with humility the implanted word which is able to save your souls.

Do not love the world, nor the things which are in the world. The world shall pass away and all its desires; but he who does the will of God shall abide forever. Amen.

#### The Praxis

##### Acts 19:11-20

A chapter from the Acts of our fathers the pure Apostles, who were invested with the grace of the Holy Spirit. Their blessing be with us all. Amen.

God worked remarkable miracles by the hands of Paul, so [much] that even handkerchiefs or aprons that had touched him were taken to the sick, and the evil spirits were expelled.

But some of the itinerant Jews who were exorcists took it on themselvesto invoke the Name of the Lord Jesus over those who had the evil spirits. They said, “We adjure you by Jesus whom Paul preaches.” There were seven sons of a certain Sceva, a Jewish chief priest, who did this.

But the evil spirit answered, “Jesus I know, and Paul I know, but who are you?” The man in whom the evil spirit was leaped on them and overpowered them. He gave them such a beating that they escaped from that house naked and wounded. This became known to all who lived at Ephesus, both Jews and Greeks. Fear fell on them all, and the Name of the Lord Jesus was magnified. Many also of those who had believed came forward to confess and reveal their [evil] deeds. Many of those who practiced magical arts brought their books and burned them in the sight of all. Their price was counted and found to be fifty thousand pieces of silver. In this way, the word of the Lord was growing and becoming powerful.

The word of the Lord abides in this church and in every church. Amen.

### October 25 (26) / Ⲡⲁⲱⲡⲉ 28 through October 31 (November 1) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 4

October 25 (26) / Ⲡⲁⲱⲡⲉ 28 see November 21 (22) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 25, page 95.

Annual tune. Sts. Marcian and Mercurius the martyrs.

October 26 (27) / Ⲡⲁⲱⲡⲉ 29 see November 23 (24) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 27, page 98.

Joyful tune. Commemoration of the Annunciation, Nativity, and Resurrection. **St. Demetrius of Thessalonica** the martyr.

October 27 (28) / Ⲡⲁⲱⲡⲉ 30 see April 25 / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙⲟⲩⲧⲉ 30, page 216.

Annual tune. Consecration of the Church of **St. Mark**, and the appearance of his head. St. Abraham the solitary.

October 28 (29) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 1 see June 27 / Ⲉⲡⲏⲡ 3, page 264.

Annual tune. **St. Celopas the disciple**. Sts. Maximus, Numitius, Victor, and Philip, the martyrs.

October 29 (30) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 2 see November 25 (26) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 29, page 103.

Annual tune. St. Peter, the 27th Patriarch of Alexandria.

October 30 (31) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 3 see November 5 (6) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 9, page 77.

Annual tune. **St. Cyracus**. St. Athanasius and his sister, Irene.

October 31 (November 1) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 4 see November 24 (25) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 28, page 100.

Annual tune. **Sts. John and James, the Persian bishops and martyrs.** Sts. Epimachus and Adianus the martyrs.

## November or Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ

### November 1 (2) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 5 through Novmeber 3 (4) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 7

Novmber 1 (2) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 5 see November 23 (24) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 27, page 98.

Annual tune. The apparition of the head of **St. Longinus**. St. Timothy the martyr. Sts. Timothy and Maura. The translocation of the relics of St. Theodore the Prince of Shotb.

Novmber 2 (3) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 6 see November 13 (14) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 17, page 86.

Annual tune. **St. Felix** of Rome. Consecration of the Church of the Virgin in Meharraque monastery.

Novmber 3 (4) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 7 see April 18 / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙⲟⲩⲧⲉ 23, page 210.

Annual tune. St George of Alexandria, the martyr. St. Nehroua of Fayoum, the martyr. Consecration of the Church of **St. George** of Cappodocia. St. Mena the bishop of Tamee.

### November 4 (5) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 8

Annual Tune

Commemoration of the Four Incorporeeal Beasts

St. Pierius, the Deacon of the Catechetical School of Alexandria

#### The Pauline Epistle

##### Hebrews 12:21b-13:2

A chapter from the Epistle of our teacher Paul to the Hebrews. His blessing be upon us. Amen.

So fearful was the appearance, that Moses said, “I am terrified and trembling.”

Instead, you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable hosts of angels, to the Church of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, to God the Judge of all, to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling which pleads better than Abel’s [blood].

See that you do not refuse to listen to the one who speaks. For if they did not escape when they rejected him who warned on the Earth, we will certainly not escape if we turn away from him who warns from heaven! Then, his voice shook the earth, but now, he has promised with these words, “Yet once more I will shake not only the earth, but also the heavens.” The words “yet once more” indicates the removal of the things that are shaken since they are created things. But those things which are not shaken remain. Therefore, since we are receiving a Kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be grateful and so offer divine service to God acceptably, with reverence and awe, for our God is a consuming fire.

Keep on loving each other as brethren. Do not forget to be hospitable to strangers, for in doing so, some have welcomed angels without knowing it!

The grace of God the Father be with you all. Amen.

#### The Catholic Epistle

##### 1 Peter 3:15b-22

The Catholic Epistle from the First Epistle of our teacher Peter. His Blessing be upon us. Amen.

Always be ready to give a verbal defense to everyone who asks you an explanation for the hope that is in you; [and do so] with humility and fear. Have a good conscience, so that even while some speak against you as evildoers and curse your good way of life in Christ, theymay be disappointed. It is better, if it is God’s will, that you should suffer

for doing what is good rather than for doing what is evil.

Christ also suffered for sins once, the righteous for the unrighteous, so that he might bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh but [made] alive in the spirit, and thus he also went [down] and preached to the spirits in prison. In the past, those had been disobedient, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, while the ark was being built. In this ark, a few, that is eight souls, were saved through water. This is an antitype of baptism, which now saves you. It is not the putting away of the impurity of the flesh but the answer of a good conscience toward God, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ. He is at the right hand of God, having gone into heaven, with angels, authorities and powers being subject to him.

Do not love the world, nor the things which are in the world. The world shall pass away and all its desires; but he who does the will of God shall abide forever. Amen.

#### The Praxis

##### Acts 11:2-14

A chapter from the Acts of our fathers the pure Apostles, who were invested with the grace of the Holy Spirit. Their blessing be with us all. Amen.

When Peter returned to Jerusalem, those who were of the circumcision criticized him, saying, “You went into the house of uncircumcised people and ate with them!”

But Peter began to speak and explained things to them in order: “I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision: a certain container like a great sheet was let down from heaven by four corners, descending and coming down as far as me. When I had looked intently at it and examined [it], I saw the four-footed animals of the earth, wild animals, creeping things, and birds of the sky. I also heard a voice saying to me, ‘Rise, Peter, kill and eat!’ But I said, ‘Not so, Lord, for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered into my mouth!’ But a voice out of heaven answered me the second time, ‘What God has cleansed, do not call unclean.’ This was done three times, and everything was drawn back into heaven. At that very moment, three men stood before the house where I was staying, having been sent to me from Caesarea. The Spirit told me to go with them, without discriminating. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered into the man’s house. He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house, and saying to him, ‘Send [messengers] to Joppa, and get Simon, who is called Peter. He will speak to you the words by which you will be saved, you and your entire household.’

The word of the Lord abides in this church and in every church. Amen.

### November 5 (6) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 9

Annual tune

**St. Isaac**, the 41st Patriarch of Alexandria

Assembly of the Holy Council of Nicaea

#### The Pauline Epistle

##### Romans 4:13-5:5

A chapter from the First Epistle of our teacher Paul to Timothy. His blessing be upon us. Amen.

For the promise to Abraham and to his seed that he should be heir of the world was not through the law, but through the righteousness of faith. However, if those who are of the law are heirs, then faith is made void, and the promise is made of no effect. As it is, the law brings about wrath; but where there is no law there is no transgression either. This is why the promise is to faith, so that it comes as a free gift and it is secure for all the descendants, not only for those who rely on the Law but also for all those others who rely on the faith of Abraham, the father of us all. As it is written, “I have made you a father of many nations.” This is in the presence of the one whom Abraham believed: even God, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence what does not yet exist. Hoping against hope, Abraham believed that he would become “the father of many nations”, according to what had been spoken, “And so will your seed be.” He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body which was already worn out, (he was about a hundred years old), and the deadness of Sarah’s womb. Yet, looking to the promise of God, he did not waver through unbelief but grew strong through faith, giving glory to God. Abraham was fully convinced that what God had promised, he was also able to accomplish. Therefore, it also was “credited to him for righteousness.” Now, it was not written that “it was accounted to him” for his sake alone. It was [written] also for our sake; faith will be credited to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead. He was delivered up for our sins, and was raised for our justification. Being therefore justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we also have our access by faith into this grace in which we stand. And we rejoice in hope of the glory of God! Not only this, but we also rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering works perseverance; and perseverance, character; and character, hope. Hope does not disappoint us, because God’s love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us.

The grace of God the Father be with you all. Amen.

#### The Catholic Epistle

##### 1 Peter 1:3-12

The Catholic Epistle from the First Epistle of our teacher Peter. His Blessing be upon us. Amen.

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to his great mercy, became our father again. This is to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an incorruptible and undefiled inheritance that does not fade away. It is reserved in heaven for you, who by the power of God are protected through faith for a salvation which is ready to be revealed in the last time. In this, you greatly rejoice, although for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials. This way, may the demonstration of your faith (which is more precious than gold that perishes even though it is tested by fire), be found to result in praise, glory, and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ! Even though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with unspeakable joy and glory. And so you are receiving the result of your faith, the salvation of your souls. About this salvation, the prophets who prophesied of the grace that would come to you did much research and investigation. They were searching the person and time that the Spirit of Christ (which was in them) pointed to by predicting the sufferings of Christ and the glories that would follow them. They received revelation that they were servants of these things not for themselves but for you. These [things] have now have been announced to you by those who preached the Good News by the Holy Spirit sent out from heaven, and [even the] angels desire to gaze upon these things.

Do not love the world, nor the things which are in the world. The world shall pass away and all its desires; but he who does the will of God shall abide forever. Amen.

#### The Praxis

##### Acts 11:15-24

A chapter from the Acts of our fathers the pure Apostles, who were invested with the grace of the Holy Spirit. Their blessing be with us all. Amen.

As I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them, even as on us at the beginning. I remembered the word of the Lord, how he said, ‘John indeed baptized in water, but you will be baptized in the Holy Spirit.’ And so, if God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Chris, who was I to oppose God?”

When they heard these things, they held their peace, and glorified God, saying, “Then God has also granted to the Gentiles the repentance [that leads] to life!”

Now, those who had been scattered abroad by the oppression that arose about Stephen had traveled as far as Phoenicia, Cyprus, and Antioch, and they were only proclaiming the word to Jews. But some of them, men of Cyprus and Cyrene, spoke to the Greeks and preached the Lord Jesus when they arrived in Antioch. The hand of the Lord was with them, and a great number believed and turned to the Lord. News of these things came tothe ears of the Church which was in Jerusalem. So, they sent out Barnabasto go as far as Antioch. When he arrived and saw the grace of God, he rejoiced. He encouraged them all to remain close to the Lord with a resolute heart. For Barnabas was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and faith, and many people were added to the Lord.

The word of the Lord abides in this church and in every church. Amen.

### November 6 (7) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 10 through Novmeber 7 (8) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 11

Novmber 6 (7) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 10 see January 25 (26) / Ⲧⲱⲃⲓ 30, page 177.

Annual tune. St. Sophia and the fifty virgins with her, the martyrs. Assembly of a holy council in Rome.

Novmber 7 (8) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 11 see September 23 (24) / Ⲑⲟⲟⲩⲧ 26, page 37.

Annual Tune. **St. Anna**, the mother of the Theotokos. St. Archilaus and St. Elisha the Hegoumen, the martyrs.

### November 8 (9) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 12

Annual Tune

Commemoration of Archangel Michael

#### The Pauline Epistle

##### Hebrews 1:1-2:4

A chapter from the Epistle of our teacher Paul to the Hebrews. His blessing be upon us. Amen.

In the past, God spoke to the fathers through the prophets at many times and in various ways. At the end of these days, he has spoken to us in his Son whom he has appointed heir of all things and through whom he [had] made the ages. His Son is the radiance of his glory, the very image of his person, upholding all things by the word of his power. When he had by himself made purification for our sins, he sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become much better than the angels as the Name he has inherited is superior to theirs. For to which of the angels did

*God ever say:*

*You are my Son!*

*Today I have I begotten youf*

*and again:*

*I will be a Father to him,*

*and he will be my Son*

Also, when he brings the firstborn into the world, God says:

*“Let all the angels of God worshipi him.”*

*Of the angels, Godk says:*

*Who makes his angels spirits,*

*and his servants a flame of fire.a*

*But of the Son he says:*

*Your throne, O Godb, is unto ages of ages.*

*The scepter of uprightness is the scepter of your Kingdom.*

*You have loved righteousness, and hated iniquity;*

*therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness above your*

*companions.*

And:

*You, Lord, in the beginning, laid the foundation of the earth.*

*The heavens are the works of your hands.*

*They will perish, but you continue.*

*They all will grow old as a garment,*

*As a mantle, you will roll them up,*

*and they will be changed;*

*but you are the same.*

*Your years will not fail.*

But to which of the angels did he ever say,

*Sit at my right hand,*

*until I make your enemies the footstool of your feet?*

Are they not all ministering spirits, sent out to serve for the sake of those who will inherit salvation?

Therefore, we should pay greater attention to the things that we weretaught, for fear that we might drift away. For if the word spoken through angels proved reliable and every transgression and disobedience received a just penalty, how will we escape if we neglect so great a salvation! It was first announced by the Lord himself, and is confirmed to us by those who heard him. God also bore witness with them, both by signs and wonders, by various works of power and by gifts of the Holy Spirit, according to his own will.

The grace of God the Father be with you all. Amen.

#### The Catholic Epistle

##### Jude 1:1-13

The Catholic Epistle from the Epistle of our teacher Jude. His Blessing be upon us. Amen.

Jude, a servant of Jesus Christ and brother of James, to those who are called, sanctified by God the Father and kept for Jesus Christ: May mercy, peace and love be multiplied to you.

Beloved, while I was very eager to write to you about our common salvation, I felt it needful to write to you in order to encourage you to fight hard for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints. For there are certain men who have secretly crept in, people whose condemnation was announced long ago. They are ungodly men who turn the grace of our God into indecency and they deny our only Master, God, and Lord, Jesus Christ.

Even though you already know this, I wish to remind you that the Lord, having saved a people out of the land of Egypt, later on destroyed those who did not believe! The angels who did not keep their first domain but deserted their own dwelling place, he has also kept in darkness and eternal chains for the judgment of the great day. Likewise, Sodom, Gomorrah and the cities around them had given themselves over to sexual immorality and unnatural relations in the same way as these angels. They are presented as an example, suffering the punishment of eternal fire. Yet, these people do the same thing: in their delusion, they degrade the flesh, despise authority, and slander the glorious beings. But the archangel Michael, when he contend with the devil and argued about the body of Moses, did not dare to bring against the devil an evil-speaking judgment, but said, “May the Lord rebuke you!” Yet, these people speak evil of things they know nothing about. What they do understand (by natural power, like the creatures without reason), these things will destroyed them. Woe to them! They have followed the path of Cain and they have thrown themselves after the error of Balaam for the sake of money, and they have perished in Korah’s rebellion. These people are like hidden and rocky reefs in your agape meals, when they feast with you. They are shepherds who feed themselves without fear, clouds without water carried along by winds, autumn trees without fruit, twice dead, uprooted. They are wild waves of the sea, foaming out their own shame; wandering stars, for whom the gloom of darkness has been reserved to the age.

Do not love the world, nor the things which are in the world. The world shall pass away and all its desires; but he who does the will of God shall abide forever. Amen.

#### The Praxis

##### Acts 10:1-20

A chapter from the Acts of our fathers the pure Apostles, who were invested with the grace of the Holy Spirit. Their blessing be with us all. Amen.

Now, there was a certain man in Caesarea, whose named was Cornelius. He was a centurion of what was called the Italian Regiment, a devout man who feared God with his entire household. He gave generous alms to the people and always prayed to God. At about the ninth hour of the day, he clearly saw in a vision an angel of God coming to him, and saying to him, “Cornelius!”

Gazing at the angel, and being quite alarmed, Cornelius said, “What is it, Lord?”

The angel replied, “Your prayers and alms have ascended as a memorial before God. Now, send men to Joppa, and get Simon who is called Peter. He is staying with a certain Simon, a tanner, whose house is by the seaside.”

When the angel who had spoken to him had departed, Cornelius called two of his household servants and a devout soldier from among his attendants. Having explained everything to them, he sent them to Joppa.

Now, on the next day, as they were on their way and approached the city, Peter went up on the housetop to pray at about noon. He became hungry and desired to eat, but while the meal was being prepared, he fell into a trance. He saw heaven opened and something like a great sheet let down on the earth by four corners and descending to him. In it were all kinds of four-footed animals of the earth, wild animals, reptiles, and birds of the sky. Then a voice came to him, “Rise, Peter, kill and eat!”

But Peter said, “Not so, Lord; for I have never eaten anything that is profane or unclean!”

Again, a second time, the voice spoke to him, “What God has cleansed, you must not call unclean.” This happened three times, and immediately the vessel was taken up into heaven. As Peter was very perplexed regarding the meaning of the vision, behold, the men who were sent by Cornelius found where Simon’s house was and stood at the gate. They called and asked whether Simon, who was called Peter, was lodging there. While Peter was pondering the vision, the Spirit said to him, “Behold, three men are looking for you. Arise and go downstairs! Accompany them without hesitation, for I have sent them.”

The word of the Lord abides in this church and in every church. Amen.

### November 9 (10) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 13 through Novmeber 10 (11) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 14

Novmber 9 (10) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 13 see June 27 / Ⲉⲡⲏⲡ 3, page 264.

Annual tune. St. Timothy, the bishop of Ansena. **Abba Zacharias**, the 64th Patriarch of Alexandria.

Novmber 10 (11) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 14 see November 24 (25) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 28, page 100.

Annual Tune. St. Martin, bishop of Tours

### November 11 (12) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 15

Annual Tune

St. Mena the Wonder-Worker and the Martyr

#### The Pauline Epistle

##### Hebrews 12:3-14

A chapter from the First Epistle of our teacher Paul to Timothy. His blessing be upon us. Amen.

Consider him who has endured such opposition from sinners, and you will not grow weary or faint in your souls. In your own battle against sin, you have not yet struggled to the point of shedding blood. Have you forgotten the exhortation which reasons with you as with children:

*My child, do not take lightly the chastening of the Lord,*

*do not faint when you are reproved by him;*

*for whom the Lord loves, he also chastens,*

*and he disciplines every son whom he receives.*

Endure hardship as discipline; God is treating you as his children, for what son is there whom his father does not discipline? But if you are not getting this discipline, (as you are), this makes you illegitimate, not children! Moreover, we had biological fathers to chasten us, and we respected them. Shall we not much rather be in subjection to the Father of {our} spirits, and live? Our fathers punished us for a few days as seemed good to them; but God does so for our benefit, so that we may be partakers of his holiness. For the present moment, all discipline seems to be painful rather than joyful, but afterwards, it produces the peaceful fruit of righteousness for those who have been trained by it. Therefore, lift up your drooping hands and your feeble knees. Make straight paths for your feet, so what is lame may not be dislocated but rather healed.

Pursue peace with everyone, and also sanctification without which no one will see the Lord.

The grace of God the Father be with you all. Amen.

#### The Catholic Epistle

##### 1 Peter 4:12-19a

The Catholic Epistle from the First Epistle of our teacher Peter. His Blessing be upon us. Amen.

Beloved, do not be astonished at the fiery trial which has come upon you and that is testing you. It is not as if something strange was happening to you. But because you are partakers of Christ’s sufferings, rejoice, so that at the revelation of his glory you also may rejoice with exceeding joy. If you are insulted for the Name of Christ, you are blessed because the divine Spirit of glory is resting upon you. On their part, Christ is blasphemed, but on your part he is glorified. But let none of you suffer as a murderer, a thief, an evil doer or a meddler in other people’s matters. However, if one of you suffers for being a Christian, there is no reason to be ashamed but {instead let such a one} glorify God in this matter. For the time has come for judgment to begin with the household of God. If it begins first with us, what will happen to those who do not obey the Good News of God? “If it is hard for the righteous to be saved, what will happen to the ungodly and the sinner?” Therefore, let those who suffer according to the will of God in doing good entrust their souls to him.

Do not love the world, nor the things which are in the world. The world shall pass away and all its desires; but he who does the will of God shall abide forever. Amen.

#### The Praxis

##### Acts 7:44-8:1a

A chapter from the Acts of our fathers the pure Apostles, who were invested with the grace of the Holy Spirit. Their blessing be with us all. Amen.

Our fathers had the tabernacle of the testimony in the wilderness which the one who had spoken to Moses had commanded him to build according to the pattern that he had seen. It was handed down to our fathers, and in their turn, they brought it with Joshua when they entered into the possession of the nations which God drove out before the face of our fathers. This tabernacle was there to the days of David, who found favor in the sight of God, and who prayed to find a habitation for the God of Jacob. But it was Solomon who built him a house. However, the Most High does not dwell in places made with hands, as the prophet says:

*‘Heaven is my throne,*

*and the earth is a footstool for my feet.*

*What kind of house will you build for me?’ says the Lord;*

*‘or what is the place of my rest?*

*Did not my hand make all these things?’*

You stiff-necked and uncircumcised in heart and ears, you always resist the Holy Spirit! As your fathers did, you do likewise. Which of the prophets did your fathers not persecute? They [even] killed those who foretold the coming of the Righteous One, of whom you have now become betrayers and murderers. You received the law as it was ordained by angels, and did not keep it!”

Now, when they heard these things, they were furious and gnashed their teeth at him. But Stephen, full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing on the right hand of God. He exclaimed, “Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!”

Then, they shouted with a loud voice, blocking their ears, and rushed at him with one accord. So they threw him out of the city and stoned him. The witnesses placed their garments at the feet of a young man named Saul. As they were stoning Stephen, he called in prayer, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit!” Kneeling down, he cried out with a loud voice, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them!” Having said this, he fell asleep.

Now, Saul was in full agreement with his death.

The word of the Lord abides in this church and in every church. Amen.

### November 12 (13) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 16

See June 10 / Ⲡⲁⲱⲛⲉ 16, page 258.

Annual tune. The beginning of the Nativity Fast of Advent. The consecration of the Church of **St. Onuphrius** the pilgrim. St Bostus the bishop and martyr.

### November 13 (14) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 17

Annual Tune

St. John Chrysostom

#### The Pauline Epistle

##### 2 Timothy 3:10-4:22

A chapter from the First Epistle of our teacher Paul to Timothy. His blessing be upon us. Amen.

You, however, have paid close attention to my teaching, conduct, purpose, faith, patience, love, steadfastness, persecutions, and sufferings. You know persecutions and the Lord delivered me out of them all! Yes, all those who desire to lead godly lives in Christ Jesus will be persecuted. But wicked impostors will go from bad to worse, deceiving others, being themselves deceived. As for you, remain in what you have learned which is what you firmly believe, knowing from whom you have learned them. From infancy, you have known the Holy Scriptures which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith, which is in Christ Jesus. Every Scripture is God-breathed and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction and for instruction in righteousness, so that the man of God may be fully qualified, completely equipped for every good work.

Before God and the Lord Jesus Christ who will judge the living and the dead at his appearing and his Kingdom, I charge you to preach the word. Welcome or unwelcome, insist on it; reprove, rebuke, and exhort, with all patience and teaching. For the time will come when people will not listen to the sound doctrine, but, having itching ears, they will gather around them teachers that agree with their own lusts. They will turn away their ears from the truth and turn to fables. As for you, be sober in all things, put up with suffering, do the work of one who proclaims the Good News and fulfill your ministry.

As for me, I am already being offered in sacrifice, and the time of my release has come. I have fought the good fight! I have finished the course! I have kept the faith! From now on, the crown of righteousness is reserved for me, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give me on that Day, and not only to me but also to all those who have loved his appearing. Do your utmost to visit me soon, because Demas, having loved this present world, has left me and went to Thessalonica. Crescens went toGalatia and Titus to Dalmatia. Only Luke is still with me. Bring Mark along with you for he is helpful to me for service. I have sent Tychicus to Ephesus. When you come, bring the cloak that I left at Troas with Carpus, as wells as the books, especially the parchments. Alexander, the metalworker did much evil to me. The Lord will repay him according to his works. Beware of him, for he greatly opposed our teachings.

At my first defense, no one came to help me, but all left me. May it not be held against them! But the Lord stood by me and strengthened me, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and heard by all the Gentiles. I was delivered out of the mouth of the lion and the Lord will deliver me from every evil work and preserve me for his heavenly Kingdom. To him be the glory now and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Greet Prisca, Aquila, and the house of Onesiphorus. Erastus remained at Corinth, but I left Trophimus at Miletus sick. Do your best to come before winter. Eubulus greets you, as well as Pudens, Linus, Claudia and all the brethren. May the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit! Grace be with you. Amen.

The grace of God the Father be with you all. Amen.

#### The Catholic Epistle

##### 1 Peter 5:1-14

The Catholic Epistle from the First Epistle of our teacher Peter. His Blessing be upon us. Amen.

I exhort the presbyters among you, as the fellow-presbyter and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and as one who will also share in the glory that is to be revealed. Be shepherds to the flock of God which is in your care. Do not oversee the flock under compulsion but willingly, not for dishonest gain but with eagerness. Do not act as lords over those entrusted to you but become examples to the flock. When the chief shepherd is revealed, you will receive the crown of glory that does not fade away.

Likewise, you younger ones, be subject to those who are older. Yes, all of you should clothe yourselves with humility and subject yourselves to one another, for “God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble.” Humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. Cast all your worries on him, because he cares for you.

Be sober, self-controlled and watchful. Your adversary, the devil, roams around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. Resist him, steadfast in your faith, knowing that your brethren throughout the world experience the same sufferings. But after you have suffered a little while, may the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, make you perfect, restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast. To him be the glory and the power unto ages of ages. Amen.

Through Silvanus, our faithful brother as I consider him, I have written to you briefly, exhorting, and testifying that this is the true grace of God in which you stand.

She who is in Babylon, chosen together with you, greets you; and so does Mark, my son. Greet one another with a kiss of love! Peace be to you all who are in Christ Jesus! Amen.

Do not love the world, nor the things which are in the world. The world shall pass away and all its desires; but he who does the will of God shall abide forever. Amen.

#### The Praxis

##### Acts 20:17-38

A chapter from the Acts of our fathers the pure Apostles, who were invested with the grace of the Holy Spirit. Their blessing be with us all. Amen.

From Miletus, Paul sent a message to Ephesus and called to himself the presbyters of the Church. When they arrived, he told them, “You yourselves know, from the first day that I set foot in Asia, how I was with you all the time. I served the Lord with all humility, with many tears, and with trials which happened to me by the plotting of the Jews. I did not shrink from declaring to you anything that was profitable, teaching you publicly and from house to house. To both Jews and to Greek, I borewitness to repentance before God and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ. Now, behold, I go to Jerusalem bound by the Spirit. I do not know what will happen to me there, except that the Holy Spirit testifies in every city, saying that bonds and afflictions wait for me. But these things do not count, and I do not hold my life dear to myself, so that I may finish my race with joy and [fulfill] the ministry which I received from the Lord Jesus, to fully bear witness to the Good News of the grace of God.

Now, behold, I know that none of you among whom I have gone about preaching the kingdom will ever see my face again. And so, I testify to you today that I am clean from the blood of all men, for I did not hesitate to proclaim to you the whole counsel of God. Therefore, keep watch overyourselves and over the flock in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers! Be shepherds of the Church of God which he has purchased with the blood of his own [son]. For I know that after my departure, vicious wolves will enter in among you and they will not spare the flock. From among your own group, men will arise who will speak perverse things in order to draw away the disciples after them. Therefore, keep watch! Remember that for a period of three years, I did not cease night and day to warn everyone with tears. Now, brethren, I entrust you to God, and to the word of his grace which is able to build up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified. I coveted no one’s silver,or gold, or clothing. You yourselves know that these [my] hands served my needs and those who were with me. In all things, I have given you an example, that by this kind of hard work you should support the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, as he himself said, ‘It is more blessed to give than to receive!’”

After saying these things, Paul knelt down and prayed with them all. They were all in tears, embracing Paul and kissing him. Most of all, they were sorrowful because of what he had said, that they should never again see his face. Then, they accompanied him to the ship.

The word of the Lord abides in this church and in every church. Amen.

### November 14 (15) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 18 through Novmeber 17 (18) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 21

Novmber 14 (15) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 18 see June 29 / Ⲉⲡⲏⲡ 5, page 268.

Annual tune. Sts. Arases and Junia the martyrs. St. Philip the Apostle and martyr.

Novmber 15 (16) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 19 see March 9 / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙϩⲟⲧⲡ 13, page 201.

Annual tune. The consecration of the Church of **Sts. Sergius and Bacchus**. The commemoration of the St. Bartholomew’s preaching in the oasis.

Novmber 16 (17) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 20 see April 25 / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙⲟⲩⲧⲉ 30, page 216.

Annual tune. **St. Ananus**, the 2nd Patriarch of Alexandria. The consecration of the Church of St. Theodoros of Shatb and St. Theodoros Meshreky.

Novmber 17 (18) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 21 see November 13 (14) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 17, page 86.

Annual tune. Commemoration of the Theotokos. St. Cosmos, the 54th Patriarch of Alexandria. **St. Gregory the Wonder-Worker**. Sts. /Alphaeius, Zachaeus, Romanius, John, Thomas, and Victor, the martyrs.

### November 18 (19) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 22

Annual Tune

Sts. Cosmas and Damian, their brothers and their mother, the martyrs.

#### The Pauline Epistle

##### Romans 8:14-27

A chapter from the Epistle of our teacher Paul to the Romans. His blessing be upon us. Amen.

As many as are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. You did not receive the spirit of bondage to [live in] fear again, but you received the Spirit of adoption, by whom we cry, “Abba! Father!”

The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are children of God; and if [we are] children, then [we are] heirs; heirs of God, and jointheirs with Christ; if indeed we suffer with him, so that we may also be glorified with him. For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which will be revealed toward us. As it is, the creation waits with eager expectation for the revelation of God’s children. Indeed, creation was subjected to vanity, not of its own will, but because of him who subjected it, in hope that creation will also be delivered from the bondage of decay into the glorious freedom of the children of God. We know that the whole of creation groans and labors in pain until now. Moreover, so do we who have the first fruits of the Spirit! We groan within ourselves, awaiting the adoption, the redemption of our body. We were saved in hope, but hope that is seen is not hope. Indeed, who hopes for what can be seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience. Also, the Spirit helps our weaknesses, because we do not know how to pray as we should. But the Spirit himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. He who searches the hearts knows the way of thinking of the Spirit, because the prayers that the Spirit makes for the saints [are always in accordance with God.]\*

The grace of God the Father be with you all. Amen.

\*[] excluded in lectionary.

#### The Catholic Epistle

##### 1 Peter 2:11-17

The Catholic Epistle from the First Epistle of our teacher Peter. His Blessing be upon us. Amen.

Beloved, I beg you as exiles and pilgrims [in this world] to abstain from carnal lusts which war against the soul. Live righteous lives among the nations so that if they accuse you of being evildoers, they may, by your good works which they see, glorify God in the day of visitation. Therefore, for the Lord’s sake, submit yourselves to every human institution: to the emperor as supreme [law-giver], or to governors as commissions by him to punish those who do evil and to praise to those who do good. For this is the will of God: that by going good you should silence the ignorance of foolish men. Be free, but do not use your freedom for a cloak of wickedness, but as slaves of God.

Honor everyone. Love the [family of] brethren. Fear God. Honor the king.

Do not love the world, nor the things which are in the world. The world shall pass away and all its desires; but he who does the will of God shall abide forever. Amen.

#### The Praxis

##### Acts 19:11-20

A chapter from the Acts of our fathers the pure Apostles, who were invested with the grace of the Holy Spirit. Their blessing be with us all. Amen.

God worked remarkable miracles by the hands of Paul, so [much] that even handkerchiefs or aprons that had touched him were taken to the sick, and the evil spirits were expelled.

But some of the itinerant Jews who were exorcists took it on themselvesto invoke the Name of the Lord Jesus over those who had the evil spirits. They said, “We adjure you by Jesus whom Paul preaches.” There were seven sons of a certain Sceva, a Jewish chief priest, who did this.

But the evil spirit answered, “Jesus I know, and Paul I know, but who are you?” The man in whom the evil spirit was leaped on them and overpowered them. He gave them such a beating that they escaped from that house naked and wounded. This became known to all who lived at Ephesus, both Jews and Greeks. Fear fell on them all, and the Name of the Lord Jesus was magnified. Many also of those who had believed came forward to confess and reveal their [evil] deeds. Many of those who practiced magical arts brought their books and burned them in the sight of all. Their price was counted and found to be fifty thousand pieces of silver. In this way, the word of the Lord was growing and becoming powerful.

The word of the Lord abides in this church and in every church. Amen.

### November 19 (20) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 23

See November 24 (25) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 28, page 100.

Annual tune. **St. Cornelius** the Centurion. Consecration of the Church of St. Marina.

### November 20 (21) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 24

Annual Tune

Commemoraion of the Twenty-Four Presbyters

#### The Pauline Epistle

##### 1 Timothy 5:17-6:2

A chapter from the First Epistle of our teacher Paul to Timothy. His blessing be upon us. Amen.

Presbyters who rule well should be accounted worthy of double honor, especially those who work hard in preaching and teaching. As the Scripture says, “You shall not muzzle the ox when it treads out the grain,” and, “The laborer is worthy of his wages.”

Do not receive an accusation against a presbyter, except at the word of two or three witnesses. Reprove those who have sinned in the sight of all, so that the others may also be in fear. I command you in the sight of God and Christ Jesus, and the elect angels: observe these things without prejudice, doing nothing with partiality. Do not lay your hands hastily on anyone and do not be a participant in someone else’s sins. Keep yourself pure. Do not drink only water but use a little wine for your stomach and because of your frequent illnesses.

The sins of some men are obvious long before they come to judgment while others are discovered only later. Likewise, good works are obvious, and even those that are not cannot remain hidden.

Those who are under the yoke of slavery should consider their masters worthy of all honor, so that God’s Name and our doctrine may not be brought into disrepute. Slaves whose masters are believers should not despise them because they are brethren. Rather, they should them serve them because those who have a share in the benefit [of their work] are believing and beloved. Teach and exhort these things.

The grace of God the Father be with you all. Amen.

#### The Catholic Epistle

##### 1 Peter 5:1-14

The Catholic Epistle from the First Epistle of our teacher Peter. His Blessing be upon us. Amen.

I exhort the presbyters among you, as the fellow-presbyter and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and as one who will also share in the glory that is to be revealed. Be shepherds to the flock of God which is in your care. Do not oversee the flock under compulsion but willingly, not for dishonest gain but with eagerness. Do not act as lords over those entrusted to you but become examples to the flock. When the chief shepherd is revealed, you will receive the crown of glory that does not fade away.

Likewise, you younger ones, be subject to those who are older. Yes, all of you should clothe yourselves with humility and subject yourselves to one another, for “God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble.” Humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. Cast all your worries on him, because he cares for you.

Be sober, self-controlled and watchful. Your adversary, the devil, roams around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. Resist him, steadfast in your faith, knowing that your brethren throughout the world experience the same sufferings. But after you have suffered a little while, may the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, make you perfect, restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast. To him be the glory and the power unto ages of ages. Amen.

Through Silvanus, our faithful brother as I consider him, I have written to you briefly, exhorting, and testifying that this is the true grace of God in which you stand.

She who is in Babylon, chosen together with you, greets you; and so does Mark, my son. Greet one another with a kiss of love! Peace be to you all who are in Christ Jesus! Amen.

Do not love the world, nor the things which are in the world. The world shall pass away and all its desires; but he who does the will of God shall abide forever. Amen.

#### The Praxis

##### Acts 15:6-12

A chapter from the Acts of our fathers the pure Apostles, who were invested with the grace of the Holy Spirit. Their blessing be with us all. Amen.

The apostles and the presbyters gathered together to discuss this matter. When there had been much discussion, Peter stood up and said to them, “Brethren, you know that some time ago, God made a choice among you, that by my mouth the nations should hear the word of the Good News and believe. God, who knows the heart, bore witness to them by giving them the Holy Spirit, just as he had done to us. He made no distinction between us and them, purifying their hearts by faith. And now, why do you put God to the test by putting a yoke on the neck of the disciples, one which neither our fathers nor we were able to bear? But we believe that we are saved through the grace of the Lord Jesus, just as they are.”

At this, the whole multitude kept silence. They listened to Barnabas and Paul report what signs and wonders God had accomplished among the nations through them.

The word of the Lord abides in this church and in every church. Amen.

### November 21 (22) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 25

Annual Tune

St. Philopater Mercurius

#### The Pauline Epistle

##### 2 Corinthians 10:1-18

A chapter from the Second Epistle of our teacher Paul to the Corinthians. His blessing be upon us. Amen.

I, Paul, entreat you by the humility and gentleness of Christ, as one who is humble among you in your presence but bold in my absence. Yes, I beg that I should not have to be bold when I am actually with you by daring to oppose those who think we are acting according to human standards. Even though we walk in the flesh, we do not wage war according to the flesh. The weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but mighty before God to overthrow strongholds, to cast down fantasies and every lofty thing that is exalted against the knowledge of God, and to bring every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ. Once you have given your complete obedience, we are prepared to chastise any disobedience. Do you look at things only as they appear in your presence? If anyone trusts that he belongs to Christ, let such a person reconsider this, that, we belong to Christ as much as he does! Even though I should boast some more about our authority, (which the Lord gave for building you up, and not for casting you down), would that not be a shame? May I not appear to desire to terrify you by my letters! Some people say, “His letters are profound and strong, but his physical presence is weak and his speech is worthless.” Let such people consider this: that what we are in word by letters (when we are absent), we are exactly the same in actions when we are present. We are not venturing to rank or compare ourselves with those who commend themselves. But as they measure themselves by their own standards and compare themselves with themselves, they are withoutunderstanding. However, we will not boast beyond proper limits, only

within the boundaries which God has appointed to us, which reach even to you. Indeed, we do not stretch ourselves too much, as though we did notreach to you. For we even reached as far as to you with the Good News of Christ, not boasting beyond proper limits in the work of others, but having hope that as your faith grows, our [missionary] field among you will be greatly enlarged. This way, we will be able to preach the Good News even to those areas that are beyond you, in order not to boast in what others have already accomplished. But “he who boasts, let him boast in the Lord.” For it is not the one who commends himself who is approved, but it is the Lord who gives [him] approval.

The grace of God the Father be with you all. Amen.

#### The Catholic Epistle

##### 1 Peter 4:1-11

The Catholic Epistle from the First Epistle of our teacher Peter. His Blessing be upon us. Amen.

Therefore, as Christ suffered for us in the flesh, arm yourselves with the same mind; for anyone who has suffered in the flesh has ceased from sin. Thus you should no longer live the rest of your time in the flesh for human lusts but to do God’s will. For we have spent enough of our past time fulfilling the desires of [non-believing] Gentiles. We used to live in indecency, lusts, excess drinking, orgies, riotous behavior and abominable idolatries. They think it is strange that you no longer run with them into the same abusive lifestyle, and they speak evil of you. But they will give an account to him who is ready to judge the living and the dead! For this reason, the Good News was preached even to the dead, so that they might in the flesh undergo the judgment that faces all human beings but [then] live in the spirit as to God. The end of all things is near! Therefore, be clear-minded, self-controlled and sober in prayer. Above all things, be committed to your mutual love, for love covers a multitude of sins. Be hospitable to one another, without grumbling. As each has received a gift, use it to serve each other, as good stewards of the grace of God in its various forms. If anyone speaks, let it be as the very words of God. If anyone serves, let it be with the strength that God supplies, so that in all things, God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belong the glory and the dominion unto ages of ages. Amen.

Do not love the world, nor the things which are in the world. The world shall pass away and all its desires; but he who does the will of God shall abide forever. Amen.

#### The Praxis

##### Acts 12:25-13:12

A chapter from the Acts of our fathers the pure Apostles, who were invested with the grace of the Holy Spirit. Their blessing be with us all. Amen.

Barnabas and Saul returned to Jerusalem when they had fulfilled their service, and they also took with them John whose other name was Mark.

Now, in the Church that was at Antioch, there were some prophets and teachers: Barnabas, Simeon who was called Niger, Lucius of Cyrene, Manaen the foster brother of Herod the tetrarch, and Saul. As they were liturgizing to the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, “Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them.”

Then, when they had fasted and prayed and laid their hands on them, they sent them on their way. Being sent out by the Holy Spirit, they went down to Seleucia and from there sailed to Cyprus. When they were at Salamis, they proclaimed the word of God in the Jewish synagogues, with John as their attendant. After going through the island to Paphos, they encountered a certain sorcerer, a false prophet, a Jew, whose name was Bar Jesus. He was with the proconsul, Sergius Paulus. Being an intelligent man, the proconsul called Barnabas and Saul in order to hear the word of God. However, Elymas the sorcerer (for such is his name when translated) opposed them, seeking to turn the proconsul away from the faith. But filled with the Holy Spirit, Saul (who is also called Paul), fixed his eyes on him and said, “You are full of all [kinds of] deceit and cunning, you son of the devil and enemy of all righteousness! Will you not stop perverting the right ways of the Lord? And now, behold, the hand of the Lord is against you, and you will be blind, unable to see the sun for a season!”

At once, mist and darkness fell upon Elymas, and he groped around seeking someone to lead him by the hand. When the proconsul saw what had taken place, he believed and was amazed by the teaching of the Lord.

The word of the Lord abides in this church and in every church. Amen.

### November 22 (23) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 26

See November 18 (19) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 22, page 90.

Annual tune. **Sts. Velerian and Tiburcius**, the martyrs. St. Gregory of Nyssa.

### November 23 (24) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 27

Annual Tune

**St. James the Persian**, the martyr

The consecration of the Church of St. Victor the martyr

#### The Pauline Epistle

##### Galatians 1:1-19

A chapter from the Epistle of our teacher Paul to the Galatians. His blessing be upon us. Amen.

Paul, an apostle (sent neither by human commission nor from human authorities, but through Jesus Christ and God the Father, who raised him from the dead), and all the brethren who are with me, to the Churches of Galatia: Grace to you and peace from God the Father, and our Lord Jesus Christ, who gave himself for our sins, so that he might rescue us from this present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father - to whom be the glory unto ages of ages! Amen.

I am amazed that you are so quickly deserting him who called you in the grace of Christ in order to embrace a different “Good News” - and there is no other “Good News”! Yet, there are some who disturb you and want to pervert the Good News of Christ. Now, even if ourselves or an angel from heaven should preach to you any “Good News” that is not what we preached to you, let such a one be accursed! We have said it before and now I say it again: if anyone preaches to you any other “Good News” than what you received, let such a one be accursed! I am now seeking to please God or people? I am striving to please human beings? But if I was still trying to please men, then I would not be a servant of Christ!

As regards the Good News which I preached, I proclaimed this to you, brethren, that it is not of human origin. I did not receive it from man and I was not taught [this Good News] by man, but it came to me through a revelation of Jesus Christ. You have heard about how I used to live in Judaism, how I persecuted the Church of God beyond measure, and how I ravaged it. I advanced in the Jewish religion beyond many of my own ageamong my countrymen, as I was more extremely zealous for the traditions of my forefathers. But when it was the good pleasure of God, (who had set me apart from my mother’s womb and called me through his grace, to reveal his Son in me so that I might preach him among the Gentiles), I did not immediately confer with flesh and blood: I did not go up to Jerusalem to visit those who were apostles before me, but I went away into Arabia. Later on, I returned to Damascus. Then, after three years, I did go up to Jerusalem to visit Peter and I stayed with him for fifteen days. However, I did not see any of the other apostles, except James, ‘the Lord’s brother’.

The grace of God the Father be with you all. Amen.

#### The Catholic Epistle

##### James 1:1-12

The Catholic Epistle from the Epistle of our teacher James. His Blessing be upon us. Amen.

James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, to the Twelve tribes which are in the Dispersion: Greetings!

Consider it as all joy, my brethren, when you fall into various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance. Let endurance have its full effect, so that you may be perfect and whole, lacking in nothing. But if any of you lacks wisdom, let such one ask of God who gives to all abundantly and without finding fault; and it will be given to him. But ask in faith, without any doubting, for whoever doubts is like a wave of the sea, driven by the wind and tossed. Such a person should not think that anything will be received from the Lord. This is being double- minded, unstable in every way.

But let the brethren of humble circumstances glory in their high position. But the rich should rejoice in being made humble, because like the flower in the grass, they will pass away. For the sun arises with the scorching wind and withers the grass, its flower falls and the beauty of its appearance perishes. Likewise, the rich shall fade away in their pursuits.

Blessed is the one who endures temptation, for when he has been approved, he will receive the crown of life which the Lord promised to those who love him.

Do not love the world, nor the things which are in the world. The world shall pass away and all its desires; but he who does the will of God shall abide forever. Amen.

#### The Praxis

##### Acts 15:13-21

A chapter from the Acts of our fathers the pure Apostles, who were invested with the grace of the Holy Spirit. Their blessing be with us all. Amen.

When they had finished, James said, “Brethren, listen to me! Simeon has reported how God first showed concern towards the Gentiles in order to take from them a people for his Name. This agrees with the words of the prophets. As it is written:

*‘After these things I will return.*

*I will again build the tabernacle of David, which has fallen.*

*I will again build its ruins.*

*I will set it up,*

*That the rest of men may seek after the Lord;*

*All the Gentiles who are called by my Name,*

*Says the Lord, who does all these things.*

*All his works are known to God from eternity.’*

Therefore, I judge that we should not trouble those who turn to God from among the Gentiles. Instead, we should write to them to abstain from the pollution of idols, from sexual immorality, from what is strangled, and from blood. For from generations of old, Moses has had in every city those who preach him, being read every Sabbath in the synagogues.”

The word of the Lord abides in this church and in every church. Amen.

### November 24 (25) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 28

Annual Tune

St. Sarapamon the Bishop of Nokiu and the martyr

#### The Pauline Epistle

##### Hebrews 7:18-8:13

A chapter from the Epistle of our teacher Paul to the Hebrews. His blessing be upon us. Amen.

There is a cancellation of an earlier commandment because of its weakness and uselessness, because the law made nothing perfect. And there is the introduction of a better hope through which we draw near to God. Moreover, our Lord was not made priest without the taking of an oath (although others became priests without any oath). But with an oath, God says of him:

*The Lord swore and will not change his mind,*

*‘You are a priest forever,*

*according to the order of Melchizedek.’*

Because of this, Jesus has become the guarantee of a better covenant. Many, indeed, were made priests [in the past] because they are prevented from continuing in office when they die. But he, because he lives forever, holds a permanent priesthood. Therefore, he is also able to save to the very end those who draw near to God through him, because he lives forever to make intercession for them.

Indeed, such a high priest was fitting for us: holy, blameless, undefiled, separated from sinners and made higher than the heavens. He does not need, like those [former] high priests, to offer up sacrifices daily, first for his own sins and then for the sins of the people. Instead, he did this once for all, when he offered himself up. For the law appoints as high priests men who have weaknesses, but the word of the oath which came after the law appoints forever a Son who has been perfected.

The point of what we are saying is this: we have such a high priest, who sat down at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty on high, a servant of the sanctuary and of the true tabernacle, which the Lord has set up, not man. Every high priest is appointed to offer both gifts and sacrifices. Therefore, it is necessary that this high priest should also have something to offer. If the Lord were on earth, he would not be a priest at all, because there are priests who [still] offer gifts according to the law. They offer divine service to a copy and a shadow of the heavenly things, even as Moses was warned by God when he was about to build the tabernacle. For God said, “Behold, you shall make everything according to the pattern that was shown to you on the mountain.” But now, Jesus has obtained a more excellent ministry as he is also the mediator of a better covenant, given as law on better promises.

If that first covenant had been with fault, there would have been no place to look for a second one. But finding fault with them, God said:

*Behold, the days come, says the Lord,*

*when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel,*

*and with the house of Judah;*

*not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers,*

*in the day when I took them by the hand*

*to lead them out of the land of Egypt;*

*for they did not continue in my covenant,*

*and I disregarded them, says the Lord.*

*For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel.*

*After those days, says the Lord;*

*I will put my laws into their mind,*

*I will also write them on their heart.*

*I will be their God,*

*and they will be my people.*

*They will not teach every man his neighbor,*

*and every man his brother, saying: ‘Know the Lord,’*

*for all will know me,*

*from their least to their greatest.*

*For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness;*

*I will remember their sins and lawless deeds no more.*

By speaking of a new covenant, God has made the first one old. And what is becoming obsolete and ageing will soon disappear.

The grace of God the Father be with you all. Amen.

#### The Catholic Epistle

##### 3 John (all)

The Catholic Epistle from the Third Epistle of our teacher John. His Blessing be upon us. Amen.

The presbyter to Gaius the beloved, whom I love in truth.

Beloved, I pray that you may flourish in all things and be healthy, even as your soul is flourishing. I rejoiced greatly when brethren came and testified about your truth, even as you walk in truth. I have no greater joy than this: to hear that my children are walking in truth.

Beloved, you do a faithful work in all that you accomplish for those who are brethren and strangers. They have borne witness to your love before the Church. You will do well to send them forward on their journey in a manner that God would approve, because it is for the sake of the Name that they went out, taking nothing from the Gentiles. For this reason, we should receive such [brethren], so that we may be fellow-workers for the truth.

I wrote to the Church, but Diotrephes, who loves to be first among them, does not accept what we say. Therefore, if I come, I will call attention to his deeds and how he unjustly accuses us with wicked words. Not satisfied with that, he refuses to welcome the brethren. He also stops those who would do so and throws them out of the Church! Beloved, do not imitate what is evil, but what is good. Whoever does good is of God, but whoever does evil has not seen God.

As for Demetrius, he has a good testimony from everyone and of the truth itself; yes, we also testify, and you know that our testimony is true.

I had many things to write to you, but I am unwilling to write to you with ink and pen. Instead, I hope to see you soon and we will speak face to face. Peace be to you! The friends greet you. Greet the friends by name.

Do not love the world, nor the things which are in the world. The world shall pass away and all its desires; but he who does the will of God shall abide forever. Amen.

#### The Praxis

##### Acts 15:36-16:5

A chapter from the Acts of our fathers the pure Apostles, who were invested with the grace of the Holy Spirit. Their blessing be with us all. Amen.

After some time, Paul said to Barnabas, “Let us revisit our brethren in every city where we proclaimed the word of the Lord, to see how they are doing!” Barnabas planned to take John (who was called Mark) along with them. But Paul did not think that it was a good idea to take with them someone who had deserted them in Pamphylia and had not continued with them in the work. Then, the disagreement became so intense that they separated from each other. Barnabas took Mark with him and sailed away to Cyprus. But Paul chose Silas and having been entrusted by the brethren to the grace of God, they departed. Paul went through Syria and Cilicia, strengthening the Churches.

Paul then came to Derbe and Lystra. And behold, a certain disciple named Timothy lived there. He was the son of a Jewish woman who was a believer, but his father was a Greek. This disciple was well spoken of by the brethren who were at Lystra and Iconium. Paul wanted to have Timothy along on the journey, so he took and circumcised him because of the Jews who were in those parts, since all knew that his father was a Greek. As they went on their way through the cities, they delivered to them the decisions which had been ordained by the apostles and presbyters who were at Jerusalem, so that they might obey. As a result, the Churches were strengthened in the faith and increased in number every day. The word of the Lord abides in this church and in every church. Amen.

### November 25 (26) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 29

Joyful Tune

Commemoration of the Annunciation, Nativity, and Resurrection

**St. Peter the High Priest** and the Seal of the Martyrs

St. Clement the bishop of rome and the martyr.

St. Catherine of Alexandria

#### The Pauline Epistle

##### Hebrews 4:14-5:14

A chapter from the Epistle of our teacher Paul to the Hebrews. His blessing be upon us. Amen.

Since we have such a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold on firmly to our confession. For we do not have a high priest who cannot sympathize with our infirmities, but one who has been tempted in all things just as we are, yet without sin. Therefore, let us approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace for assistance in time of need.

Every high priest is selected from among men and is appointed for their sake in matters pertaining to God, so that he may offer both gifts and sacrifices for [their] sins. The high priest can deal gently with those who are ignorant and going astray since he himself is also subject to weakness. Because of this, he must offer sacrifices for the sins for the people as well as for himself. Moreover, nobody assumes this honor by himself but one is called by God, just as Aaron was. Likewise, Christ did not glorify himself to be made a high priest, but it was God who said to him:

*You are my Son.*

*Today I have become your father.*

As he says also in another place,

*You are a priest forever,*

*According to the order of Melchizedek.*

During his life on earth, Christ offered prayers and petitions with loud cries and tears to the one who could save him from death, and he was heard because of his godly fear. Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through suffering. Having been made perfect, he became to all those who obey him the cause of eternal salvation, named by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

We have many things to say about these things but it is hard to explain because you have become slow at understanding. For although by this time you should be teachers, you still need to have someone teach you [even] the basic principles of God’s oracles. You have come to need milk, and not solid food! Everyone who lives on milk is not experienced in the word of righteousness; such a person is a baby. But solid food is for those who are fully grown, who have trained their senses to discern good and evil.

The grace of God the Father be with you all. Amen.

#### The Catholic Epistle

##### 1 Peter 1:1-9

The Catholic Epistle from the First Epistle of our teacher Peter. His Blessing be upon us. Amen.

Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, to the elect who are living as exiles, scattered in Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia. This is according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, in the sanctification of the Spirit, so that you may obey Jesus Christ and be sprinkled with his blood. Grace be to you and may peace be multiplied!

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to his great mercy, became our father again. This is to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an incorruptible and undefiled inheritance that does not fade away. It is reserved in heaven for you, who by the power of God are protected through faith for a salvation which is ready to be revealed in the last time. In this, you greatly rejoice, although for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials. This way, may the demonstration of your faith (which is more precious than gold that perishes even though it is tested by fire), be found to result in praise, glory, and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ! Even though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with unspeakable joy and glory. And so you are receiving the result of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

Do not love the world, nor the things which are in the world. The world shall pass away and all its desires; but he who does the will of God shall abide forever. Amen.

#### The Praxis

##### Acts 12:1-24

A chapter from the Acts of our fathers the pure Apostles, who were invested with the grace of the Holy Spirit. Their blessing be with us all. Amen.

About that time, King Herod took actions to oppress some of the [members of the] Church. He had James, the brother of John, killed with the sword. When he saw that it pleased the Jews, he proceeded to arrest Peter as well. (This was during the days of unleavened bread). After arresting Peter, he put him in prison and delivered him to four squads of four soldiers to guard him, intending to bring him out to the people after the Passover. And so, Peter was kept in the prison, but constant prayer was about to bring him out, Peter was sleeping between two soldiers, bound with two chains, while guards in front of the door were keeping watch over the prison.

And behold, an angel of the Lord stood by him, and a light shone in the cell. Stricking Peter on the side, he woke Peter up, saying, “Stand up quickly!”, and Peter’s chains fell off from his hands. The angel said to him, “Get dressed and put on your sandals!”, and Peter did so. Then the angel said, “Put on your cloak, and follow me!” And Peter went out and followed the angel, but he did not realized that what was being done by the angel was real, thinking that he was seeing a vision. When they were past the first and the second guard, they came to the iron gate that leads into the city, and it opened to them by itself. Having gone through, they went down one street, and immediately the angel departed from him.

When Peter came to himself, he exclaimed, “Now I truly know that the Lord has sent out his angel and delivered me out of the hand of Herod and from all that the Jewish people were expecting.” After pondering on this, he went to the house of Mary, the mother of John whose surname was Mark, where many were gathered together and praying. When Peter knocked at the outer gate, a servant girl named Rhoda came to answer. When she recognized Peter’s voice, she was so overjoyed that she did not open the door. Instead, she ran in and announced that Peter was standing in front of the gate.

But they said to her, “You are crazy!” When she insisted that it was so, they said, “It is his angel!” Meanwhile Peter continued knocking. When they opened [the door], they saw him and were amazed. But he motioned them with his hand to be silent and told them how the Lord had brought him out of the prison. He said, “Tell these things to James, and to the brethren.” Then he departed, and went to another place. As soon as day came, there was no small commotion among the soldiers over what had become of Peter. When Herod had Peter looked for and could not find him, he examined the guards and ordered that they should be put to death. Meanwhile, Peter went down from Judea to Caesarea and stayed there.

At that time, Herod was very angry with the people of Tyre and Sidon. With one accord, they came to him, and, having befriended Blastus (the king’s personal aide), they asked for peace because their country depended on the king’s country for food. On an appointed day, Herod dressed himself in royal clothing, sat on the throne, and gave a speech to them. The people shouted, “The voice of a god, not of a man!” Immediately, an angel of the Lord struck him, because he did not give God the glory, and he was eaten by worms and died.

But the word of God grew and multiplied.

The word of the Lord abides in this church and in every church. Amen.

### November 26 (27) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 30 through Novmeber 30 (December 1) / Ⲕⲟⲓⲁϩⲕ 3

Novmber 26 (27) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 30 see June 27 / Ⲉⲡⲏⲡ 3, page 264.

Annual tune. **St. Acacius the Patriarch** of Constantinople. The Consecration of the Church of Sts. Cosman, Damina, their borthers, and their mother. St. Macarius the martyr.

Novmber 27 (28) / Ⲕⲟⲓⲁϩⲕ 1 see November 13 (14) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 17, page 86.

December or Ⲕⲟⲓⲁϩⲕ tune. **St. Peter the Iberian.** The Consecration of the Church of St. Shenoute the Archimandrite.

Novmber 28 (29) / Ⲕⲟⲓⲁϩⲕ 2 see June 10 / Ⲡⲁⲱⲛⲉ 16, page 258.

December or Ⲕⲟⲓⲁϩⲕ tune. Abba Hor the monk.

Novmber 29 (30) / Ⲕⲟⲓⲁϩⲕ 3 see April 26 / Ⲡⲁϣⲁⲛⲥ 1, page 219.

December or Ⲕⲟⲓⲁϩⲕ tune. The Entry of the Theotokos into the Temple.

November 30 (December 1) / Ⲕⲟⲓⲁϩⲕ 4 see June 29 / Ⲉⲡⲏⲡ 5, page 268.

December or Ⲕⲟⲓⲁϩⲕ tune. St. Andrew the Apostle.

## December or Ⲕⲟⲓⲁϩⲕ

### December 1 (2) / Ⲕⲟⲓⲁϩⲕ 4 through December 18 (19) / Ⲕⲟⲓⲁϩⲕ 21

December 1 (2) / Ⲕⲟⲓⲁϩⲕ 5 see September 5 (6) / Ⲑⲟⲟⲩⲧ 8, page 22.

December or Ⲕⲟⲓⲁϩⲕ tune. **Nahum the Prophet**. St. Victor the martyr. St. Isidore the martyr.

December 2 (3) / Ⲕⲟⲓⲁϩⲕ 6 see June 27 / Ⲉⲡⲏⲡ 3, page 264.

December or Ⲕⲟⲓⲁϩⲕ tune. St. Patlas, the priest and martyr. **St. Abraham,** the 62nd Patriarch of Alexandria.

December 3 (4) / Ⲕⲟⲓⲁϩⲕ 7 see January 27 (28) / Ⲙϣⲓⲣ 2, page 179.

December or Ⲕⲟⲓⲁϩⲕ tune. St. Matthew the Poor.

December 4 (5) / Ⲕⲟⲓⲁϩⲕ 8 see March 9 / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙϩⲟⲧⲡ 13, page 201.

December or Ⲕⲟⲓⲁϩⲕ tune. St. Theoclas, the 13th Patriarch of Alexandria. Sts. Barbara and Juliana the martyrs. **Sts. Isi and Tecla** the martyrs. St. Samuel of El-Zalamun.

December 5 (6) / Ⲕⲟⲓⲁϩⲕ 9 see January 17 (18) / Ⲧⲱⲃⲓ 22, page 172.

December or Ⲕⲟⲓⲁϩⲕ tune. St. Peomin the confessor.

December 6 (7) / Ⲕⲟⲓⲁϩⲕ 10 see November 24 (25) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 28, page 100.

December or Ⲕⲟⲓⲁϩⲕ tune. Translacation of the Relics of St. Severus of Antioch. **St. Nicholas of Myra**, the confessor.

December 7 (8) / Ⲕⲟⲓⲁϩⲕ 11 see June 10 / Ⲡⲁⲱⲛⲉ 16, page 258.

December or Ⲕⲟⲓⲁϩⲕ tune. St. Pijimi

December 8 (9) / Ⲕⲟⲓⲁϩⲕ 12 see May 15 / Ⲡⲁϣⲁⲛⲥ 20, page 233.

December or Ⲕⲟⲓⲁϩⲕ tune. Commemoration of Archangel Michael. **St. Hedra the bishop** of Aswan. St. John the confessor. Assembly of a council in Rome in 249 A.D.

December 9 (10) / Ⲕⲟⲓⲁϩⲕ 13 see September 23 (24) / Ⲑⲟⲟⲩⲧ 26, page 37.

December or Ⲕⲟⲓⲁϩⲕ tune. Commemoration of the Conception of **St. Anna the mother of the Theotokos**. St. Barsanuphius the martyr. St. Apracuous the ascetic. Consecration of the Church of St. Misael the pilgrim.

December 10 (11) / Ⲕⲟⲓⲁϩⲕ 14 see April 22 / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙⲟⲩⲧⲉ 27, page 213.

December or Ⲕⲟⲓⲁϩⲕ tune. **Sts. Behnam and Sarah**, his sister. St. Christodoulos the martyrs. Sts. Simon of Manoufia, Abba Hor, and Abba Menas the elder, the martyrs. St. Ammonias the bishop.

December 11 (12) / Ⲕⲟⲓⲁϩⲕ 15 see November 13 (14) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 17, page 86.

December or Ⲕⲟⲓⲁϩⲕ tune. St. Gregory the Armenian.

December 12 (13) / Ⲕⲟⲓⲁϩⲕ 16 see November 23 (24) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 27, page 98.

December or Ⲕⲟⲓⲁϩⲕ tune. Gideon the Judge. Sts. Haroudia, Annanias, and Khousi the martyrs of Akhmim. The consecration of the Church of **St. James the Persian**.

December 13 (14) / Ⲕⲟⲓⲁϩⲕ 17 see July 27 / Ⲙⲉⲥⲟⲣⲏ 3, page 290.

December or Ⲕⲟⲓⲁϩⲕ tune. Translocation of the relics of St. Luke the Stylite.

December 14 (15) / Ⲕⲟⲓⲁϩⲕ 18 see October 19 (20) / Ⲡⲁⲱⲡⲉ 22, page 57.

December or Ⲕⲟⲓⲁϩⲕ tune. Translocation of the relics of **St. Titus the Apostle**. St. Hercules the martyrs and St. Philemon the presbyter.

December 15 (16) / Ⲕⲟⲓⲁϩⲕ 19 see November 24 (25) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 28, page 100.

December or Ⲕⲟⲓⲁϩⲕ tune. St. John the bishop of El-Borolos.

December 16 (17) / Ⲕⲟⲓⲁϩⲕ 20 see September 5 (6) / Ⲑⲟⲟⲩⲧ 8, page 22.

December or Ⲕⲟⲓⲁϩⲕ tune. Haggai the Prophet.

December 17 (18) / Ⲕⲟⲓⲁϩⲕ 21 see December 31 (January 1) / Ⲧⲱⲃⲓ 5, page 146.

December or Ⲕⲟⲓⲁϩⲕ tune. Commemoration of the Theotokos. **St. Barnabas the Disciple.**

### December 18 (19) / Ⲕⲟⲓⲁϩⲕ 22

December or Ⲕⲟⲓⲁϩⲕ Tune

**Commemoration of Archangel Gabriel**

St. Anastasius, the 36th Patriarch of Alexandria

#### The Pauline Epistle

##### Hebrews 2:5-18

A chapter from the Epistle of our teacher Paul to the Hebrews. His blessing be upon us. Amen.

Indeed, God did not subject the world to come (which we proclaim) to angels, but there is a place {in Scripture} where someone has testified:

*What is man, that you [should] think of him?*

*Or the son of man, that you care for him?*

*You made him a little lower than the angels.*

*You crowned him with glory and honor.*

*You have put all things in subjection under his feet.*

Since God has subjected all things to him, he left nothing that is not subject to him! But now, we do not see all things subjected to him, [at least not] yet. But we see him who has been made a little lower than the angels, [that is] Jesus, crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he should taste death for everyone.

Indeed, it was fitting for God, (for whom are all things and through whom are all things), in bringing many children to glory, to make the author of their salvation perfect through sufferings. For both the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified are all from one; for this reason, he is not ashamed to call them brethren, saying:

*I will declare your Name tomy brethren.*

*In the midst of the congregation I will sing your praise.*

Again:

*I will put my trust in him,*

and

*Behold, here I am with the children whom God has given me.*

Since the children have shared in [the same] flesh and blood, he likewise shared the same [human nature], so that through death he might bring to nothing the one who had the power of death, the devil, and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to life-long slavery. Certainly, Jesus did not take on the [nature of] angels, but [that of] Abraham’s seed. For this reason, he had to be made like his brethren in all things, so that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, {able} to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. Moreover, since he himself suffered and was tempted, he is able to help those who are tempted.

The grace of God the Father be with you all. Amen.

#### The Catholic Epistle

##### 1 Peter 1:3-12

The Catholic Epistle from the First Epistle of our teacher Peter. His Blessing be upon us. Amen.

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to his great mercy, became our father again. This is to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an incorruptible and undefiled inheritance that does not fade away. It is reserved in heaven for you, who by the power of God are protected through faith for a salvation which is ready to be revealed in the last time. In this, you greatly rejoice, although for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials. This way, may the demonstration of your faith (which is more precious than gold that perishes even though it is tested by fire), be found to result in praise, glory, and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ! Even though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with unspeakable joy and glory. And so you are receiving the result of your faith, the salvation of your souls. About this salvation, the prophets who prophesied of the grace that would come to you did much research and investigation. They were searching the person and time that the Spirit of Christ (which was in them) pointed to by predicting the sufferings of Christ and the glories that would follow them. They received revelation that they were servants of these things not for themselves but for you. These [things] have now have been announced to you by those who preached the Good News by the Holy Spirit sent out from heaven, and [even the] angels desire to gaze upon these things.

Do not love the world, nor the things which are in the world. The world shall pass away and all its desires; but he who does the will of God shall abide forever. Amen.

#### The Praxis

##### Acts 10:21-33

A chapter from the Acts of our fathers the pure Apostles, who were invested with the grace of the Holy Spirit. Their blessing be with us all. Amen.

Peter went down to [meet] the men, and said, “Behold, I am the one you are looking for! Why have you come?”

They replied, “Cornelius, a centurion, a righteous man and one who fears God, someone well spoken of by all the nation of the Jews, was directed by a holy angel to invite you to his house, and to listen to what you say.” Then Peter invited them in and gave them lodging. On the next day, Peter arose and went out with them, and some of the brethren from Joppa accompanied him. The following day, they entered into Caesarea. Cornelius was waiting for them, having called together his relatives and close friends. When Peter entered, Cornelius met him, fell down at his feet, and worshiped him. But Peter raised him up, saying, “Stand up! I am also a man!” As he talked with Cornelius, he went in and found many people assembled. Peter said to them, “You yourselves know that it is unlawful for a Jew to associate with or visit someone of another nation, but God has shown me that I should not call anyone profane or unclean. Therefore, I have come without complaint when I was sent for. And so, I ask, why did you send for me?”

Cornelius replied, “Four days ago, I was fasting until this hour, and at the ninth hour, I was praying in my house. And behold, a man stood before me in bright clothing, and he said, ‘Cornelius, your prayer is heard, and your alms are remembered in the sight of God. Therefore, send [messengers] to Joppa for Simon who is called Peter. He is staying in the house of Simon a tanner, by the seaside. When he comes, he will speak to you.’ And so, I sent for you at once, and it was good of you to come! Now, we are all here present in the sight of God to hear everything that God has commanded you.”

The word of the Lord abides in this church and in every church. Amen.

### December 19 (20) / Ⲕⲟⲓⲁϩⲕ 23 Prior to A.D. 2014

December 19 (20) / Ⲕⲟⲓⲁϩⲕ 23 Prior to A.D. 2014 see September 5 (6) / Ⲑⲟⲟⲩⲧ 8, page 22.

December or Ⲕⲟⲓⲁϩⲕ tune. **King David**. St. Timothy the pilgrim.

### December 19 (20) / Ⲕⲟⲓⲁϩⲕ 23 After A.D. 2014

December or Ⲕⲟⲓⲁϩⲕ Tune

**King David**

St. Timothy the Pilgrim

#### The Pauline Epistle

##### Hebrews 11:32-40

A chapter from the Epistle of our teacher Paul to the Hebrews. His blessing be upon us. Amen.

What more shall I say? Time would fail me if I mentioned Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, David, Samuel, and the prophets. Through faith, they overpowered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched the power of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, became strong in weakness, grew mighty in war and caused foreign armies to flee. Women received their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured, not accepting their deliverance, that they might obtain a better resurrection. Others were tried by mocking and scourging, yes, by bonds and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn apart, they were tempted and they were slain with the sword. They went around in sheep and goat skins, being destitute, afflicted and ill-treated. And yet the world was not worthy of them! They wandered in deserts, mountains, caves, and the holes of the earthAll of them received a testimony through their faith but they did not receive the promise, for God had made provision for us to have something better, and they were not to reach perfection apart from us.

The grace of God the Father be with you all. Amen.

#### The Catholic Epistle

##### James 5:7-13

The Catholic Epistle from the Epistle of our teacher James. His Blessing be upon us. Amen.

Therefore, be patient, brethren, until the coming of the Lord. Behold, the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient over it, until it receives the early and late rain. You also should be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand.

Brethren, do not grumble against one another, so that you will not be judged. Behold, the judge stands at the door! Brethren, consider as an example of suffering and patience the prophets who spoke in the Name of the Lord. Behold, we call them blessed who endured. You have heard of the patience of Job and you have seen the Lord in the outcome, how the Lord is full of compassion and mercy.

But above all things, my brethren, do not swear, neither by heaven or earth, nor by any other oath. Instead, let your “yes” be “yes,” and your “no,” “no;” so that you may not fall into hypocrisy.

Are any among you suffering? Let them pray. Are any cheerful? Let them sing praises.

Do not love the world, nor the things which are in the world. The world shall pass away and all its desires; but he who does the will of God shall abide forever. Amen.

#### The Praxis

##### Acts 2:22-36

A chapter from the Acts of our fathers the pure Apostles, who were invested with the grace of the Holy Spirit. Their blessing be with us all. Amen.

Men of Israel, listen to these words! Jesus of Nazareth was a man attested to you by God by deeds of power and wonders as well as signs which God accomplished through him in the midst of you, even as you yourselves know. He was handed over by the predetermined counsel and foreknowledge of God, taken by the hand of lawless men, crucified and killed. God raised him up, having released him from the pains of death, because it was impossible that he should be held by it. For David says concerning him:

*‘I saw the Lord always before my face,*

*For he is on my right hand, so that I should not be moved.*

*Therefore, my heart was glad and my tongue rejoiced.*

*Moreover, my flesh also will dwell in hope;*

*because you will not abandon my soul to hades,*

*neither will you allow your holy one to see decay.*

*You made known to me the ways of life.*

*You will make me full of gladness with your presence.’*

Brethren, I can tell you with confidence that the patriarch David died and was buried, and his tomb is with us even to this day. But he was a prophet and knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that from the fruit of his body, according to the flesh, God would raise up the Christ to sit on his throne. Foreseeing this, David spoke about the resurrection of the Christ, [declaring] that his soul would not be left in hades and that his flesh would not see decay. God has raised this Jesus [back to life], and we are all witnesses of this fact. Being therefore exalted by the right hand of God and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, Jesus has poured out what you now see and hear. For David did not ascend into the heavens, but as he himself declared:

*‘The Lord said to my Lord: Sit at my right hand,*

*until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet.’*

Therefore, let all the house of Israel know with assurance that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified.”

The word of the Lord abides in this church and in every church. Amen.

### December 20 (21) / Ⲕⲟⲓⲁϩⲕ 24 through December 23 (24) / Ⲕⲟⲓⲁϩⲕ 27

December 20 (21) / Ⲕⲟⲓⲁϩⲕ 24 see December 30 (31) / Ⲧⲱⲃⲓ 4, page 143.

December or Ⲕⲟⲓⲁϩⲕ tune. **St. Ignatius, the Patriarch of Alexandria**. St. Philogonus the Patriarch of Alexandria.

December 21 (22) / Ⲕⲟⲓⲁϩⲕ 25 see January 27 (28) / Ⲙϣⲓⲣ 2, page 179.

December or Ⲕⲟⲓⲁϩⲕ tune. Abba John Kame.

December 22 (23) / Ⲕⲟⲓⲁϩⲕ 26 see January 25 (26) / Ⲧⲱⲃⲓ 30, page 177.

December or Ⲕⲟⲓⲁϩⲕ tune. **St. Anastasia the martyr**. St. Juliana the martyr.

December 23 (24) / Ⲕⲟⲓⲁϩⲕ 27 see November 24 (25) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 28, page 100.

December or Ⲕⲟⲓⲁϩⲕ tune. Abba Bisadi the bishop and martyr.

### December 24 (25) / Ⲕⲟⲓⲁϩⲕ 28

Annual Tune

**Preparation Day (Paramouni) of the Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord in the Flesh**

The Martyrdom of 150 men and 24 women from Antipolis

#### The Pauline Epistle

##### Galatians 3:15-4:18

A chapter from the Epistle of our teacher Paul to the Galatians. His blessing be upon us. Amen.

Brethren, even speaking of a human example; when a person’s will has been confirmed, it cannot be cancelled or altered (even though it is only human contract). Now, the promises were spoken to Abraham and to his seed. [Notice that] he does not say, “to seeds,” as if there were many, but as of one, “to your seed,” which is Christ. What I am saying is this: the law, which came four hundred thirty years after the covenant previously confirmed by God in Christ, does not cancel it to make the promise of no effect. If the inheritance comes from the law, it is no longer from the promise; but in fact, God granted it to Abraham by way of a promise.

What then is the law about? It was added because of transgressions, until the seed to whom the promise had been made should come, and it was established through the angels, by the hand of a mediator. Now, there is no mediator when there is only one party, and God is one. Therefore, is the law against God’s [own] promises? Certainly not! If a law had been given which could make alive, then certainly, righteousness would have been from the law. But in fact, the Scriptures declared all things to be captive under sin, so that the promise might be given to those who believe, that is by faith in Jesus Christ. But before faith came, we were kept in custody under the law, locked up to wait for the faith which would later on be revealed. Hence, the law was our tutor which was to bring us to Christ, so that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a tutor, and you are all God’s children, through faith in Christ Jesus! For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus. If you are Christ’s, then you are Abraham’s seed and heirs according to the promise.

Here is my point: as long as the heir is a child, he is no different than a slave, although being the owner of everything. The heir, is under tutors and trustees until the day appointed by the father. Likewise, when we too were children, we were held in bondage under the elemental principles of the world. But when the fullness of the time came, God sent forth his Son, born to a woman, born under the law, so that he might redeem those who were under the law and so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent forth the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying, “Abba, Father!” Now, you are no longer slaves, but children; and if children, then heirs of God through Christ.

In the past, as you did not know God, you were in bondage to those who by nature nare not gods. But now that you have come to know God, or rather come to be known by God, why do you return to the weak and miserable primordial forces whose slaves you want to be all over again? You observe days, months, seasons, and years... I am afraid concerning you, that I may have wasted my labor for you. I beg you, brethren, become as I am, for I also have become as you are. You have never treated me wrongly, but you know that it was an illness that first gave me an opportunity to preach the Good News to you. Even though my condition was a trial for you, you did not despise nor reject me; but you received me as an angel of God, even as Christ Jesus!

What has happened to the blessing you enjoyed? Indeed, I bear witness to you that, if possible, you would have plucked out your eyes and given them to me! And now, have I become your enemy by telling you the truth? Those people pursue you, but not for good. No, they desire to cut you off from us, so that you might eagerly seek after them. But it is always good to be zealous in a good cause, not only when I am present with you!

The grace of God the Father be with you all. Amen.

#### The Catholic Epistle

##### 1 John 4:1-14

The Catholic Epistle from the First Epistle of our teacher John. His Blessing be upon us. Amen.

Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to determine whether they are from God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world. This is how you can discern the Spirit of God: every spirit who confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God. But every spirit who does not confess Jesus Christ as having come in the flesh is not from God, and this is the spirit of the Antichrist which you have heard is coming, and is already in the world. You are of God, dear children and you have overcome them because the one who is in you is greater is than the one who is in the world. These people are of the world. Therefore, they speak according to [the spirit of] the world, and the world listens to them. We are of God. Whoever knows God listens to us. Whoever is not of God does not listen to us. By this we can discern the spirit of truth and the spirit of error.

Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God. Everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. This is how God’s love was revealed in us: that God sent his only-begotten Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, if God loved us in this way, we also should love one another. No one has seen God at any time, but if we love one another, God remains in us, and his love has come true in us.

By this, we know that we remain in him and he in us, because he has given us [as share] of his Spirit. We have seen and testify that the Father has sent the Son, the Savior of the world.

Do not love the world, nor the things which are in the world. The world shall pass away and all its desires; but he who does the will of God shall abide forever. Amen.

#### The Praxis

##### Acts 13:13-25

A chapter from the Acts of our fathers the pure Apostles, who were invested with the grace of the Holy Spirit. Their blessing be with us all. Amen.

Now, Paul and his company set sail from Paphos to Perga in Pamphylia where John left them to return to Jerusalem. Continuing from Perga, they came to Antioch of Pisidia. There, they went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day and sat down [to listen]. After the reading of the law and the prophets, the rulers of the synagogue sent them a message, “Brethren, if you have any word of exhortation for the people, speak!”

So Paul stood up, motioned with his hand, and said, “Men of Israel and you [Gentiles] who fear God, listen! The God of this people Israel chose our fathers and made the people prosper when they stayed as aliens in the land of Egypt, and with an uplifted arm, he led them out of it. For a period of about forty years, he put up with them in the wilderness. After destroying seven nations in the land of Canaan, God gave them their land as an inheritance, and this took about four hundred fifty years. After this, he gave them judges until Samuel the prophet. Then they asked for a king, and God gave to them Saul the son of Kish, a man of the tribe of Benjamin [who ruled] for forty years. After removing him, he raised up David to be their king, even bearing witness to him, ‘I have found David the son of Jesse, a man after my heart, who will do all my will.’ From this man’s seed, God has brought salvation to Israel, according to his promise. This was before the coming of Jesus, when John first preached the baptism of repentance to all the people of Israel. As John was completing his work, he said, ‘Who do you suppose that I am? I am not he! But behold, one comes after me whose sandals I am unworthy to untie.’

The word of the Lord abides in this church and in every church. Amen.

### December 25 (26) / Ⲕⲟⲓⲁϩⲕ 29

Joyful Tune

**The Glorious Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord in the Flesh**

#### The Pauline Epistle

##### Hebrews 1:1-2:4

A chapter from the Epistle of our teacher Paul to the Hebrews. His blessing be upon us. Amen.

In the past, God spoke to the fathers through the prophets at many times and in various ways. At the end of these days, he has spoken to us in his Son whom he has appointed heir of all things and through whom he [had] made the ages. His Son is the radiance of his glory, the very image of his person, upholding all things by the word of his power. When he had by himself made purification for our sins, he sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become much better than the angels as the Name he has inherited is superior to theirs. For to which of the angels did

*God ever say:*

*You are my Son!*

*Today I have I begotten youf*

*and again:*

*I will be a Father to him,*

*and he will be my Son*

Also, when he brings the firstborn into the world, God says:

*“Let all the angels of God worshipi him.”*

*Of the angels, Godk says:*

*Who makes his angels spirits,*

*and his servants a flame of fire.a*

*But of the Son he says:*

*Your throne, O Godb, is unto ages of ages.*

*The scepter of uprightness is the scepter of your Kingdom.*

*You have loved righteousness, and hated iniquity;*

*therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness above your*

*companions.*

And:

*You, Lord, in the beginning, laid the foundation of the earth.*

*The heavens are the works of your hands.*

*They will perish, but you continue.*

*They all will grow old as a garment,*

*As a mantle, you will roll them up,*

*and they will be changed;*

*but you are the same.*

*Your years will not fail.*

But to which of the angels did he ever say,

*Sit at my right hand,*

*until I make your enemies the footstool of your feet?*

Are they not all ministering spirits, sent out to serve for the sake of those who will inherit salvation?

Therefore, we should pay greater attention to the things that we weretaught, for fear that we might drift away. For if the word spoken through angels proved reliable and every transgression and disobedience received a just penalty, how will we escape if we neglect so great a salvation! It was first announced by the Lord himself, and is confirmed to us by those who heard him. God also bore witness with them, both by signs and wonders, by various works of power and by gifts of the Holy Spirit, according to his own will.

The grace of God the Father be with you all. Amen.

#### The Catholic Epistle

##### 2 Peter 1:12-17

The Catholic Epistle from the Second Epistle of our teacher Peter. His Blessing be upon us. Amen.

Therefore, I will not be negligent to remind you of these things although you [already] know them and are established in the truth which you now have. I think it right, as long as I am in this tent, to stir you up by reminding you [these things]. I know that I shall lay aside my tent very quickly, even as our Lord Jesus Christ made clear to me. And so, I will make every effort [to ensure] that you will always be able to remember these things, even after my departure. For we did not depend on cleverly invented fables when we told you about the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ; we were eyewitnesses of his majesty! For he received from God the Father honor and glory when the voice came to him from the Majestic Glory, “This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.”

Do not love the world, nor the things which are in the world. The world shall pass away and all its desires; but he who does the will of God shall abide forever. Amen.

#### The Praxis

##### Acts 13:26-33a

A chapter from the Acts of our fathers the pure Apostles, who were invested with the grace of the Holy Spirit. Their blessing be with us all. Amen.

Brethren, children of the line of Abraham, and those among you [Gentiles] who fear God, this messagee of salvation has been sent to you! Indeed, those who dwell in Jerusalem and their rulers did not recognize him or the voices of the prophets which are read every Sabbath. But by condemning him, they fulfilled the prophets! Although they could find no cause for his execution, they still asked Pilate to have Jesusf killed. After fulfilling all the things that were written about him, they took him down from the tree, and laid him in a tomb. But God raised him from the dead, and he was seen for many days by those who came up with him from Galilee to Jerusalem. They are his witnesses to the people. And now, we bring you the Good News that the promise made to the fathers as come about: God has fulfilled it for us, their children, by raising up Jesus.

The word of the Lord abides in this church and in every church. Amen.

### December 26 (27) / Ⲕⲟⲓⲁϩⲕ 30

Joyful Tune

**The Second Day of the Glorious Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord in the Flesh**

St. John the Hegoumen

#### The Pauline Epistle

##### Galatians 4:19-5:1

A chapter from the Epistle of our teacher Paul to the Galatians. His blessing be upon us. Amen.

My little children, I am again in labor over you, until Christ is formed in you! I wish that I could be with you in person now, to change my tone, because I am confused about you. Tell me, since you desire to be under the law, {why} do you not listen to the law?

For it is written that Abraham had two sons, one by the servant, and one by the free woman. However, the son by the servant was born according to the flesh, but the son by the free woman was born through a promise. These things contain an allegory which represents two covenants. One is from Mount Sinai, bearing children to slavery, and that is Hagar. This Hagar is Mount Sinai in Arabia, and it corresponds to the Jerusalem that exists now, in slavery with her children. But the Jerusalem that is above is free, and the mother of us all. As it is written:

*Rejoice, you barren [woman] who bears no child;*

*Break forth and shout, you that do not travail.*

*For more are the children of the desolate than of her who has a husband.*

Brethren, we are, just as Isaac, children of promise, and it is now as it was then: the one who was born according to the flesh persecuted the one who was born according to the Spirit. So it is even now! However, what does the Scripture say?

*“Throw out the servant-girl and her son, because the son of the servant will not inherit with the son of the free woman.”*

And so, brethren, we are not children of a servant, but children of the free woman!

Therefore, stand firm in the freedom by which Christ has made us free, and do not be entangled again with a yoke of slavery!

The grace of God the Father be with you all. Amen.

#### The Catholic Epistle

##### 1 John 4:15-5:4

The Catholic Epistle from the First Epistle of our teacher John. His Blessing be upon us. Amen.

God remains in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they remain in God. We know and we believed in the love which God has for us: God is love, and whoever remains in love remains in God, and God remains in him. In this, love has been made perfect among us, so that we may have boldness in the day of judgment, because in this world, we are just as he is. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear, because fear is connected with punishment. But the one who fears is not yet perfect in love. We love him, because he first loved us. If someone says, “I love God,” and yet hates his brother [or sister], such a person is a liar! If someone does not love the brethren who can be seen, how can such a person [claim to] love God whom he has not seen? Indeed, this is commandment we have received from him: that the one who loves God should also love his brother.

Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God, and whoever loves the Father also loves the one who is born of the Father. By this we know that we love the children of God: by loving God and keeping his commandments. For this is the love of God: that we keep his commandments, and his commandments are not burdensome. Everyone born of God overcomes the world! This is the victory that has overcome the world: your faith.

Do not love the world, nor the things which are in the world. The world shall pass away and all its desires; but he who does the will of God shall abide forever. Amen.

#### The Praxis

##### Acts 13:36-43

A chapter from the Acts of our fathers the pure Apostles, who were invested with the grace of the Holy Spirit. Their blessing be with us all. Amen.

Now David, after he had in his own generation served the counsel of God, fell asleep. He was laid with his fathers and saw decay. But he whom God raised up did not see decay! Therefore, may you know, brethren, that through this man the remission of sins is proclaimed to you! By him, everyone who believes is justified from all things, things from which you could not be justified by the law of Moses. Beware therefore, for fear that what is spoken in the prophets may come on you:

*‘Behold, you scoffers, wonder, and perish!*

*For in your days I [shall] accomplish a work,*

*which you will not believe, even if one would proclaim it to you.’*

And so, when they were leaving the synagogue of the Jews, the Gentiles begged that these words might be preached to them the next Sabbath. Now, when the congregation was dismissed, many Jews and devout proselytes followed Paul and Barnabas who spoke to them and encouraged them to persevere in the grace of God.

The word of the Lord abides in this church and in every church. Amen.

### December 27 (28) / Ⲧⲱⲃⲓ 1

Joyful Tune

The Third Day of the Glorious Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord in the Flesh

**St. Stephen the Protodeacon and Protomartyr**

St. Lawindianus the Martyr

The 8000 Martyrs of Akhmim

#### The Pauline Epistle

##### 2 Corinthians 11:16-12:12

A chapter from the Second Epistle of our teacher Paul to the Corinthians. His blessing be upon us. Amen.

I say it again: may you not think that I am fool! But if you do, receive me still as foolish, so that I also may boast a little. What I [now] speak, I do not speak according to the Lord, but in foolishness, in this confidence of boasting. And since I see that many boast as humans do, I will also boast. Yes, since you are wise, you bear with the foolish gladly! In fact, you put up with someone who brings you into slavery, devours you, takes you captive, exalts himself, or strikes you on the face. I say this to our shame: we were too weak for that! However, if anyone is bold (I speak in foolishness), I am bold as well. Are they Hebrews? So am I! Are they Israelites? So am I! Are they Abraham’s seed? So am I! Are they Christ’s servants? I am even more so (I speak as a fool)! I was in more labors, more in prisons, beaten countless times, often close to death. Five times, I was beaten with stripes (forty times minus one) from the Jews. Three times, I was beaten with rods. Once, I received a stoning. Three times, I suffered shipwreck and was for a night and a day in the open sea. I have been in travels often, in danger from rivers, robbers, from my countrymen, from the Gentiles; in danger in the city, in the wilderness, at sea, among false brothers; in toil and hardship, in vigils often, in hunger and thirst, often fasting, and in cold and nakedness.

Besides those things which are external, there is something that presses on me daily: anxiety for all the Churches. If anyone is weak, do I not feel weak too? If anyone stumbles, do I not burn with indignation? But if I must boast, I will boast about those things that have to do my weakness. The God and Father of the Lord Jesus Christ, he who is blessed unto the ages, knows that I do not lie. In Damascus, the governor of King Aretas guarded the city in order to arrest me. But I was let down in a basket along the wall through a window, and this is how I escaped from his hands.

Without a doubt, it is not profitable for me to boast, but I will now discuss visions and revelations from the Lord. I know a man in Christ, who fourteen years ago, was caught up into the third heaven (whether [it was] in the body, I do not know, or whether out of the body, I do not know; God knows). [Yes], I know such a man (whether in the body, or outside of the body, I do not know; God knows), how he was caught up into Paradise, and heard unspeakable words, which it is not lawful for anyone to utter. On behalf of such a person, I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except in my weaknesses. If my intention is to boast, I will not be foolish: I will speak the truth. But now, I shall stop, so that no one may think more of me than what is seen in me or heard from me. Because of the tremendous greatness of these revelations, a thorn in the flesh was given to me, a messenger of Satan that torments me, so that I would not be too exalted. Yes, I should not be too exalted! Concerning this thing, I begged the Lord three times that it might depart from me, but he replied to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.” And so, it is with joy that I would rather [find] glory in my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest on me.

Therefore, I take pleasure in weaknesses, in injuries, necessities, persecutions, distresses, {all this} for Christ’s sake. For when I am weak, then I am strong! I have acted foolishly in this boasting, but you compelled me! I should have been commended by you, because even though I am nothing, I am not in anything inferior to the very best apostles. Truly, the signs of an apostle were worked among you in all patience, in signs, wonders and mighty deeds.

The grace of God the Father be with you all. Amen.

#### The Catholic Epistle

##### 1 Peter 1:25b-2:10

The Catholic Epistle from the First Epistle of our teacher Peter. His Blessing be upon us. Amen.

This is the word of Good News which was preached to you.

Therefore, putting away all wickedness, deceit, hypocrisy, envies, and all evil speaking, as newborn babies, long for the pure milk of the Word, so that you may grow from it. If indeed you have tasted that the Lord is gracious, come to him who is a living stone, rejected by men but chosen by God and precious. You also, as living stones, are being built up as a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, in order to offer up spiritual sacrifices that are acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. As the Scripture has it:

*Behold, I lay in Zion a chief cornerstone, chosen, and precious:*

*Whoever believes in him will not be disappointed.*

For you who believe, this brings honor, but for those who are disobedient:

*The stone which the builders rejected,*

*has become the chief cornerstone,*

and:

*a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense.*

For they stumble at the word and they are disobedient, which is what they were laid aside for. But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for God’s own possession, so that you may proclaim the wonderful deeds of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. In the past, you were not a people, but now, you are God’s people. In the past, you had not obtained mercy, but now, you have obtained mercy.

Do not love the world, nor the things which are in the world. The world shall pass away and all its desires; but he who does the will of God shall abide forever. Amen.

#### The Praxis

##### Acts 6:1-7:2

A chapter from the Acts of our fathers the pure Apostles, who were invested with the grace of the Holy Spirit. Their blessing be with us all. Amen.

Now, in those days, when the number of the disciples was multiplying, a complaint arose from the Hellenists against the Hebrews, because their widows were neglected in the daily service [of food distribution]. The Twelve summoned the multitude of the disciples and said, “It is not appropriate for us to abandon the word of God in order to serve tables. Therefore, select from among you, brethren, seven men of good reputation, full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom. We will appoint them over this necessary task and devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word.”

These words pleased the whole multitude, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a proselyte of Antioch. They presented these men to the apostles who prayed and laid their hands on them. Thus, the word of God spread and the number of disciples greatly multiplied in Jerusalem, and a large number of [Levitical] priests became obedient to the faith.

Full of faith and power, Stephen performed great wonders and signs among the people. But some of those who belonged to the synagogue of the Freedmen (as it was called) along with Cyrenians, Alexandrians, and men from Cilicia and Asia reacted. They began debating with Stephen but were not able to withstand the wisdom and spirit by which he spoke. Then, they secretly convinced [some] men to say, “We have heard him speak blasphemous words against Moses and God!” Having stirred up the people, the presbyters and the scribes came against him and arrested him. They brought Stephen before the Sanhedrin and produced false witnesses who said, “This man is always uttering blasphemies against this holy place and the law. We have even heard him say that this Jesus of Nazareth will destroy this place and change the customs which Moses delivered to us!” All the members of the council gazed at Stephen and saw that his face was like the face of an angel.

The high priest asked, “Are these things so?”

Stephen answered, “Brothers and fathers, hear me! The God of glory appeared to our father Abraham when he was [still] in Mesopotamia, before he lived in Haran.

The word of the Lord abides in this church and in every church. Amen.

### December 28 (29) / Ⲧⲱⲃⲓ 2

See June 27 / Ⲉⲡⲏⲡ 3, page 264.

Joyful tune. **St. Theonas**, the 16th Patriarch of Alexandria. St. Callinicus the bishop and martyr.

### December 29 (30) / Ⲧⲱⲃⲓ 3

Joyful Tune

Commemoration of the Slaying of the Infants of Bethlehem

#### The Pauline Epistle

##### 1 Corinthians 13:11-14:4

A chapter from the First Epistle of our teacher Paul to the Corinthians. His blessing be upon us. Amen.

When I was a child, I spoke as a child, I felt as a child, I thought as a child. Now that I have become full- grown, I have put away childish things. For now, we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we shall see face to face. Now, I know [only] in part, but then, I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. But now, faith, hope, and love remain: these three, and the greatest of these is love.

Pursue love, and eagerly desire spiritual gifts, especially so that you may prophesy. For whoever speaks in another tongue speaks not to human beings, but to God; and no one understands, but in the Spirit such a one speaks mysteries. Whoever prophesies speaks to others for their edification, exhortation, and consolation. Whoever speaks in another tongue edifies himself [only], but the one who prophesies edifies the Church.

The grace of God the Father be with you all. Amen.

#### The Catholic Epistle

##### 1 Peter 1:25b-2:10

The Catholic Epistle from the First Epistle of our teacher Peter. His Blessing be upon us. Amen.

This is the word of Good News which was preached to you.

Therefore, putting away all wickedness, deceit, hypocrisy, envies, and all evil speaking, as newborn babies, long for the pure milk of the Word, so that you may grow from it. If indeed you have tasted that the Lord is gracious, come to him who is a living stone, rejected by men but chosen by God and precious. You also, as living stones, are being built up as a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, in order to offer up spiritual sacrifices that are acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. As the Scripture has it:

*Behold, I lay in Zion a chief cornerstone, chosen, and precious:*

*Whoever believes in him will not be disappointed.*

For you who believe, this brings honor, but for those who are disobedient:

*The stone which the builders rejected,*

*has become the chief cornerstone,*

and:

*a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense.*

For they stumble at the word and they are disobedient, which is what they were laid aside for. But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for God’s own possession, so that you may proclaim the wonderful deeds of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. In the past, you were not a people, but now, you are God’s people. In the past, you had not obtained mercy, but now, you have obtained mercy.

Do not love the world, nor the things which are in the world. The world shall pass away and all its desires; but he who does the will of God shall abide forever. Amen.

#### The Praxis

##### Acts 9:22-30

A chapter from the Acts of our fathers the pure Apostles, who were invested with the grace of the Holy Spirit. Their blessing be with us all. Amen.

But Saul grew even more in strength and confounded the Jews who lived at Damascus by proving that [Jesus] is the Christ.

fter some time, the Jews conspired to kill him, but their plot became known to Saul. Day and night, they watched the gates in order to be able to kill Saul, but his disciples took him by night, and let him down through the wall, lowering him in a basket. When Saul arrived in Jerusalem, he tried to join himself to the disciples, but they were all afraid of him, not believing that he was a disciple. But Barnabas took him and brought him to the apostles. Saul told them how he had seen the Lord on the way, that the Lord had spoken to him, and how at Damascus he had boldly preached in the Name of Jesus. So Saul stayed with them and moved about freely in Jerusalem, preaching boldly in the name of the Lord Jesus. He talked and debated with the Hellenists, but they tried to kill him. When the brethren became aware of this, they brought him down to Caesarea, and sent him off to Tarsus.

The word of the Lord abides in this church and in every church. Amen.

### December 30 (31) / Ⲧⲱⲃⲓ 4

Joyful Tune

St. John the Evangelist

#### The Pauline Epistle

##### Romans 10:4-18

A chapter from the Epistle of our teacher Paul to the Romans. His blessing be upon us. Amen.

For Christ is the fulfillment of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes. Moses writes about the righteousness of the law, “The one who does them will live by them.” But the righteousness which is of faith speaks this way, “Do not say in your heart, ‘Who will ascend into heaven?’ (that is, to bring Christ down); or, ‘Who will descend into the abyss?’ (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead.)” But what does it say? “The word is near you, in your mouth, and in your heart;” that is, the word of faith, which we preach. If you will confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. With the heart, one believes, resulting in righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made, resulting in salvation. As the Scripture says, “Whoever believes in him will not be disappointed.”

Indeed, there is no distinction between Jew and Greek because the same Lord is Lord of all, and he is bountiful to all who call on him. For, “Whoever will call on the Name of the Lord will be saved.” But how will they call on him in whom they have not believed? How will they believe in him whom they have not heard? How will they hear without a preacher? And how will they preach unless they are sent? As it is written:

*How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the Good News of peace, Who bring glad tidings of good things!*

But they did not all listen to the Good News. For Isaias says, “Lord, who has believed our report?” And so, faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God. But I say, did they not hear? Yes, most certainly:

*Their sound went out into all the earth,*

*Their words to the ends of the world.*

The grace of God the Father be with you all. Amen.

#### The Catholic Epistle

##### 1 John 1:1-2:6

The Catholic Epistle from the First Epistle of our teacher John. His Blessing be upon us. Amen.

What was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we saw and what our hands touched, [this is our message] concerning the word of life. The life was revealed and we have seen, we testify and we proclaim to you the life, the eternal life which was with the Father and which was revealed to us. What we have seen and heard, this is what we proclaim to you, so that you also may have communion with us. Truly, our communion is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. We write these things to you so that our joy may be fulfilled!

This is the message which we have heard from him and which we now announce to you: that God is light, and in him there is no darkness at all. If we say that we have communion with him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie – we do not tell the truth.

But if we walk in the light as he is in the light, then we do have communion with one another and the blood of his Son Jesus Christ cleanses us from all sin. If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and righteous so that he will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar and his word is not in us.

My little children, I write these things to you so that you may not commit sin. But if someone does commit a sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ, the righteous. He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the whole world.

This is how we have come to know that we know him: if we keep his commandments. The one who says, “I know him,” and yet does not keep his commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in such a person. But if someone keeps God’s word, God’s love has most certainly been perfected in him. This is how we know that we are in him: whoever claims to abide in him should also live just as he lived.

Do not love the world, nor the things which are in the world. The world shall pass away and all its desires; but he who does the will of God shall abide forever. Amen.

#### The Praxis

##### Acts 3:1-16

A chapter from the Acts of our fathers the pure Apostles, who were invested with the grace of the Holy Spirit. Their blessing be with us all. Amen.

Peter and John would go up into the temple at the hour of prayer, the ninth hour. A certain man who was lame from his mother’s womb was being carried. Every day, he was laid at the gate of the temple (the one which is called ‘Beautiful’) to ask alms from those entering the temple. Seeing Peter and John about to go into the temple, he asked to receive alms. Then Peter, along with John, fixed his gaze on him and said, “Look at us!” The man gave them attention, expecting to receive something from them. But Peter said, “I have neither silver nor gold, but what I do have, I give to you. In the Name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, get up and walk!” Peter took the man by the right hand and raised him up. At once, his feet and ankles received strength. Leaping up, the man stood up and began to walk! He entered with them into the temple, walking, leaping, and praising God! When all the people saw him walking and praising God, they recognized that it was the man who used to sit at the Beautiful Gate of the temple, begging for alms; and they were filled with wonder and amazement at what had happened to him. As the lame man who had been healed held on to Peter and John, all the people were greatly astonished and ran together to them in the porch that is called Solomon’s [Porch].

When Peter saw this, he answered to the people, “Men of Israel, why do you marvel at this man? Why do you gaze at us, as though by our own power or godliness we had made him walk? The God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, the God of our fathers, has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you delivered up and denied in the presence of Pilate, when he had determined to release him. But you denied the Holy and Righteous One and asked for a murderer to be granted to you. Then you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. By faith in his Name, this man whom you see and know was made strong. Yes, the faith which comes through Jesus has given him this perfect soundness as you all can see.

The word of the Lord abides in this church and in every church. Amen.

### December 31 (January 1) / Ⲧⲱⲃⲓ 5

See November 21 (22) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 25, page 95.

Joyful tune. St. Eugenius the soldier and martyr.

## January or Ⲧⲱⲃⲓ

### January 1 (2) / Ⲧⲱⲃⲓ 6

Joyful Tune

**The Feast of the Circumcision**

The Ascension of Elias into Heaven

St. Basil the Great, the bishop of Caesarea

St. Macianus, the 8th Patriarch of Alexandria.

#### The Pauline Epistle

##### Philippians 3:1-12

A chapter from the Epistle of our teacher Paul to the Philippians. His blessing be upon us. Amen.

Finally, my brethren, rejoice in the Lord! To me, writing the same things to you is not tiresome - it is safe! Beware of the dogs, beware of evilworkers, beware of the false circumcision! We are ‘circumcised’ if we offer divine service to God in the Spirit, rejoice in Christ Jesus, and have no confidence in the flesh, although I myself could have confidence even in the flesh! If anyone thinks that he has {a reason to have} confidence in the flesh, I could even more: circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews. As regards the law, I was a Pharisee; as far as zeal is concerned, I was persecuting the Church, and as for the righteousness which is based on the law, [I was] found blameless.

However, these things which I thought were gain to me, I have counted as loss for Christ! Yes, without a doubt, I consider all things as loss in view of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus, my Lord, for whom I suffered the loss of all things. I consider them as dung, so that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own (from the law), but through faith in Christ (the righteousness which is from God by faith). Yes, may I know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the communion of his sufferings, becoming conformed to his death, if by any means I may attain to the resurrection from the dead. I am not saying that I have already obtained these things or that I am already made perfect; but I press on to take hold of [the prize] for which Christ Jesus took hold of me.

The grace of God the Father be with you all. Amen.

#### The Catholic Epistle

##### 2 Peter 1:12-21

The Catholic Epistle from the Second Epistle of our teacher Peter. His Blessing be upon us. Amen.

Therefore, I will not be negligent to remind you of these things although you [already] know them and are established in the truth which you now have. I think it right, as long as I am in this tent, to stir you up by reminding you [these things]. I know that I shall lay aside my tent very quickly, even as our Lord Jesus Christ made clear to me. And so, I will make every effort [to ensure] that you will always be able to remember these things, even after my departure. For we did not depend on cleverly invented fables when we told you about the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ; we were eyewitnesses of his majesty! For he received from God the Father honor and glory when the voice came to him from the Majestic Glory, “This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.” We heard this voice come out of heaven when we were with him on the holy mountain.

Therefore, we have the word of prophecy made even more certain, and you should pay attention to it as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star arises in your hearts. Know this first of all, that no interpretation of Scriptural prophecy happens as something private, because no prophecy ever came by human will: holy men of God spoke, being moved by the Holy Spirit.

Do not love the world, nor the things which are in the world. The world shall pass away and all its desires; but he who does the will of God shall abide forever. Amen.

#### The Praxis

##### Acts 15:13-21

A chapter from the Acts of our fathers the pure Apostles, who were invested with the grace of the Holy Spirit. Their blessing be with us all. Amen.

When they had finished, James said, “Brethren, listen to me! Simeon has reported how God first showed concern towards the Gentiles in order to take from them a people for his Name. This agrees with the words of the prophets. As it is written:

*‘After these things I will return.*

*I will again build the tabernacle of David, which has fallen.*

*I will again build its ruins.*

*I will set it up,*

*That the rest of men may seek after the Lord;*

*All the Gentiles who are called by my Name,*

*Says the Lord, who does all these things.*

*All his works are known to God from eternity.’*

Therefore, I judge that we should not trouble those who turn to God from among the Gentiles. Instead, we should write to them to abstain from the pollution of idols, from sexual immorality, from what is strangled, and from blood. For from generations of old, Moses has had in every city those who preach him, being read every Sabbath in the synagogues.”

The word of the Lord abides in this church and in every church. Amen.

### January 2 (3) / Ⲧⲱⲃⲓ 7 through January 4 (5) / Ⲧⲱⲃⲓ 9

January 2 (3) / Ⲧⲱⲃⲓ 7 see November 13 (14) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 17, page 86.

Annual tune. St. Silvester, the Patriarch of Rome.

January 3 (4) / Ⲧⲱⲃⲓ 8 see June 27 / Ⲉⲡⲏⲡ 3, page 264.

Annual tune. Consecration of the Church of St. Macarius in his monastery. St. Andronicus, the 37th Patriarch of Alexandria. **St. Benjamin**, the 38th Patriarch of Alexandria.

January 4 (5) / Ⲧⲱⲃⲓ 9 see October 24 (25) / Ⲡⲁⲱⲡⲉ 27, page 60.

Annual tune. St. Abraham the ascetic.

### January 5 (6) / Ⲧⲱⲃⲓ 10

Annual Tune

**The Preparation Day (Paramouni) of the Feast of Theophany**

#### The Pauline Epistle

##### 1 Corinthians 1:1-17a

A chapter from the First Epistle of our teacher Paul to the Corinthians. His blessing be upon us. Amen.

Paul, called to be an apostle of Jesus Christ through the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes, to the Church of God which is at Corinth. [You are] those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, with all those who call upon the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ in every place, both theirs and ours: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I always give thanks to my God concerning you, for the grace of God which was given to you in Christ Jesus; that in everything you have been enriched in him, in all [manner of] speech and knowledge; even as the testimony of Christ was confirmed in you. And so, you lack no gift as you wait for the revelation of our Lord Jesus Christ; who will also confirm you until the end, blameless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful, through whom you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Now I beg you, brethren, through the Name of our Lord, Jesus Christ, that you all speak the same thing and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be perfected together in the same mind and opinion. As it is, those who are from Chloe’s household have informed me concerning you my brethren, that there are quarrels among you. Now I mean this: that each one of you says, “I follow Paul,” “I follow Apollos,” “I follow Kephas,” or, “I follow Christ.” Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? I thank God that I baptized none of you, except Crispus and Gaius, so that no one should say that I baptized you into my own name. (I also baptized the household of Stephanas; besides them, I do not know whether I baptized any other.)

Indeed, Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the Good News.

The grace of God the Father be with you all. Amen.

#### The Catholic Epistle

##### 2 Peter 1:12-19

The Catholic Epistle from the Second Epistle of our teacher Peter. His Blessing be upon us. Amen.

Therefore, I will not be negligent to remind you of these things although you [already] know them and are established in the truth which you now have. I think it right, as long as I am in this tent, to stir you up by reminding you [these things]. I know that I shall lay aside my tent very quickly, even as our Lord Jesus Christ made clear to me. And so, I will make every effort [to ensure] that you will always be able to remember these things, even after my departure. For we did not depend on cleverly invented fables when we told you about the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ; we were eyewitnesses of his majesty! For he received from God the Father honor and glory when the voice came to him from the Majestic Glory, “This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.” We heard this voice come out of heaven when we were with him on the holy mountain.

Therefore, we have the word of prophecy made even more certain, and you should pay attention to it as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star arises in your hearts.

Do not love the world, nor the things which are in the world. The world shall pass away and all its desires; but he who does the will of God shall abide forever. Amen.

#### The Praxis

##### Acts 16:25-34

A chapter from the Acts of our fathers the pure Apostles, who were invested with the grace of the Holy Spirit. Their blessing be with us all. Amen.

But when it was about midnight, Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. Suddenly, there was a great earthquake, so violent that the foundations of the prison were shaken. At once, all the doors were opened, and everyone’s bonds were loosened. The jailer, awaken from sleep and seeing the prison doors open, began to draw his sword and he was about to kill himself, supposing that the prisoners had escaped. But Paul cried with a loud voice, “Do not harm yourself, for we are all here!”

Having asked for lights, the jailer rushed in and fell down trembling before Paul and Silas. He brought them out and asked, “Sirs, what must I do to be saved?”

They answered, “Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and you will be saved, you and your household!” Then they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all those who were in his household.

Late as it was, the jailer washed their wounds and was immediately baptized, he and his entire household. He took them into his house and set food before them. He was filled with joy for believing in God, along with his entire household.

The word of the Lord abides in this church and in every church. Amen.

### January 6 (7) / Ⲧⲱⲃⲓ 11

Joyful Tune

The Glorious Feast of Theophany

#### The Pauline Epistle of the Blessing of the Waters (Lakane—the Prayer over the Basin)

##### 1 Corinthians 10:1-13

A chapter from the First Epistle of our teacher Paul to the Corinthians. His blessing be upon us. Amen.

Now, I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, that our forefathers were all under the cloud: all passed through the sea; and they were all baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea. They all ate the same spiritual food and drank the same spiritual drink. They drank from a spiritual rock that followed them, and that rock was Christ. However, God was not well pleased with most of them because they were struck down in the wilderness. Now these things were written as examples for us, so that we may not lust after evil things, as they also lusted. Do not become idolaters, as some of them were. As it is written, “The people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to play.”a Let us not commit sexual immorality, as some of them did, and in one day twenty-three thousand fell! Let us not put the Lord to the test, as some of them did, and they perished by the poisonous snakes. Let us not grumble either, as some of them did, and they were killed by the destroying angel. Now, all these things happened to them as an example and they were written for our instruction, since the ends of the agesb have come on us. Therefore, let the one who thinks he is standing be careful not to fall.

No temptation has come to you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful: he will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able to resist, but with the temptation he will also create a way to escape, so that you may be able to endure it.

The grace of God the Father be with you all. Amen.

#### The Pauline Epistle

##### Titus 2:11-3:7

A chapter from the Epistle of our teacher Paul to Titus. His blessing be upon us. Amen.

Truly, the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all. It has taught us that we should deny what is ungodly and worldly lusts, that we should live soberly, righteously, and in a godly way in this present world; waiting for the blessed hope: the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ. He gave himself for us in order to redeem us from all iniquity and to purify for himself a people for his own possession, zealous for good works. Teach these things, exhort and reprove with all authority. Let no one despise you!

Remind the people to be in submissive to rulers and authorities, to be obedient and ready for every good work, not speaking evil of anyone and not contentious. They should also be gentle, showing great humility toward everyone. Indeed, we used to be foolish, disobedient, deceived, serving various lusts and pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful, and hating one another. But when the kindness of God our Savior and his love toward mankind appeared, (not by works of righteousness, which we did ourselves, but according to his mercy), he saved us through the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit. Yes, God richly poured out this Spirit on us, through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that being justified by his grace, we become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

The grace of God the Father be with you all. Amen.

#### The Catholic Epistle

##### 1 John 5:5-21

The Catholic Epistle from the First Epistle of our teacher John. His Blessing be upon us. Amen.

And who overcomes the world? Is it not the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? This is the one who came by water and blood: Jesus Christ; not with water only, but with water and blood. It is the Spirit who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth. There are three who bear witness <in heaven: the Father, the Word, and the Holy Spirit; and these three are one. And there are three that testify on earth>: the Spirit, the water, and the blood; and the three agree as one. If we accept human testimony, God’s testimony is greater because this is God’s testimony concerning his [very] Son! Whoever believes in the Son of God has the testimony in himself, but whoever does not believe God has made God to be a liar, because such a person has not believed in the testimony that God has given concerning his Son. This is the testimony: God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son! Whoever has the Son has {the} life, but whoever who does not have God’s Son does not have {the} life.

I have written these things to you who believe in the Name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life and continue to believe in the Name of the Son of God.

This is the boldness which we have toward him: if we ask anything according to his will, he listens to us! And if we know that he listens to us, no matter what we ask, we [also] know that we have obtained the petitions which we have asked of him.

If you see one of the brethren committing a sin that does not leads to death, you should intercede in prayer and God will give life to those brethren whose sin do not lead to death. But there is a [type of] sin that leads to death, and I do not say that you should make a request in this case. All unrighteousness is sin, yet there is a [type of] sin which does not leadto death. We know that whoever is born of God does not practice sin; whoever has been born of God is protected [by God], and the evil one does not take hold of such a one. We know that we are of God and that the whole world lies in the power of the evil one. We know that the Son of God has come, and he has given us understanding so that we may know him who is true. Indeed, we are in him who is true, in his Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God, and eternal life.

Dear children, keep yourselves from idols.

Do not love the world, nor the things which are in the world. The world shall pass away and all its desires; but he who does the will of God shall abide forever. Amen.

#### The Praxis

##### Acts 18:24-19:6

A chapter from the Acts of our fathers the pure Apostles, who were invested with the grace of the Holy Spirit. Their blessing be with us all. Amen.

Now, a certain Jew named Apollos who was an Alexandrian by race and an eloquent man arrived in Ephesus, and he was powerful with the Scriptures. He had been instructed in the way of the Lord, and being fervent in spirit, he spoke and taught accurately about Jesus, although he had only experienced the baptism of John. Apollos began to speak boldly in the synagogue, but when Priscilla and Aquila heard him, they took him aside and explained to him the way of God more accurately.

When Apollos had determined to cross over into Achaia, the brethren encouraged him and wrote to the disciples to receive him. When he arrived there, he greatly helped those who had believed through grace, for he powerfully refuted the Jews, publicly showing by the Scriptures that Jesus was the Christ.

It happened that, while Apollos was in Corinth, Paul had passed through the upper country and arrived in Ephesus. There, he found some disciples and asked them, “Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?”

They replied, “No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit!”

Paul asked, “Then, into what were you baptized?”

They answered, “Into John’s baptism.”

Paul said, “John indeed baptized with the baptism of repentance, saying to the people that they should believe in the one who would come after him, that is, in Jesus.”

After hearing this, they were baptized in the Name of the Lord Jesus. When Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they spoke in other tongues and prophesied.

The word of the Lord abides in this church and in every church. Amen.

### January 7 (8) / Ⲧⲱⲃⲓ 12

Joyful Tune

**The Second Day of the Glorious Feast of Theophany**

Archangel Michael

St. Theodore the Martyr

St. Anatole the Martyr

#### The Pauline Epistle

##### Ephesians 1:1-14

A chapter from the Epistle of our teacher Paul to the Ephesians. His blessing be upon us. Amen.

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, to the saints who are at Ephesus, faithful in Christ Jesus: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ!

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ. He chose us in him before the foundation of the world, so that we would be holy and without blemish before him in love. He also foreordained us for adoption his children through Jesus Christ according to his purpose and will. This is to the praise of the glory of his grace, by which he freely bestowed favor on us in the Beloved. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our sins, according to the riches of his grace which he showered upon us in all wisdom and insight. He has revealed to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure which he had determined beforehand in Christ. This came into effect when the times had been fulfilled, to bring together all things under Christ, the things in the heavens and the things on the earth; yes, in him! In him, an inheritance was assigned to us, foreordained according to the purpose of him who works all things after the counsel of his will. And the end result is that we, who had hoped in Christ, should be to the praise of his glory. You also, when you heard the word of the truth which is the Good News of your salvation, and having believed in it, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise. He is a pledge of our inheritance, until the redemption of those who are God’s possession, to the praise of his glory!

The grace of God the Father be with you all. Amen.

#### The Catholic Epistle

##### 1 Peter 3:15b-22

The Catholic Epistle from the First Epistle of our teacher Peter. His Blessing be upon us. Amen.

Always be ready to give a verbal defense to everyone who asks you an explanation for the hope that is in you; [and do so] with humility and fear. Have a good conscience, so that even while some speak against you as evildoers and curse your good way of life in Christ, theymay be disappointed. It is better, if it is God’s will, that you should suffer

for doing what is good rather than for doing what is evil.

Christ also suffered for sins once, the righteous for the unrighteous, so that he might bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh but [made] alive in the spirit, and thus he also went [down] and preached to the spirits in prison. In the past, those had been disobedient, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, while the ark was being built. In this ark, a few, that is eight souls, were saved through water. This is an antitype of baptism, which now saves you. It is not the putting away of the impurity of the flesh but the answer of a good conscience toward God, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ. He is at the right hand of God, having gone into heaven, with angels, authorities and powers being subject to him.

Do not love the world, nor the things which are in the world. The world shall pass away and all its desires; but he who does the will of God shall abide forever. Amen.

#### The Praxis

##### Acts 8:26-39

A chapter from the Acts of our fathers the pure Apostles, who were invested with the grace of the Holy Spirit. Their blessing be with us all. Amen.

But an angel of the Lord spoke to Philip, saying, “Arise, and go toward the south, to the way that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza. This is a desert.”

So Philip arose and went; and behold, there was a man of Ethiopia, a eunuch of great authority under Candace, queen of the Ethiopians. He was in charge of all her treasure and had come to Jerusalem to worship. He was returning and sitting in his chariot, reading the prophet Isaias.

The Spirit said to Philip, “Go near, and join yourself to this chariot.”

Philip ran to the eunuch and heard him reading Isaias the prophet. He asked, “Do you understand what you are reading?”

The man replied, “How can I, unless someone explains it to me?” He then begged Philip to come up and sit with him. Now, the passage of the Scripture which he was reading was this:

*He was led as a sheep to the slaughter.*

*As a lamb before his shearer is silent, so he does not open his mouth.*

*In his humiliation, his judgment was taken away.*

*Who will declare His generation?*

*For his life is taken from the earth.*

The eunuch asked Philip, “Who is the prophet talking about? About himself, or about someone else?”

Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning from this Scripture, he proclaimed {the Good News about} Jesus to this man. As they went on the way, they arrived to [a placed with] some water, and the eunuch said, “Behold, here is water! What is keeping me from being baptized?”

Philip said, ‘If you believe with all your heart, you may.’ The man answered, ‘I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God!’ He commanded the chariot to stand still, and both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away. The eunuch did not see him any more and went on his way rejoicing.

The word of the Lord abides in this church and in every church. Amen.

### January 8 (9) / Ⲧⲱⲃⲓ 13

Joyful Tune

**The Feast of the Wedding of Cana of Galilee**

St. Theopholus the Monk

St. Demiana the Martyr

#### The Pauline Epistle

##### Romans 6:3-16

A chapter from the Epistle of our teacher Paul to the Romans. His blessing be upon us. Amen.

Or do you not know that all {of us} we who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? And so, we were buried with him through baptism to death, so that just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we might also walk in newness of life. For if we have become united with him in the likeness of his death, we will also be by a resurrection like his. It means that we recognize this, that our old man was crucified with him, that the body of sin might be done away with, so that we would no longer be in bondage to sin. Whoever has died has been freed from sin! But if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him; knowing that Christ, being raised from the dead, dies no more. Death no longer has dominion over him! For the death that he died, he died to sin one time; but the life that he lives, he lives to God. Thus, consider yourselves to be dead as regards sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

And so, do not let sin rule in your mortal body, that you should obey it in its lusts. Neither present your members to sin as instruments of unrighteousness, but present yourselves to God, as alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God. For sin will not have dominion over you. For you are not under law, but under grace! What then? Shall we sin, because we are not under law, but under grace? May it never be so! Do you not know that when you present yourselves to someone as slaves for obedience, you are slaves of the one whom you obey; whether of sin to death, or of obedience to righteousness?

The grace of God the Father be with you all. Amen.

#### The Catholic Epistle

##### 1 John 2:20-25

The Catholic Epistle from the First Epistle of our teacher John. His Blessing be upon us. Amen.

You have an anointing from the Holy One and you perceive all things. I have not written to you because you do not perceive the truth, but because you perceive it, and because no lie is of the truth. Who is the liar? Is it not anyone who denies that Jesus is the Christ? This is the Antichrist: the one who denies the Father and the Son. Whoever denies the Son does not have the Father.

As for you, what you heard from the beginning should remain in you. If what you heard from the beginning remains in you, you also will remain in the Son and in the Father. This is the promise which he promised us: eternal life.

Do not love the world, nor the things which are in the world. The world shall pass away and all its desires; but he who does the will of God shall abide forever. Amen.

#### The Praxis

##### Acts 8:3-13

A chapter from the Acts of our fathers the pure Apostles, who were invested with the grace of the Holy Spirit. Their blessing be with us all. Amen.

In the meantime, Saul ravaged the Church, entering into every house and dragging both men and women off to prison.

As a result, those who had been scattered abroad began to travel around, preaching the word. Philip went down to the city of Samaria and proclaimed Christ to them. When the people heard and saw the signs which Philip accomplished, they listened to what he preached with one accord. Indeed, unclean spirits were expelled from many of those who had them, and they came out shouting with a loud voice. Many who had been paralyzed and lame were healed, and there was great joy in that city.

But there was a certain man, Simon by name, who used to practice sorcery in the city. He amazed the people of Samaria, claiming to be a great one, and all listened this him, from the least to the greatest. They said, “Thisman is the power of God, of the great kind!” People listened to him because for a long time, he had amazed them with his sorceries. But when they believed Philip [who was] preaching the Good News concerning the Kingdom of God and the Name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women. Simon himself also believed and after his baptism, he followed Philip closely. Seeing that signs and great miracles were taking place, he was amazed.

The word of the Lord abides in this church and in every church. Amen.

### January 9 (10) / Ⲧⲱⲃⲓ 14 through January 16 (17) / Ⲧⲱⲃⲓ 21

January 9 (10) / Ⲧⲱⲃⲓ 14 see May 15 / Ⲡⲁϣⲁⲛⲥ 20, page 233.

Annual tune. **St. Arselidas the monk**. St. Maximus, the brother of St. Domatius.

January 10 (11) / Ⲧⲱⲃⲓ 15 see September 5 (6) / Ⲑⲟⲟⲩⲧ 8, page 22. (Previous Kitchener had Tho-out 18)

Annual tune. Obadiah the prophet.

January 11 (12) / Ⲧⲱⲃⲓ 16 see April 22 / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙⲟⲩⲧⲉ 27, page 213.

Annual tune. **St. Philotheus the martyr**. St. John, the 48th Patriarch of Alexandria.

January 12 (13) / Ⲧⲱⲃⲓ 17 see June 10 / Ⲡⲁⲱⲛⲉ 16, page 258.

Annual tune. **St. Domatius the brother of St. Maximus**. St. Yousab, bishop of Garga.

January 13 (14) / Ⲧⲱⲃⲓ 18 see November 24 (25) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 28, page 100.

Annual tune. St. James the Syrian.

January 14 (15) / Ⲧⲱⲃⲓ 19 see November 18 (19) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 22, page 90.

Annual tune. Finding of the relics of Sts. Apahor, Pisoura, and their mother, Ampera. The thousands of martyrs of Antinou.

January 15 (16) / Ⲧⲱⲃⲓ 20 see December 27 (28) / Ⲧⲱⲃⲓ 1, page 138.

Annual tune. **St. Prochorus the Disciple**. Consecration of the Church of St. John Chrysostom. Sts. Bahn and Eklog, the martyrs.

January 16 (17) / Ⲧⲱⲃⲓ 21 see April 26 / Ⲡⲁϣⲁⲛⲥ 1, page 219.

Annual tune. **The Dormition of our Lady, the Holy Theotokos Mary.** St. Gelaria, daughter of Emperor Zeno. St. Gregory of Nyssa.

### January 17 (18) / Ⲧⲱⲃⲓ 22

Annual Tune

St. Anthony the Great

#### The Pauline Epistle

##### Philippians 3:20-4:9

A chapter from the Epistle of our teacher Paul to the Philippians. His blessing be upon us. Amen.

But our citizenship is in heaven, from which we are expecting a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. He will change the body of our humiliation to be conformed to the body of his glory, by the working of his power, by which he is able to subject all things to himself.

Therefore, my beloved brethren whom I miss so much, my joy and my crown, stand firm in the Lord! I exhort Evodia and Syntyche to think the same way in the Lord. Yes, I beg you also, Syzygus, help these women, for they labored with me in the Good News and also with Clement and the rest of my fellow-workers, whose names are in the book of life. Rejoice in the Lord always! Again I will say, rejoice! Let your kindness be known to all. The Lord is at hand! Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition with thanksgiving, let your requests be known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your thoughts in Christ Jesus.

Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are honorable, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are commendable, if there is any virtue or any praise, think about these things. What you learned, received, heard, and saw in me: practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you.

The grace of God the Father be with you all. Amen.

#### The Catholic Epistle

##### James 5:9-20

The Catholic Epistle from the Epistle of our teacher James. His Blessing be upon us. Amen.

Brethren, do not grumble against one another, so that you will not be judged. Behold, the judge stands at the door! Brethren, consider as an example of suffering and patience the prophets who spoke in the Name of the Lord. Behold, we call them blessed who endured. You have heard of the patience of Job and you have seen the Lord in the outcome, how the Lord is full of compassion and mercy.

But above all things, my brethren, do not swear, neither by heaven or earth, nor by any other oath. Instead, let your “yes” be “yes,” and your “no,” “no;” so that you may not fall into hypocrisy.

Are any among you suffering? Let them pray. Are any cheerful? Let them sing praises. Are any among you sick? Let them call for the presbyters of the Church: they should pray over them and anoint them with oil in the Name of the Lord. The prayer of faith will heal those who are sick and the Lord will raise them up. If they have committed sins, they will be forgiven. Confess your offenses to one another and pray for one another in order to be healed. The insistent prayer of a righteous person is powerfully effective! Elias was a man with a nature like ours, and when he prayed earnestly that it might not rain, it did not rain on the earth for three years and six months! When he prayed later on, the sky gave rain and the earth brought forth its fruit.

Brethren, if someone among you wander from the truth and is brought back by another, know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save a soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

Do not love the world, nor the things which are in the world. The world shall pass away and all its desires; but he who does the will of God shall abide forever. Amen.

#### The Praxis

##### Acts 11:19-26

A chapter from the Acts of our fathers the pure Apostles, who were invested with the grace of the Holy Spirit. Their blessing be with us all. Amen.

Now, those who had been scattered abroad by the oppression that arose about Stephen had traveled as far as Phoenicia, Cyprus, and Antioch, and they were only proclaiming the word to Jews. But some of them, men of Cyprus and Cyrene, spoke to the Greeks and preached the Lord Jesus when they arrived in Antioch. The hand of the Lord was with them, and a great number believed and turned to the Lord. News of these things came to the ears of the Church which was in Jerusalem. So, they sent out Barnabas to go as far as Antioch. When he arrived and saw the grace of God, he rejoiced. He encouraged them all to remain close to the Lord with a resolute heart. For Barnabas was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and faith, and many people were added to the Lord.

Then Barnabas went out to Tarsus to look for Saul, and when he found him, he brought him to Antioch. So it was that for a whole year, they assembled with the Church and taught many people. The disciples were first called Christians in Antioch.

The word of the Lord abides in this church and in every church. Amen.

### January 18 (19) / Ⲧⲱⲃⲓ 23 through January 20 (21) / Ⲧⲱⲃⲓ 25

January 18 (19) / Ⲧⲱⲃⲓ 23 see November 24 (25) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 28, page 100.

Annual tune. **St. Timothy the Apostle**. St Cyril IV, the 110th Patriarch of Alexandria.

January 19 (20) / Ⲧⲱⲃⲓ 24 see January 25 (26) / Ⲧⲱⲃⲓ 30, page 177.

Annual tune. **St. Mary the ascetic**. St. Psati the presbtyer.

January 20 (21) / Ⲧⲱⲃⲓ 25 see May 15 / Ⲡⲁϣⲁⲛⲥ 20, page 233.

Annual tune**. St. Peter of Scetis**. St. Askala the ascetic.

### January 21 (22) / Ⲧⲱⲃⲓ 26

Annual Tune

**The Fourty-Nine Martyrs, the Elders of Scetis (Sheheet)**

St. Anastasia the Ascetic

#### The Pauline Epistle

##### Hebrews 12:3-14

A chapter from the Epistle of our teacher Paul to the Hebrews. His blessing be upon us. Amen.

Consider him who has endured such opposition from sinners, and you will not grow weary or faint in your souls. In your own battle against sin, you have not yet struggled to the point of shedding blood. Have you forgotten the exhortation which reasons with you as with children:

*My child, do not take lightly the chastening of the Lord,*

*do not faint when you are reproved by him;*

*for whom the Lord loves, he also chastens,*

*and he disciplines every son whom he receives.*

Endure hardship as discipline; God is treating you as his children, for what son is there whom his father does not discipline? But if you are not getting this discipline, (as you are), this makes you illegitimate, not children! Moreover, we had biological fathers to chasten us, and we respected them. Shall we not much rather be in subjection to the Father of {our} spirits, and live? Our fathers punished us for a few days as seemed good to them; but God does so for our benefit, so that we may be partakers of his holiness. For the present moment, all discipline seems to be painful rather than joyful, but afterwards, it produces the peaceful fruit of righteousness for those who have been trained by it. Therefore, lift up your drooping hands and your feeble knees. Make straight paths for your feet, so what is lame may not be dislocated but rather healed.

Pursue peace with everyone, and also sanctification without which no one will see the Lord.

The grace of God the Father be with you all. Amen.

#### The Catholic Epistle

##### 1 Peter 4:12-19a

The Catholic Epistle from the First Epistle of our teacher Peter. His Blessing be upon us. Amen.

Beloved, do not be astonished at the fiery trial which has come upon you and that is testing you. It is not as if something strange was happening to you. But because you are partakers of Christ’s sufferings, rejoice, so that at the revelation of his glory you also may rejoice with exceeding joy. If you are insulted for the Name of Christ, you are blessed because the divine Spirit of glory is resting upon you. On their part, Christ is blasphemed, but on your part he is glorified. But let none of you suffer as a murderer, a thief, an evil doer or a meddler in other people’s matters. However, if one of you suffers for being a Christian, there is no reason to be ashamed but {instead let such a one} glorify God in this matter. For the time has come for judgment to begin with the household of God. If it begins first with us, what will happen to those who do not obey the Good News of God? “If it is hard for the righteous to be saved, what will happen to the ungodly and the sinner?” Therefore, let those who suffer according to the will of God in doing good entrust their souls to him.

Do not love the world, nor the things which are in the world. The world shall pass away and all its desires; but he who does the will of God shall abide forever. Amen.

#### The Praxis

##### Acts 8:3-13

A chapter from the Acts of our fathers the pure Apostles, who were invested with the grace of the Holy Spirit. Their blessing be with us all. Amen.

In the meantime, Saul ravaged the Church, entering into every house and dragging both men and women off to prison.

As a result, those who had been scattered abroad began to travel around, preaching the word. Philip went down to the city of Samaria and proclaimed Christ to them. When the people heard and saw the signs which Philip accomplished, they listened to what he preached with one accord. Indeed, unclean spirits were expelled from many of those who had them, and they came out shouting with a loud voice. Many who had been paralyzed and lame were healed, and there was great joy in that city.

But there was a certain man, Simon by name, who used to practice sorcery in the city. He amazed the people of Samaria, claiming to be a great one, and all listened this him, from the least to the greatest. They said, “Thisman is the power of God, of the great kind!” People listened to him because for a long time, he had amazed them with his sorceries. But when they believed Philip [who was] preaching the Good News concerning the Kingdom of God and the Name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women. Simon himself also believed and after his baptism, he followed Philip closely. Seeing that signs and great miracles were taking place, he was amazed.

The word of the Lord abides in this church and in every church. Amen.

### January 22 (23) / Ⲧⲱⲃⲓ 27 through January 24 (25) / Ⲧⲱⲃⲓ 29

January 22 (23) / Ⲧⲱⲃⲓ 27 see April 22 / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙⲟⲩⲧⲉ 27, page 213.

Annual tune. **St. Serapion the martyr**. Archangel Sourial. Translocation of the relics of St. Timothy the Apostle. St. Apepham the martyr.

January 23 (24) / Ⲧⲱⲃⲓ 28 see November 11 (12) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 15, page 84.

Annual tune. **St. Clement of Rome**, the martyr. St. Kaou the martyr.

January 24 (25) / Ⲧⲱⲃⲓ 29 see January 25 (26) / Ⲧⲱⲃⲓ 30.

Joyful tune. Commemoration of the Annunciation, Nativity and Resurrection. **St. Eksanie the asetic.** St. Seriakus the martyr.

### January 25 (26) / Ⲧⲱⲃⲓ 30

Annual Tune

Sts. Pistis, Helpis, Agape and Their Mother Sophia, the Martyrs

#### The Pauline Epistle

##### Ephesians 5:8b-21

A chapter from the Epistle of our teacher Paul to the Ephesians. His blessing be upon us. Amen.

Walk as children of light, for the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness, righteousness and truth. Discern what is well-pleasing to the Lord! Have no fellowship with the vain works of darkness, but rather, expose them for what they are. It is a shame even to speak about the things which these people do in secret! But all things are revealed when they are exposed to the light. Therefore, he says:

*“Awake, you sleeper, arise from the dead,*

*and Christ will shine on you.”*

Therefore, watch carefully how you live, not as unwise, but as wise [people], making good use of time, because the days are evil. Do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. Do not get drunk with wine – this is reckless living - but be filled with the Spirit. Speak to one another in psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs! Sing and chant to the Lord in your heart; always giving thanks for everything in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ, even to God the Father. [Finally], be in mutual subjection in the fear of God.

The grace of God the Father be with you all. Amen.

#### The Catholic Epistle

##### 1 Peter 3:5-14

The Catholic Epistle from the First Epistle of our teacher Peter. His Blessing be upon us. Amen.

This is how the holy women of the past hoped in God and also adorned themselves. They were submissive to their own husbands, as Sarah obeyed Abraham, calling him “lord”. You are now her children if you do what is good and do not give way to fear.

In the same way, you husbands should live with your wives according to knowledge, giving them honor as to the weaker vessel and also as jointheirs of the grace of life. Thus your prayers will not be hindered.

Finally, be all like-minded, compassionate, loving as brethren, tenderhearted, polite, not giving back evil for evil or insult for insult. Instead, give back blessing, knowing that you are called to do this, so that you [yourselves] may inherit a blessing. For:

*Whoever would love life,*

*and see good days,*

*should keep his tongue from evil,*

*and his lips from speaking deceit.*

*Let him turn away from evil, and do good.*

*Let him seek peace, and pursue it.*

*For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous,*

*and his ears open to their prayer;*

*but the face of the Lord is against those who do evil.*

Now, who will harm you, if you become imitators of what is good? But even if you should suffer for righteousness’ sake, you are blessed. “Do not fear what they fear, and do not be troubled.”

Do not love the world, nor the things which are in the world. The world shall pass away and all its desires; but he who does the will of God shall abide forever. Amen.

#### The Praxis

##### Acts 21:5-14

A chapter from the Acts of our fathers the pure Apostles, who were invested with the grace of the Holy Spirit. Their blessing be with us all. Amen.

When our time there was completed, we departed and went on our journey. All the disciples, with wives and children, escorted us on our way until we were out of the city. Kneeling down on the beach, we prayed. After saying goodbye to each other, we boarded the ship and they returned home.

We continued the voyage from Tyre and arrived in Ptolemais. There, we greeted the brethren and spent the day with them. The following day, we, Paul’s companions, left and arrived in Caesarea.

We went to the house of Philip the evangelist, who was one of the seven, and stayed with him. Now, this man had four virgin daughters who prophesied. As we stayed there for a few days, a prophet named Agabus came down from Judea. Coming to us and taking Paul’s belt, he bound his own feet and hands, and said, “Thus says the Holy Spirit: ‘Likewise, in Jerusalem, the Jews will bind the man who owns this belt and they will deliver him into the hands of the Gentiles.’”

When we heard these things, both we and the disciples who lived there begged Paul not to go up to Jerusalem. Then Paul answered, “What are you doing, weeping and breaking my heart? For I am ready, not only to be bound, but also to die in Jerusalem for the Name of the Lord Jesus.”

Since he would not be persuaded, we became silent, except to say, “The Lord’s will be done!”

The word of the Lord abides in this church and in every church. Amen.

### January 26 (27) / Ⲙϣⲓⲣ 1

See November 5 (6) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 9, page 77.

Annual tune. **Eccumenical Council of Constantinople**. Consecration of a Church dedicated to St. Peter the Seal of the Martyrs.

### January 27 (28) / Ⲙϣⲓⲣ 2

Annual Tune

**St. Paul the Hermit**

St. Longinus the Abbot

#### The Pauline Epistle

##### Hebrews 13:7-25

A chapter from the Epistle of our teacher Paul to the Hebrews. His blessing be upon us. Amen.

Remember your leaders, men who proclaimed the word of God to you. Considering the results of their conduct, imitate their faith. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever. Do not be carried away by all sorts of strange teachings. It is good that the inner person should be strengthened by grace, not by food which is of no profit to those who are so preoccupied by it!

We have an altar from which those who offer divine service [in] the holy tabernacle have no right to eat. For the bodies of those animals whose blood is brought into the holy place by the high priest as an offering for sin, are burned outside of the camp. This is why Jesus suffered outside of the gate, so that he might sanctify the people through his own blood. Let us therefore go out [of the city] to him who is outside of the camp and let us bear his disgrace. For we do not have here [below] an enduring city, but we seek the one that is to come. Through him, [Jesus], let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, the fruit of our lips which confessed his Name. But do not forget to do what is good and to share, for with such sacrifices God is well pleased.

Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they watch over your souls as people who will give an account. This way, they will be able to do this with joy and not with grief, as that would not be profitable for you.

Pray for us, for we are persuaded that we have a good conscience, desiring to live honorably in all things. I strongly urge you to pray for this: that I may be restored to you sooner.

Now, may the God of peace, who with the blood of an eternal covenant brought back from the dead the great shepherd of the sheep, our Lord Jesus, make you complete in every good work so that you may do his will. May God work in you what is well-pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory unto ages of ages. Amen.

But I exhort you, brethren, take this word of exhortation well, for I have written to you briefly. Know that our brother Timothy has been freed. If he arrives soon, I will see you with him. Greet all your leaders and all the saints. Those from Italy greet you. Grace be with you all! Amen.

The grace of God the Father be with you all. Amen.

#### The Catholic Epistle

##### 1 Peter 5:1-14

The Catholic Epistle from the First Epistle of our teacher Peter. His Blessing be upon us. Amen.

I exhort the presbyters among you, as the fellow-presbyter and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and as one who will also share in the glory that is to be revealed. Be shepherds to the flock of God which is in your care. Do not oversee the flock under compulsion but willingly, not for dishonest gain but with eagerness. Do not act as lords over those entrusted to you but become examples to the flock. When the chief shepherd is revealed, you will receive the crown of glory that does not fade away.

Likewise, you younger ones, be subject to those who are older. Yes, all of you should clothe yourselves with humility and subject yourselves to one another, for “God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble.” Humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. Cast all your worries on him, because he cares for you.

Be sober, self-controlled and watchful. Your adversary, the devil, roams around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. Resist him, steadfast in your faith, knowing that your brethren throughout the world experience the same sufferings. But after you have suffered a little while, may the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, make you perfect, restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast. To him be the glory and the power unto ages of ages. Amen.

Through Silvanus, our faithful brother as I consider him, I have written to you briefly, exhorting, and testifying that this is the true grace of God in which you stand.

She who is in Babylon, chosen together with you, greets you; and so does Mark, my son. Greet one another with a kiss of love! Peace be to you all who are in Christ Jesus! Amen.

Do not love the world, nor the things which are in the world. The world shall pass away and all its desires; but he who does the will of God shall abide forever. Amen.

#### The Praxis

##### Acts 15:12-21

A chapter from the Acts of our fathers the pure Apostles, who were invested with the grace of the Holy Spirit. Their blessing be with us all. Amen.

At this, the whole multitude kept silence. They listened to Barnabas and Paul report what signs and wonders God had accomplished among the nations through them. When they had finished, James said, “Brethren, listen to me! Simeon has reported how God first showed concern towards the Gentiles in order to take from them a people for his Name. This agrees with the words of the prophets. As it is written:

*‘After these things I will return.*

*I will again build the tabernacle of David, which has fallen.*

*I will again build its ruins.*

*I will set it up,*

*That the rest of men may seek after the Lord;*

*All the Gentiles who are called by my Name,*

*Says the Lord, who does all these things.*

*All his works are known to God from eternity.’*

Therefore, I judge that we should not trouble those who turn to God from among the Gentiles. Instead, we should write to them to abstain from the pollution of idols, from sexual immorality, from what is strangled, and from blood. For from generations of old, Moses has had in every city those who preach him, being read every Sabbath in the synagogues.”

The word of the Lord abides in this church and in every church. Amen.

### January 28 (29) / Ⲙϣⲓⲣ 3 through January 31 (February 1) / Ⲙϣⲓⲣ 6

January 28 (29) / Ⲙϣⲓⲣ 3 see May 15 / Ⲡⲁϣⲁⲛⲥ 20, page 233.

Annual tune. St. James the ascetic.

January 29 (30) / Ⲙϣⲓⲣ 4 see October 19 (20) / Ⲡⲁⲱⲡⲉ 22, page 57.

Annual tune. St. Agabus the Disciple.

January 30 (31) / Ⲙϣⲓⲣ 5 see October 24 (25) / Ⲡⲁⲱⲡⲉ 27, page 60.

Annual tune. St. Agrippus, the 10th Patriarch of Alexandria. Sts. Bishay and Apanoub. **Abba Apollo, the friend of Abba Abib.** St. Hippolytus of Rome.

January 31 (February 1) / Ⲙϣⲓⲣ 6 see November 11 (12) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 15, page 84.

Annual tune. Apparition of the body of St. Hippolytus, the Patriarch of Rome. **Sts. Apakir, John, the three virgins and their mother, the martyrs.**

## February or Ⲙϣⲓⲣ

### February 1 (2) / Ⲙϣⲓⲣ 7 through February 28 (29) / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙϩⲟⲧⲡ 4

February 1 (2) / Ⲙϣⲓⲣ 7 see June 27 / Ⲉⲡⲏⲡ 3, page 264.

Annual tune. **St. Alexander**, the 43rd Patriarch of Alexandria. St. Theodore, the 45th Patriarch of Alexandria.

February 2 (3) / Ⲙϣⲓⲣ 8 see January 1 (2) / Ⲧⲱⲃⲓ 6, page 158.

Joyful tune. **The Entrance of the Lord into the Temple.** St. Simeon the Elder. The 21 martyrs of Lybia.

February 3 (4) / Ⲙϣⲓⲣ 9 see July 27 / Ⲙⲉⲥⲟⲣⲏ 3, page 290.

Annual tune. **St. Barsuma**, the father of the Syrian monks. St. Paul the Syrian, the martyr.

February 4 (5) / Ⲙϣⲓⲣ 10 see June 29 / Ⲉⲡⲏⲡ 5, page 268.

Annual tune. **St. James the Son of Alphaeus**, St. Justus, the martyr. St. Isidor of Pelusim. St. Philo,the bishop of Persia, and the martyr.

February 5 (6) / Ⲙϣⲓⲣ 11 see November 25 (26) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 29, page 103.

Annual tune. St. Fabianus, the Patriarch of Rome. Abba John, the 94th Patriarch of Alexandria.

February 6 (7) / Ⲙϣⲓⲣ 12 see May 15 / Ⲡⲁϣⲁⲛⲥ 20, page 233.

Annual tune. Monthly commemoration of Archangel Michael. **St. Gelsius the monk.**

February 7 (8) / Ⲙϣⲓⲣ 13 see April 22 / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙⲟⲩⲧⲉ 27, page 213.

Annual tune. Sts. Sergius of Atripe, his father, mother, sister, and companions, the martyrs. St. Timothy III, 32nd Patriarch of Alexandria.

February 8 (9) / Ⲙϣⲓⲣ 14 see November 13 (14) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 17, page 86.

Annual tune. **St. Severus of Antioch.** St. James, the 50th Patriarch of Alexandria.

February 9 (10) / Ⲙϣⲓⲣ 15 see June 10 / Ⲡⲁⲱⲛⲉ 16, page 258.

Annual tune. **Zaccaraias the prophet.** Consecration of the first Church for the Forty Martyrs of Sebastia. St. Pahnoutius.

February 10 (11) / Ⲙϣⲓⲣ 16 see September 23 (24) / Ⲑⲟⲟⲩⲧ 26, page 37.

Annual tune. St. Elizabeth, the mother of St. John the Baptist.

February 11 (12) / Ⲙϣⲓⲣ 17 see April 22 / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙⲟⲩⲧⲉ 27, page 213.

Annual tune. St. Menas the monk.

February 12 (13) / Ⲙϣⲓⲣ 18 see November 13 (14) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 17, page 86.

Annual tune. St. Militius, the confessor and Patriarch of Antioch. Consecration of the Church of St. Paul the Simple.

February 13 (14) / Ⲙϣⲓⲣ 19 see May 15 / Ⲡⲁϣⲁⲛⲥ 20, page 233.

Annual tune. Translocation of the relics of St. Martianus of Athens to Antioch

February 14 (15) / Ⲙϣⲓⲣ 20 see November 25 (26) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 29, page 103.

Annual tune. St. Peter II, 21st Patriarch of Alexandria. Sts. Basil, Theodore, and Timoty of Alexandria, the martyrs.

February 15 (16) / Ⲙϣⲓⲣ 21 see June 29 / Ⲉⲡⲏⲡ 5, page 268.

Annual tune. Monthly commemoration of the Theotokos. St. Onesimus, the slave of Philemon, the martyr. St. Gabriel, the 57th Patriarch of Alexandria. St. Zachariah, the bishop of Sakha.

February 16 (17) / Ⲙϣⲓⲣ 22 see November 24 (25) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 28, page 100.

Annual tune. St. Maruta.

February 17 (18) / Ⲙϣⲓⲣ 23 see April 22 / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙⲟⲩⲧⲉ 27, page 213.

Annual tune. St. Eusebius, son of St. Basilides, the martyr.

February 18 (19) / Ⲙϣⲓⲣ 24 see November 24 (25) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 28, page 100.

Annual tune. St. Agapius the bishop. Sts. Timothy and Matthias, the martyrs.

February 19 (20) / Ⲙϣⲓⲣ 25 see July 14 / Ⲉⲡⲏⲡ 20, page 287.

Annual tune. Sts. Archippus, Philemon, and Lycia, the new martyrs. St. Quona and St. Menas, the martyrs.

February 20 (21) / Ⲙϣⲓⲣ 26 September 5 (6) / Ⲑⲟⲟⲩⲧ 8, page 22. (Previous Kitchener had Tho-out 28)

Annual tune. Hosea the prophet. St. Zadok and his Persian companions, the martyrs.

February 21 (22) / Ⲙϣⲓⲣ 27 see November 13 (14) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 17, page 86.

Annual tune. St. Eustathius the patriarch of Antioch. St. Perpetua the Martyr of North Africa.

February 22 (23) / Ⲙϣⲓⲣ 28 see July 14 / Ⲉⲡⲏⲡ 20, page 287.

Annual tune. St. Thedorus the Roman.

February 23 (24) / Ⲙϣⲓⲣ 29 see December 30 (31) / Ⲧⲱⲃⲓ 4, page 143.

Joyful tune. Commemoration of the Annunciation, Nativity, and Resurrection. **St. Polycarp the bishop of Smyrna**, the martyr.

February 24 (25) / Ⲙϣⲓⲣ 30 see May 27 / Ⲡⲁⲱⲛⲉ 2, page 242.

Annual tune. The finding of the head of St. John the Baptist.

February 25 (26) / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙϩⲟⲧⲡ 1 see November 18 (19) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 22, page 90.

Annual tune. St. Narcissus the bishop of Jerusalem. St. Alexandrus the martyr. Anba Marcura.

February 26 (27) / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙϩⲟⲧⲡ 2 see November 24 (25) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 28, page 100.

Annual tune. St. Macrobius the bishop and martyr.

February 27 (28) / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙϩⲟⲧⲡ 3 see November 25 (26) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 29, page 103. (Fr. Athanasius Iskander reports this as “see September 13 (14) / Ⲑⲟⲟⲩⲧ 16, page 25”, but St. Shenouda’s Society, and the Ottawa Lectionary agree with November 25 (26).

Annual tune. St. Cosmas, the 58th Patriarch of Alexandria. St. Porphyry the martyr. St. Hadid the preist.

February 28 (29) / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙϩⲟⲧⲡ 4 see November 5 (6) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 9, page 77.

Annual tune. Council on the Island of Bani-Omar. St. Haboulyous the prince and martyr.

### February 29 / Ⲕⲟⲩϫⲓ ⲛ̀ⲁ̀ⲃⲟⲧ (The Little Month) 6

#### The Pauline Epistle

##### Colossians 3:8-17

A chapter from the Epistle of our teacher Paul to the Colossians. His blessing be upon us. Amen.

But now, put them all away: anger, rage, evil, slander, and shameful language. Do not lie to one another. You have put off the old self with his doings and you have put on the new self who is being renewed in knowledge according to the image of his Creator. Here, there cannot be Greek and Jew, circumcision and uncircumcision, barbarian, Scythian, slave or free; but Christ is all, and in all!

As God’s elect, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with a heart of compassion, kindness, lowliness, humility, and perseverance. Bear with one another, and forgive each other! If anyone has a complaint against anyone else, forgive, even as Christ forgave you.

Above all, walk in love, which is the bond of perfection. Let the peace of God (to which also you were called in one body) rule in your hearts, and be thankful! Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly. In all wisdom, teach and admonish each other with psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your heart to the Lord.

Whatever you do, in word or in deed, do it all in the Name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through him to God the Father.

The grace of God the Father be with you all. Amen.

#### The Catholic Epistle

##### James 5:16-20

The Catholic Epistle from the Epistle of our teacher James. His Blessing be upon us. Amen.

Confess your offenses to one another and pray for one another in order to be healed. The insistent prayer of a righteous person is powerfully effective! Elias was a man with a nature like ours, and when he prayed earnestly that it might not rain, it did not rain on the earth for three years and six months! When he prayed later on, the sky gave rain and the earth brought forth its fruit.

Brethren, if someone among you wander from the truth and is brought back by another, know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save a soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

Do not love the world, nor the things which are in the world. The world shall pass away and all its desires; but he who does the will of God shall abide forever. Amen.

#### The Praxis

##### Acts 11:12b-18

A chapter from the Acts of our fathers the pure Apostles, who were invested with the grace of the Holy Spirit. Their blessing be with us all. Amen.

These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered into the man’s house. He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house, and saying to him, ‘Send [messengers] to Joppa, and get Simon, who is called Peter. He will speak to you the words by which you will be saved, you and your entire household.’ As I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them, even as on us at the beginning. I remembered the word of the Lord, how he said, ‘John indeed baptized in water, but you will be baptized in the Holy Spirit.’ And so, if God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Chris, who was I to oppose God?”

When they heard these things, they held their peace, and glorified God, saying, “Then God has also granted to the Gentiles the repentance [that leads] to life!”

The word of the Lord abides in this church and in every church. Amen.

## March or Ⲡⲁⲣⲙϩⲟⲧⲡ

### March 1 / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙϩⲟⲧⲡ 5 through March 8 / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙϩⲟⲧⲡ 12

March 1 / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙϩⲟⲧⲡ 5 see November 24 (25) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 28, page 100.

Annual tune. St. Serapamon the ascetic. St. Peter the priest and martyr. St. Eudexia the martyr.

March 2 / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙϩⲟⲧⲡ 6 see November 23 (24) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 27, page 98.

Annual tune. St. Dioscorus the new martyr. St. Theodotus the bishop.

March 3 / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙϩⲟⲧⲡ 7 see November 18 (19) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 22, page 90.

Annual tune. Sts. Philemon and Apollonius the martyrs. St. Mary of Israel, the martyr.

March 4 / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙϩⲟⲧⲡ 8 see June 29 / Ⲉⲡⲏⲡ 5, page 268.

Annual tune. St. Matthias the Apostle. St. Julian, the 11th Patriarch of Alexandria. St. Arianus the martyr.

March 5 / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙϩⲟⲧⲡ 9 see May 15 / Ⲡⲁϣⲁⲛⲥ 20, page 233.

Annual tune. St. Koran. Sts. Abrianus, Amarata his wife, Eusebius, Armanius, and the forty after them, the martyrs.

March 6 / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙϩⲟⲧⲡ 10 see The Pauline Epistle

Hebrews 9:1-10

A chapter from the Epistle of our teacher Paul to the Hebrews. His blessing be upon us. Amen.

Even the first tabernacle and covenant had ordinances of divine service and an earthly sanctuary. A tabernacle was set up; in the first part which is called the Holy Place were the lampstand, the table, and the show bread. Beyond the second veil was found the tabernacle which is called the Holy of Holies. It had a golden altar of incense and the Ark of the Covenant all covered with gold. The Ark contained a golden jar holding the manna, Aaron’s rod that budded and the tablets of the covenant. Above it, cherubim of glory overshadowed the mercy seat, but now we cannot speak about these things in detail. According to this arrangement, priests are continually entering the outer tabernacle, accomplishing the rites of offering divine service. Into the second tabernacle, only the high priest enters, once in the year and with blood, which he offers for himself and for the sins committed in ignorance by the people. The Holy Spirit is indicating that the way into the Holy Place was not yet revealed, [at least] while the first tabernacle was still standing. It is a figure of the present age, where the gifts and sacrifices that are offered are incapable, as far as conscience is concerned, to make the one who offers divine service perfect. The reason is that they are only carnal ordinances (with meats, drinks and various washings), imposed until a time of reformation.

The grace of God the Father be with you all. Amen.

#### The Catholic Epistle

##### 1 Peter 2:1-10

The Catholic Epistle from the First Epistle of our teacher Peter. His Blessing be upon us. Amen.

[And this is the word which by the Gospel is preached to you.]\* Therefore, putting away all wickedness, deceit, hypocrisy, envies, and all evil speaking, as newborn babies, long for the pure milk of the Word, so that you may grow from it. If indeed you have tasted that the Lord is gracious, come to him who is a living stone, rejected by men but chosen by God and precious. You also, as living stones, are being built up as a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, in order to offer up spiritual sacrifices that are acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. As the Scripture has it:

*Behold, I lay in Zion a chief cornerstone, chosen, and precious:*

*Whoever believes in him will not be disappointed.*

For you who believe, this brings honor, but for those who are disobedient:

*The stone which the builders rejected,*

*has become the chief cornerstone,*

and:

*a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense.*

For they stumble at the word and they are disobedient, which is what they were laid aside for. But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for God’s own possession, so that you may proclaim the wonderful deeds of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. In the past, you were not a people, but now, you are God’s people. In the past, you had not obtained mercy, but now, you have obtained mercy.

Do not love the world, nor the things which are in the world. The world shall pass away and all its desires; but he who does the will of God shall abide forever. Amen.

\*This verse is found only in Coptic.

#### The Praxis

##### Acts 9:31-43

A chapter from the Acts of our fathers the pure Apostles, who were invested with the grace of the Holy Spirit. Their blessing be with us all. Amen.

And so, the Churches throughout all Judea and Galilee and Samaria had peace and were edified. Walking in the fear of the Lord and in the comfort of the Holy Spirit, they continued to grow.

Now, as Peter traveled through all those regions, he also came down to the saints who lived in Lydda. There, he found a certain man named Aeneas, who was paralyzed and who had been bedridden for eight years. Peter said to him, “Aeneas, Jesus Christ heals you! Get up and make your bed!” And immediately, he arose. All who lived in Lydda and Sharon saw him and turned to the Lord.

Now, there lived in Joppa a certain disciple named Tabitha, (which, when translated, means Dorcas). This woman was full of good works and acts of mercy. But it happened that at this time, she became ill and died. She was washed and placed in an upper room. As Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, hearing that Peter was there, sent two men to him, imploring him, ‘Do not to delay in coming to help us!” So Peter arose and went with them. When he arrived, the disciples led him into the upper room. All the widows stood by him weeping, showing [to Peter] the coats and garments which Dorcas had made while she was with them. But having put everyone out [of the room], Peter knelt down and prayed. Turning towards the body, he said, “Tabitha, get up!” She opened her eyes, and when she saw Peter, she sat up. Then Peter gave her his hand and raised her up. Calling the saints and widows, he presented her alive. This became known all over Joppa, and many people believed in the Lord. Then he stayed in Joppa for a while, lodging with Simon, a tanner.

The word of the Lord abides in this church and in every church. Amen.

September 14 (15) / Ⲑⲟⲟⲩⲧ 17, page 25.

Palm tune. The Appearance of the Glorious Cross.

March 7 / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙϩⲟⲧⲡ 11 see September 18 (19) / Ⲑⲟⲟⲩⲧ 21, page 35.

Annual tune. St. Basil the bishop and martyr.

March 8 / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙϩⲟⲧⲡ 12 see November 25 (26) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 29, page 103.

Annual tune. Monthly Commemoration of Archangel Michael. St. Demetrius’ virginity revealed. St. Malachius the martyr. St. Glathinos the martyr.

### March 9 / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙϩⲟⲧⲡ 13

Annual Tune.

**St. Dionysius, the 14th Patriarch of Alexandria**

The return of Abba Macarius the Great and Abba Macarius of Alexandria

The Forty Matrys of Sebastia

#### The Pauline Epistle

##### 2 Corinthians 10:1-18

A chapter from the Second Epistle of our teacher Paul to the Corinthians. His blessing be upon us. Amen.

I, Paul, entreat you by the humility and gentleness of Christ, as one who is humble among you in your presence but bold in my absence. Yes, I beg that I should not have to be bold when I am actually with you by daring to oppose those who think we are acting according to human standards. Even though we walk in the flesh, we do not wage war according to the flesh. The weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but mighty before God to overthrow strongholds, to cast down fantasies and every lofty thing that is exalted against the knowledge of God, and to bring every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ. Once you have given your complete obedience, we are prepared to chastise any disobedience. Do you look at things only as they appear in your presence? If anyone trusts that he belongs to Christ, let such a person reconsider this, that, we belong to Christ as much as he does! Even though I should boast some more about our authority, (which the Lord gave for building you up, and not for casting you down), would that not be a shame? May I not appear to desire to terrify you by my letters! Some people say, “His letters are profound and strong, but his physical presence is weak and his speech is worthless.” Let such people consider this: that what we are in word by letters (when we are absent), we are exactly the same in actions when we are present. We are not venturing to rank or compare ourselves with those who commend themselves. But as they measure themselves by their own standards and compare themselves with themselves, they are withoutunderstanding. However, we will not boast beyond proper limits, only

within the boundaries which God has appointed to us, which reach even to you. Indeed, we do not stretch ourselves too much, as though we did notreach to you. For we even reached as far as to you with the Good News of Christ, not boasting beyond proper limits in the work of others, but having hope that as your faith grows, our [missionary] field among you will be greatly enlarged. This way, we will be able to preach the Good News even to those areas that are beyond you, in order not to boast in what others have already accomplished. But “he who boasts, let him boast in the Lord.” For it is not the one who commends himself who is approved, but it is the Lord who gives [him] approval.

The grace of God the Father be with you all. Amen.

#### The Catholic Epistle

##### 1 Peter 4:1-11

The Catholic Epistle from the First Epistle of our teacher Peter. His Blessing be upon us. Amen.

Therefore, as Christ suffered for us in the flesh, arm yourselves with the same mind; for anyone who has suffered in the flesh has ceased from sin. Thus you should no longer live the rest of your time in the flesh for human lusts but to do God’s will. For we have spent enough of our past time fulfilling the desires of [non-believing] Gentiles. We used to live in indecency, lusts, excess drinking, orgies, riotous behavior and abominable idolatries. They think it is strange that you no longer run with them into the same abusive lifestyle, and they speak evil of you. But they will give an account to him who is ready to judge the living and the dead! For this reason, the Good News was preached even to the dead, so that they might in the flesh undergo the judgment that faces all human beings but [then] live in the spirit as to God. The end of all things is near! Therefore, be clear-minded, self-controlled and sober in prayer. Above all things, be committed to your mutual love, for love covers a multitude of sins. Be hospitable to one another, without grumbling. As each has received a gift, use it to serve each other, as good stewards of the grace of God in its various forms. If anyone speaks, let it be as the very words of God. If anyone serves, let it be with the strength that God supplies, so that in all things, God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belong the glory and the dominion unto ages of ages. Amen.

Do not love the world, nor the things which are in the world. The world shall pass away and all its desires; but he who does the will of God shall abide forever. Amen.

#### The Praxis

##### Acts 12:25-13:12

A chapter from the Acts of our fathers the pure Apostles, who were invested with the grace of the Holy Spirit. Their blessing be with us all. Amen.

Barnabas and Saul returned to Jerusalem when they had fulfilled their service, and they also took with

them John whose other name was Mark.

Now, in the Church that was at Antioch, there were some prophets and teachers: Barnabas, Simeon who was called Niger, Lucius of Cyrene, Manaen the foster brother of Herod the tetrarch, and Saul. As they were liturgizing to the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, “Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them.”

Then, when they had fasted and prayed and laid their hands on them, they sent them on their way. Being sent out by the Holy Spirit, they went downto Seleucia and from there sailed to Cyprus. When they were at Salamis, they proclaimed the word of God in the Jewish synagogues, with John as their attendant. After going through the island to Paphos, they encountered a certain sorcerer, a false prophet, a Jew, whose name was Bar Jesus. He was with the proconsul, Sergius Paulus. Being an intelligent man, the proconsul called Barnabas and Saul in order to hear the word of God. However, Elymas the sorcerer (for such is his name when translated) opposed them, seeking to turn the proconsul away from the faith. But filled with the Holy Spirit, Saul (who is also called Paul), fixed his eyes on him and said, “You are full of all [kinds of] deceit and cunning, you son of the devil and enemy of all righteousness! Will you not stop perverting the right ways of the Lord? And now, behold, the hand of the Lord is against you, and you will be blind, unable to see the sun for a season!”

At once, mist and darkness fell upon Elymas, and he groped around seeking someone to lead him by the hand. When the proconsul saw what had taken place, he believed and was amazed by the teaching of the Lord.

The word of the Lord abides in this church and in every church. Amen.

### March 10 / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙϩⲟⲧⲡ 14 through March 24 / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙϩⲟⲧⲡ 28

March 10 / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙϩⲟⲧⲡ 14 see September 18 (19) / Ⲑⲟⲟⲩⲧ 21, page 35.

Annual tune. St. Shenouti the martyr.

March 11 / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙϩⲟⲧⲡ 15 see January 25 (26) / Ⲧⲱⲃⲓ 30, page 177.

Annual tune. St. Sarah of Upper Egypt. St. Elias of Hnes.

March 12 / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙϩⲟⲧⲡ 16 see November 25 (26) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 29, page 103.

Annual tune. St. Mikhail, the 46th Patriarch of Alexandria.

March 13 / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙϩⲟⲧⲡ 17 see November 24 (25) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 28, page 100.

Annual tune. St. Lazarus, the friend of Christ, the bishop of Cyprus. St. George the ascetic martyr. St. Sidhom Bishai the martyr. St. Basil, bishop of Jerusalem.

March 14 / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙϩⲟⲧⲡ 18 see July 14 / Ⲉⲡⲏⲡ 20, page 287.

Annual tune. St. Isidore the martyr.

March 15 / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙϩⲟⲧⲡ 19 see December 27 (28) / Ⲧⲱⲃⲓ 1, page 138.

Annual tune. St. Aristobulus the Disciple. Sts. Alexander, Agabius, Timol, Dionysius, and Romulus, the martyrs.

March 16 / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙϩⲟⲧⲡ 20 see November 25 (26) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 29, page 103.

Annual tune. St. Michael II, the 56th Patriarch of Alexandria. The Raising of Lazarus from the dead.

March 17 / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙϩⲟⲧⲡ 21 see August 6 / Ⲙⲉⲥⲟⲣⲏ 13, page 311.

Annual tune. Monthly commemoration of the Theotokos. Dwelling of our Lord in Bethany. Consultation of the chief preists to put Lazarus to death.

March 18 / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙϩⲟⲧⲡ 22 see June 27 / Ⲉⲡⲏⲡ 3, page 264.

Annual tune. St. Cyril of Jerusalem. St. Michael the bishop of Nakada. Joseph of Arimathea.

March 19 / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙϩⲟⲧⲡ 23 see September 5 (6) / Ⲑⲟⲟⲩⲧ 8, page 22.

Annual tune. Daniel the prophet.

March 20 / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙϩⲟⲧⲡ 24 see November 25 (26) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 29, page 103.

Annual tune. St. Macarius, the 59th Patriarch of Alexandria. Apparition of the Theotokos at Zeitoun.

March 21 / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙϩⲟⲧⲡ 25 see October 11 (12) / Ⲡⲁⲱⲡⲉ 14, page 54.

Annual tune. St. Oneishorus the Disciple. St. Matthias, the 100th Patriarch of Alexandria.

March 22 / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙϩⲟⲧⲡ 26 see January 25 (26) / Ⲧⲱⲃⲓ 30, page 177.

Annual tune. St. Eupraxia, a virgin of Rome. St. Peter VI, the 104th Patriarch of Alexandria.

March 23 / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙϩⲟⲧⲡ 27 see October 24 (25) / Ⲡⲁⲱⲡⲉ 27, page 60.

Annual tune. Commemoration of the Crucifixion. Abba Macarius the Great. St. Domicos the martyr.

March 24 / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙϩⲟⲧⲡ 28 see September 13 (14) / Ⲑⲟⲟⲩⲧ 16, page 25.

Annual tune. Emperor Constantine the Great. St. Peter VII, the 109th Patriarch of Alexandria. Abba Sarapamon.

### March 25 / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙϩⲟⲧⲡ 29

Joyful Tune

Feast of the Annunciation of the Nativity of our Lord in the Flesh

#### The Pauline Epistle

##### Romans 3:1-31

A chapter from the Epistle of our teacher Paul to the Romans. His blessing be upon us. Amen.

And so, what advantage does the Jew have? Or what is the benefit of circumcision? Much in every way! First of all, they were entrusted with the oracles of God! But what if some were without faith? Will their lack of faith nullify the faithfulness of God? May it never be! Yes, let God be found true, but every man a liar. As it is written,

*That you might be justified in your words,*

*and might prevail when you come into judgment.*

But if our unrighteousness commends the righteousness of God, what will we say? Is God unrighteous if he inflicts wrath? (I speak like men do!) May it never be! For then, how will God judge the world? For if through my lie the truth of God overflowed to his [own] glory, why am I still judged as a sinner? Why not (as we are slanderously reported, and as some affirm that we say), “Let us do evil, that good may come?” Those who say so are justly condemned. What then? Are we better than they? No, by no means! For we previously warned both Jews and Greeks, that they are all under sin. As it is written,

*There is no one righteous; no, not one.*

*There is no one who understands.*

*There is no one who seeks after God.*

*They have all turned aside.*

*They have together become worthless.*

*There is no one who does good, no, not, so much as one.*

*Their throat is an open tomb,*

*With their tongues they have used deceit.*

*The poison of vipers is under their lips;*

*Their mouth is full of cursing and bitterness.*

*Their feet are swift to shed blood.*

*Destruction and misery are in their ways.*

*The way of peace, they have not known.*

*There is no fear of God before their eyes.*

Now, we know that whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be closed, and so that the whole world may be brought under the judgment of God. The reason is that by the works ofthe law, no flesh will be justified in his sight because the exact knowledge of sin comes through the law. But now, a righteousness of God has been revealed apart from the law; and law and the prophets bear witness to it. It is the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ to all and on all those who believe. There is no distinction because all have sinned, and fall short of the glory of God. All are being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus. God purposed him to be an atoning sacrifice through the shedding of his blood and to be received through faith. This was to demonstrate his righteousness by passing over prior sins, according to God’s patience. This was also to demonstrate his righteousness at this present time, so that he might himself be just and the justifier of whoever who has faith in Jesus.

Where then is the boasting? It is excluded! By what kind of law? [The law] of works? No, but by a law of faith! Therefore, we maintain that a person is justified by faith apart from the works ofthe law. Or is God the God of Jews only? Is he not the God of Gentiles as well? Indeed, [he is the God] of the Gentiles too, since there is one God who will justify the circumcised by means of faith, and the uncircumcised through faith. Do we then nullify the law through faith? May it never be! In fact, we uphold the law.

The grace of God the Father be with you all. Amen.

#### The Catholic Epistle

##### 1 John 1:1-2:6

The Catholic Epistle from the First Epistle of our teacher John. His Blessing be upon us. Amen.

What was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we saw and what our hands touched, [this is our message] concerning the word of life. The life was revealed and we have seen, we testify and we proclaim to you the life, the eternal life which was with the Father and which was revealed to us. What we have seen and heard, this is what we proclaim to you, so that you also may have communion with us. Truly, our communion is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. We write these things to you so that our joy may be fulfilled!

This is the message which we have heard from him and which we now announce to you: that God is light, and in him there is no darkness at all. If we say that we have communion with him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie – we do not tell the truth.

But if we walk in the light as he is in the light, then we do have communion with one another and the blood of his Son Jesus Christ cleanses us from all sin. If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and righteous so that he will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar and his word is not in us.

My little children, I write these things to you so that you may not commit sin. But if someone does commit a sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ, the righteous. He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the whole world.

This is how we have come to know that we know him: if we keep his commandments. The one who says, “I know him,” and yet does not keep his commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in such a person. But if someone keeps God’s word, God’s love has most certainly been perfected in him. This is how we know that we are in him: whoever claims to abide in him should also live just as he lived.

Do not love the world, nor the things which are in the world. The world shall pass away and all its desires; but he who does the will of God shall abide forever. Amen.

#### The Praxis

##### Acts 7:23-34

A chapter from the Acts of our fathers the pure Apostles, who were invested with the grace of the Holy Spirit. Their blessing be with us all. Amen.

But when he was forty years old, it came into his heart to visit his brethren, the children of Israel. Seeing one of them treated unjustly, he defended and avenged him who was oppressed, striking the Egyptian. He supposed that his brethren would understand that God, by his hand, was giving them deliverance; but they did not understand.

The following day, Moses appeared to them as they are quarreling and urged them to be at peace again, saying: ‘Men, you are brothers! Why do you wrong each other?’ But the man who was mistreating the other pushed Moses away, saying: ‘Who made you a ruler and a judge over us?

Do you want to kill me, as you killed the Egyptian yesterday?’ When he heard this, Moses fled and became a stranger in the land of Midian, where he became the father of two sons.

When forty years were fulfilled, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in the wilderness of Mount Sinai, in a flame of fire in a bush. When Moses saw it, he wondered at the sight. As he came close to see, a voice of the Lord came to him, [saying], ‘I am the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.’ Moses trembled and dared not look. The Lord said to him, ‘Take your sandals off of your feet,for the place where you stand is holy ground. I have indeed seen the affliction of my people in Egypt and heard their groaning. I have come down to deliver them. Now come, I will send you into Egypt.’

The word of the Lord abides in this church and in every church. Amen.

### March 26 / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙϩⲟⲧⲡ 30 through March 31 / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙⲟⲩⲧⲉ 5

March 26 / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙϩⲟⲧⲡ 30 see December 18 (19) / Ⲕⲟⲓⲁϩⲕ 22, page 124.

Annual tune. Commemoration of Archangel Gabriel. Transfer of the Relics of St. James the Persian. Samson the Judge.

March 27 / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙⲟⲩⲧⲉ 1 see May 15 / Ⲡⲁϣⲁⲛⲥ 20, page 233.

Annual tune. **St. Silvanus the monk.** The Arabs of Upper Egypt attacked the desert of Scetis. Aaron the prophet.

March 28 / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙⲟⲩⲧⲉ 2 see July 14 / Ⲉⲡⲏⲡ 20, page 287.

Annual tune. St. Christopher, the martyr. Pope Youannis IX, the 81st Patrairch of Alexandria.

March 29 / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙⲟⲩⲧⲉ 3 see June 27 / Ⲉⲡⲏⲡ 3, page 264.

Annual tune. St. John the bishop of Jerusalem. St. Michael, the 71st Patrairch of Alexandria.

March 30 / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙⲟⲩⲧⲉ 4 see November 18 (19) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 22, page 90.

Annual tune. Sts. Victor, Decius, Eirene the Virgin, and those with them, the martyrs.

March 31 / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙⲟⲩⲧⲉ 5 see September 5 (6) / Ⲑⲟⲟⲩⲧ 8, page 22.

Annual utne. Ezekiel the Prophet. St. Hepartius the bishop of Gangra, the martyr.

## April or Ⲡⲁⲣⲙⲟⲩⲧⲉ

### April 1 / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙⲟⲩⲧⲉ 6 through April 17 / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙⲟⲩⲧⲉ 22

April 1 / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙⲟⲩⲧⲉ 6 see January 25 (26) / Ⲧⲱⲃⲓ 30, page 177.

Annual tune. Commemoration of the appearance of the Lord to St. Thomas. **St. Mary of Egypt.**

April 2 / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙⲟⲩⲧⲉ 7 see September 5 (6) / Ⲑⲟⲟⲩⲧ 8, page 22.

Annual tune. St. Joachim, the father of the Theotokos. St. Macrobius. Sts. Agapious, Theodora and Metruf.

April 3 / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙⲟⲩⲧⲉ 8 see January 25 (26) / Ⲧⲱⲃⲓ 30, page 177.

Annual tune. Agape, Eirence, Shiona, the virgin martyrs. The One Hundred and Fifty Martyrs at the hand of the king of Persia.

April 4 / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙⲟⲩⲧⲉ 9 see November 24 (25) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 28, page 100 (according to an Arabic Lectionary. The Ottawa lectionary and St. Shenouda’s Society have: see January 17 (18) / Ⲧⲱⲃⲓ 22, page 172.)

Annual tune. St. Zosimus the priest. Commemoration of the miracle at the hand of Pope Shenouti I, the 55th Patriarch of Alexandria.

April 5 / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙⲟⲩⲧⲉ 10 see May 15 / Ⲡⲁϣⲁⲛⲥ 20, page 233.

Annual tune. St. Isaac, the disciple of Abba Apollo. St. Gabriel II, the 70th Patriarch of Alexandria.

April 6 / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙⲟⲩⲧⲉ 11 see January 25 (26) / Ⲧⲱⲃⲓ 30, page 177.

Annual tune. St. Theodora the virgin. St. John, the bishop of Gaza.

April 7 / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙⲟⲩⲧⲉ 12 see June 27 / Ⲉⲡⲏⲡ 3, page 264.

Annual tune. St. Alexander, the bishop of Jerusalem. St. Antonios, the bishop of Tamoui.

April 8 / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙⲟⲩⲧⲉ 13 see November 18 (19) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 22, page 90.

Annual tune. Sts. Joshua and Joseph, the martyrs. Dionisa the Deaconess and Medius the martyrs. St. Youanni 17th, the 105th Patriarch of Alexandria.

April 9 / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙⲟⲩⲧⲉ 14 see November 25 (26) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 29, page 103.

Annual tune. St. Maximus, the 15th Patriarch of Alexandira.

April 10 / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙⲟⲩⲧⲉ 15 see December 27 (28) / Ⲧⲱⲃⲓ 1, page 138.

Annual tune. The Consecration of the altar for St. Nicholas of Myra. The Consecration of the Church of St. Agabus the Disciple. St. Alexandra the Empress. St. mari VI, the 101st Patriarch of Alexandira.

April 11 / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙⲟⲩⲧⲉ 16 see December 30 (31) / Ⲧⲱⲃⲓ 4, page 143.

Annual tune. St. Antipas, the bishop of Pergamos, the martyr. The ascension of Enoch the prophet to heaven.

April 12 / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙⲟⲩⲧⲉ 17 see June 29 / Ⲉⲡⲏⲡ 5, page 268.

Annual tune. St. James the son of Zebedee, the Apostle. St. Nicodemus.

April 13 / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙⲟⲩⲧⲉ 18 see April 22 / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙⲟⲩⲧⲉ 27, page 213.

Annual tune. St. Arsenius the slave of St. Sousenyous, the martyr.

April 14 / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙⲟⲩⲧⲉ 19 see November 24 (25) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 28, page 100.

Annual tune. St. Simeon the Armenian, the bishop of Persia, the martyr. St. John the martyr. Vizir abu Elaala Fahd ibn Ibrahim an dhis companions, the martyrs. David the monk and martyr.

April 15 / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙⲟⲩⲧⲉ 20 see July 14 / Ⲉⲡⲏⲡ 20, page 287.

Annual tune. St. Paphnuti the martyr.

April 16 / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙⲟⲩⲧⲉ 21 see September 18 (19) / Ⲑⲟⲟⲩⲧ 21, page 35.

Annual tune. Monthly commemoration of the Theotokos. St. Hierotheos of Athens.

April 17 / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙⲟⲩⲧⲉ 22 see November 25 (26) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 29, page 103.

Annual tune. St. Isaac of Hourin. St. Alexander I, the 19th Patriarch of Alexandria. St. Mark II, the 49th Patriarch of Alexandria. St. Michael II, the 53rd Patriarch of Alexandira.

### April 18 / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙⲟⲩⲧⲉ 23

Annual Tune

Daniel the Prophet

**St. George the Prince of the Martyrs**

#### The Pauline Epistle

##### Romans 8:28-39

A chapter from the Epistle of our teacher Paul to the Romans. His blessing be upon us. Amen.

We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, to those who are called according to his purpose. Whoever God foreknew, he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, so that his Son might be the firstborn among many brethren. Whoever God predestined, he also called. Those whom he called, he also justified. Those whom he justified, he also glorified.

What then shall we say about these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how would he not also give us all things with him freely? Who could bring a charge against God’s elect? It is God who justifies! Who is the one who condemns? It is Christ who died, yes rather, who was raised from the dead, who is at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us.

Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Could oppression, or anguish, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? Even as it is written, “For your sake we are killed all day long. We were accounted as sheep for the slaughter.” No, in all these things, we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. Indeed, I am persuaded that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, will be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The grace of God the Father be with you all. Amen.

#### The Catholic Epistle

##### 1 Peter 4:1-11

The Catholic Epistle from the First Epistle of our teacher Peter. His Blessing be upon us. Amen.

Therefore, as Christ suffered for us in the flesh, arm yourselves with the same mind; for anyone who has suffered in the flesh has ceased from sin. Thus you should no longer live the rest of your time in the flesh for human lusts but to do God’s will. For we have spent enough of our past time fulfilling the desires of [non-believing] Gentiles. We used to live in indecency, lusts, excess drinking, orgies, riotous behavior and abominable idolatries. They think it is strange that you no longer run with them into the same abusive lifestyle, and they speak evil of you. But they will give an account to him who is ready to judge the living and the dead! For this reason, the Good News was preached even to the dead, so that they might in the flesh undergo the judgment that faces all human beings but [then] live in the spirit as to God. The end of all things is near! Therefore, be clear-minded, self-controlled and sober in prayer. Above all things, be committed to your mutual love, for love covers a multitude of sins. Be hospitable to one another, without grumbling. As each has received a gift, use it to serve each other, as good stewards of the grace of God in its various forms. If anyone speaks, let it be as the very words of God. If anyone serves, let it be with the strength that God supplies, so that in all things, God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belong the glory and the dominion unto ages of ages. Amen.

Do not love the world, nor the things which are in the world. The world shall pass away and all its desires; but he who does the will of God shall abide forever. Amen.

#### The Praxis

##### Acts 16:16-34

A chapter from the Acts of our fathers the pure Apostles, who were invested with the grace of the Holy Spirit. Their blessing be with us all. Amen.

As we were going to prayer, it happened that we encountered a certain girl who had a spirit of divination and who brought much gain to her masters by fortune telling. As she followed Paul and us, she cried out, “These men are servants of the Most High God, who proclaim to us a way of salvation!” And she did this for many days. But Paul, becoming greatly annoyed, turned back and said to the spirit, “In the Name of Jesus Christ, I order you to come out of her!” And the spirit came out that very moment. But when her masters saw that the hope of their gain was gone, they seized Paul and Silas, and dragged them into the marketplace to face the authorities. When they had brought them to the magistrates, they said, “These Jewish men are causing disturbance in our city! They teach customs which it is not lawful for us Romans to accept or observe!”

When the crowd also rose up against them, the magistrates had them stripped and flogged. After giving them a severe flogging, the magistrates had them thrown into prison, ordering the jailer to keep them securely. Having received such a command, he threw them in the inner cell and fastened their feet in the stocks.

But when it was about midnight, Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. Suddenly, there was a great earthquake, so violent that the foundations of the prison were shaken. At once, all the doors were opened, and everyone’s bonds were loosened. The jailer, awaken from sleep and seeing the prison doors open, began to draw his sword and he was about to kill himself, supposing that the prisoners had escaped. But Paul cried with a loud voice, “Do not harm yourself, for we are all here!”

Having asked for lights, the jailer rushed in and fell down trembling before Paul and Silas. He brought them out and asked, “Sirs, what must I do to be saved?”

They answered, “Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and you will be saved, you and your household!” Then they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all those who were in his household.

Late as it was, the jailer washed their wounds and was immediately baptized, he and his entire household. He took them into his house and set food before them. He was filled with joy for believing in God, along with his entire household.

The word of the Lord abides in this church and in every church. Amen.

### April 19 / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙⲟⲩⲧⲉ 24 through April 21 / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙⲟⲩⲧⲉ 26

April 19 / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙⲟⲩⲧⲉ 24 see July 14 / Ⲉⲡⲏⲡ 20, page 287.

Annual tune. St. Shenouti I, the 55th Patriarch of Alexandira. St. Sina the soldier and martyr.

April 20 / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙⲟⲩⲧⲉ 25 see January 25 (26) / Ⲧⲱⲃⲓ 30, page 177.

Annual tune. St. Sarah and her two sons, the martyrs. Sts. Paphnouti the Hermit, Theodore the Worshipper, and the One Hundred martyrs.

April 21 / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙⲟⲩⲧⲉ 26 see July 14 / Ⲉⲡⲏⲡ 20, page 287.

Annual tune. St. Sousenios the martyr. St. John VII, the 78th Patriarch of Alexanria.

### April 22 / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙⲟⲩⲧⲉ 27

Annual Tune

**St. Victor, the son of Romanus, the Martyr**

St. Joachim, the Father of the Theotokos

#### The Pauline Epistle

##### Romans 8:18-30

A chapter from the Epistle of our teacher Paul to the Romans. His blessing be upon us. Amen.

For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which will be revealed toward us. As it is, the creation waits with eager expectation for the revelation of God’s children. Indeed, creation was subjected to vanity, not of its own will, but because of him who subjected it, in hope that creation will also be delivered from the bondage of decay into the glorious freedom of the children of God. We know that the whole of creation groans and labors in pain until now. Moreover, so do we who have the first fruits of the Spirit! We groan within ourselves, awaiting the adoption, the redemption of our body. We were saved in hope, but hope that is seen is not hope. Indeed, who hopes for what can be seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience. Also, the Spirit helps our weaknesses, because we do not know how to pray as we should. But the Spirit himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. He who searches the hearts knows the way of thinking of the Spirit, because the prayers that the Spirit makes for the saints are always in accordance with God.

We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, to those who are called according to his purpose. Whoever God foreknew, he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, so that his Son might be the firstborn among many brethren. Whoever God predestined, he also called. Those whom he called, he also justified. Those whom he justified, he also glorified.

The grace of God the Father be with you all. Amen.

#### The Catholic Epistle

##### 1 Peter 3:8-15a

The Catholic Epistle from the First Epistle of our teacher Peter. His Blessing be upon us. Amen.

Finally, be all like-minded, compassionate, loving as brethren, tenderhearted, polite, not giving back evil for evil or insult for insult. Instead, give back blessing, knowing that you are called to do this, so that you [yourselves] may inherit a blessing. For:

*Whoever would love life,*

*and see good days,*

*should keep his tongue from evil,*

*and his lips from speaking deceit.*

*Let him turn away from evil, and do good.*

*Let him seek peace, and pursue it.*

*For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous,*

*and his ears open to their prayer;*

*but the face of the Lord is against those who do evil.*

Now, who will harm you, if you become imitators of what is good? Buteven if you should suffer for righteousness’ sake, you are blessed. “Do not fear what they fear, and do not be troubled.” Sanctify the Lord God in your hearts.

Do not love the world, nor the things which are in the world. The world shall pass away and all its desires; but he who does the will of God shall abide forever. Amen.

#### The Praxis

##### Acts 19:23-41

A chapter from the Acts of our fathers the pure Apostles, who were invested with the grace of the Holy Spirit. Their blessing be with us all. Amen.

About that time, there arose a serious disturbance concerning the Way. A certain man named Demetrius, a silversmith who made silver shrines of Artemis, brought much business to the craftsmen. He held a meeting with craftsmen of the same occupation and said, “Men, you know that we obtain our wealth through this business. As you can see and hear, not in Ephesus alone, but almost throughout all Asia, this Paul has convinced and turned away many people, saying that our gods are no gods and that they are made with [human] hands. Not only is there danger that our trade will lose its credit, but also that the temple of the great goddess Artemis whom all Asia and the world revere will be considered as nothing, and that her majesty will be destroyed!”

When they heard this, they were filled with anger, and shouted, “Great is Artemis of the Ephesians!” The whole city was filled with confusion. The people rushed with one accord into the theater and arrested Gaius and Aristarchus, men of Macedonia, Paul’s companions in travel. But when Paul desired to enter in to [speak to] the people, the disciples did not allow him. Some of the officials of the province who were his friends sent word to him and begged him not to venture into the theater. Some people shouted one thing, and some another as the assembly was in turmoil. Most of them did not [even] know why they had come together. The Jews pushed Alexander and he was brought out of the multitude. He motioned his hand in order to present a defense to the people, but when they realized that he was a Jew, they all with one voice shouted, “Great is Artemis of the Ephesians!” And they did this for about two hours.

When the town clerk had quieted the multitude, he said, “Men of Ephesus, who is there who does not know that the city of the Ephesians is temple keeper of the great goddess Artemis and of the image which fell down from Zeus? Since these things cannot be denied, you should be quiet, and to do nothing rash. For you have brought these men here, who are neither temple-robbers nor blasphemers of your goddess. If therefore Demetrius and the craftsmen who are with him have a case against anyone, the courts are open, and there are proconsuls. Let them press charges against one another. But if you seek anything about other matters, it will be settled in the lawful assembly. For indeed, we are in danger of being accused concerning today’s riot since there was no reason [for it]. Concerning it, we would not be able to give an account of this commotion.” After speaking these words, he dismissed the assembly.

The word of the Lord abides in this church and in every church. Amen.

### April 23 / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙⲟⲩⲧⲉ 28 through April 24 / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙⲟⲩⲧⲉ 29

April 23 / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙⲟⲩⲧⲉ 28 see November 21 (22) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 25, page 95.

Annual tune. St. Milius, the ascetic martyr.

April 24 / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙⲟⲩⲧⲉ 29 see December 27 (28) / Ⲧⲱⲃⲓ 1, page 138.

Annual tune. St. Erastus the Disciple. St. Acacius the bishop of Jerusalem.

### April 25 / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙⲟⲩⲧⲉ 30

Annual Tune

St. Mark the Evangelist and Martyr

#### The Pauline Epistle

##### 2 Timothy 3:10-4:18

A chapter from the Second Epistle of our teacher Paul to Timothy. His blessing be upon us. Amen.

You, however, have paid close attention to my teaching, conduct, purpose, faith, patience, love, steadfastness, persecutions, and sufferings. You know persecutions and the Lord delivered me out of them all! Yes, all those who desire to lead godly lives in Christ Jesus will be persecuted. But wicked impostors will go from bad to worse, deceiving others, being themselves deceived. As for you, remain in what you have learned which is what you firmly believe, knowing from whom you have learned them. From infancy, you have known the Holy Scriptures which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith, which is in Christ Jesus. Every Scripture is God-breathed and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction and for instruction in righteousness, so that the man of God may be fully qualified, completely equipped for every good work.

Before God and the Lord Jesus Christ who will judge the living and the dead at his appearing and his Kingdom, I charge you to preach the word. Welcome or unwelcome, insist on it; reprove, rebuke, and exhort, with all patience and teaching. For the time will come when people will not listen to the sound doctrine, but, having itching ears, they will gather around them teachers that agree with their own lusts. They will turn away their ears from the truth and turn to fables. As for you, be sober in all things, put up with suffering, do the work of one who proclaims the Good News and fulfill your ministry.

As for me, I am already being offered in sacrifice, and the time of my release has come. I have fought the good fight! I have finished the course! I have kept the faith! From now on, the crown of righteousness is reserved for me, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give me on that Day, and not only to me but also to all those who have loved his appearing. Do your utmost to visit me soon, because Demas, having loved this present world, has left me and went to Thessalonica. Crescens went toGalatia and Titus to Dalmatia. Only Luke is still with me. Bring Mark along with you for he is helpful to me for service. I have sent Tychicus to Ephesus. When you come, bring the cloak that I left at Troas with Carpus, as wells as the books, especially the parchments. Alexander, the metalworker did much evil to me. The Lord will repay him according to his works. Beware of him, for he greatly opposed our teachings.

At my first defense, no one came to help me, but all left me. May it not be held against them! But the Lord stood by me and strengthened me, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and heard by all the Gentiles. I was delivered out of the mouth of the lion and the Lord will deliver me from every evil work and preserve me for his heavenly Kingdom. To him be the glory now and unto ages of ages. Amen.

The grace of God the Father be with you all. Amen.

#### The Catholic Epistle

##### 1 Peter 5:1-14

The Catholic Epistle from the First Epistle of our teacher Peter. His Blessing be upon us. Amen.

I exhort the presbyters among you, as the fellow-presbyter and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and as one who will also share in the glory that is to be revealed. Be shepherds to the flock of God which is in your care. Do not oversee the flock under compulsion but willingly, not for dishonest gain but with eagerness. Do not act as lords over those entrusted to you but become examples to the flock. When the chief shepherd is revealed, you will receive the crown of glory that does not fade away.

Likewise, you younger ones, be subject to those who are older. Yes, all of you should clothe yourselves with humility and subject yourselves to one another, for “God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble.” Humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. Cast all your worries on him, because he cares for you.

Be sober, self-controlled and watchful. Your adversary, the devil, roams around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. Resist him, steadfast in your faith, knowing that your brethren throughout the world experience the same sufferings. But after you have suffered a little while, may the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, make you perfect, restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast. To him be the glory and the power unto ages of ages. Amen.

Through Silvanus, our faithful brother as I consider him, I have written to you briefly, exhorting, and testifying that this is the true grace of God in which you stand.

She who is in Babylon, chosen together with you, greets you; and so does Mark, my son. Greet one another with a kiss of love! Peace be to you all who are in Christ Jesus! Amen.

Do not love the world, nor the things which are in the world. The world shall pass away and all its desires; but he who does the will of God shall abide forever. Amen.

#### The Praxis

##### Acts 15:36-16:5

A chapter from the Acts of our fathers the pure Apostles, who were invested with the grace of the Holy Spirit. Their blessing be with us all. Amen.

After some time, Paul said to Barnabas, “Let us revisit our brethren in every city where we proclaimed the word of the Lord, to see how they are doing!” Barnabas planned to take John (who was called Mark) along with them. But Paul did not think that it was a good idea to take with them someone who had deserted them in Pamphylia and had not continued with them in the work. Then, the disagreement became so intense that they separated from each other. Barnabas took Mark with him and sailed away to Cyprus. But Paul chose Silas and having been entrusted by the brethren to the grace of God, they departed. Paul went through Syria and Cilicia, strengthening the Churches.

Paul then came to Derbe and Lystra. And behold, a certain disciple named Timothy lived there. He was the son of a Jewish woman who was a believer, but his father was a Greek. This disciple was well spoken of by the brethren who were at Lystra and Iconium. Paul wanted to have Timothy along on the journey, so he took and circumcised him because of the Jews who were in those parts, since all knew that his father was a Greek. As they went on their way through the cities, they delivered to them the decisions which had been ordained by the apostles and presbyters who were at Jerusalem, so that they might obey. As a result, the Churches were strengthened in the faith and increased in number every day.

The word of the Lord abides in this church and in every church. Amen.

### April 26 / Ⲡⲁϣⲁⲛⲥ 1

Annual Tune

The Nativity of the Theotokos

#### The Pauline Epistle

##### Hebrews 9:1-12

A chapter from the Epistle of our teacher Paul to the Hebrews. His blessing be upon us. Amen.

Even the first tabernacle and covenant had ordinances of divine service and an earthly sanctuary. A tabernacle was set up; in the first part which is called the Holy Place were the lampstand, the table, and the show bread. Beyond the second veil was found the tabernacle which is called the Holy of Holies. It had a golden altar of incense and the Ark of the Covenant all covered with gold. The Ark contained a golden jar holding the manna, Aaron’s rod that budded and the tablets of the covenant. Above it, cherubim of glory overshadowed the mercy seat, but now we cannot speak about these things in detail. According to this arrangement, priests are continually entering the outer tabernacle, accomplishing the rites of offering divine service. Into the second tabernacle, only the high priest enters, once in the year and with blood, which he offers for himself and for the sins committed in ignorance by the people. The Holy Spirit is indicating that the way into the Holy Place was not yet revealed, [at least] while the first tabernacle was still standing. It is a figure of the present age, where the gifts and sacrifices that are offered are incapable, as far as conscience is concerned, to make the one who offers divine service perfect. The reason is that they are only carnal ordinances (with meats, drinks and various washings), imposed until a time of reformation.

But when Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things to come, He entered through the greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this creation. It was not through the blood of goats and calves but through his own blood that he entered into the Holy Place once for all, having obtained eternal redemption.

The grace of God the Father be with you all. Amen.

#### The Catholic Epistle

##### 2 John (all)

The Catholic Epistle from the Second Epistle of our teacher John. His Blessing be upon us. Amen.

The presbyter, to the elect lady and to her children, whom I love in truth; and not I only, but also all those who know the truth. This is for the sake of truth which remains in us and will be with us forever! May grace, mercy and peace will be with us, from God the Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of the Father, in truth and love.

I greatly rejoice that I have found some of your children walking in truth, even as we have been commanded by the Father. Now I beg you, dear lady, not as though I wrote to you a new commandment but the one we have had from the beginning: we must love one another! This is love: that we walk according to his commandments. This is the commandment, as you have heard from the beginning, that you should live accordingly.

Many deceivers have gone out into the world, people who do not confess that Jesus Christ came in the flesh. This is the deceiver and the Antichrist. Watch yourselves, so that we may not lose what we have accomplished but receive a full reward. Whoever does not remain in the teaching of Christ but transgresses does not have God. But whoever remains in the teaching [of Christ] has both the Father and the Son. If anyone comes to you and does not bring this teaching, do not receive or greet such a person. Whoever welcomes such people participates in their evil works.

Even though I have many things to write to you, I do not want to do so with paper and ink. Instead, I hope to come to you and speak face to face, so that our joy may be complete. The children of your chosen sister greet you. Amen.

Do not love the world, nor the things which are in the world. The world shall pass away and all its desires; but he who does the will of God shall abide forever. Amen.

#### The Praxis

##### Acts 1:1-14

A chapter from the Acts of our fathers the pure Apostles, who were invested with the grace of the Holy Spirit. Their blessing be with us all. Amen.

The first book I wrote, Theophilus, dealt with all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning, until the day in which he was taken up, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. After he suffered, he also presented himself alive to them by many proofs, appearing to them over a period of forty days, and speaking about God’s Kingdom. And being assembled together with them, he commanded them, “Do not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which you heard from me. For John indeed baptized in water, but not many days from now, you will be baptized in the Holy Spirit.”

Therefore, when they had come together, they asked him, “Lord, are you now restoring the kingdom to Israel?”

Jesus told them, “It is not for you to know the times or seasons which the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

When he had said these things, as they were watching, he was taken up and a cloud took him out of their sight. While they were gazing into the sky as he was going, behold, two men in white clothing stood by them. They said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing into the sky? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into the sky will come back in the same way as you saw him going into heaven.”

Then, they returned to Jerusalem from the mountain called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day’s journey away.

After entering the city, they went up into the upper room where they were staying; that is Peter, John, James, Andrew, Philip, Thomas, Bartholomew, Matthew, James the son of Alphaeus, Simon the Zealot, and Judas the son of James. With one accord, all these were continuing steadfastly in prayer and supplication, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus and his brothers.

The word of the Lord abides in this church and in every church. Amen.

### April 27 / Ⲡⲁϣⲁⲛⲥ 2 through April 30 / Ⲡⲁϣⲁⲛⲥ 5

April 27 / Ⲡⲁϣⲁⲛⲥ 2 see July 27 / Ⲙⲉⲥⲟⲣⲏ 3, page 290.

Annual tune. Job the Rigtheous.

April 28 / Ⲡⲁϣⲁⲛⲥ 3 see December 27 (28) / Ⲧⲱⲃⲓ 1, page 138.

Annual tune. St. Jason the Disciple. St. Otimus the priest. St. Gabriel IV, the 86th Patriarch of Alexandria.

April 29 / Ⲡⲁϣⲁⲛⲥ 4 see November 25 (26) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 29, page 103.

Annual tune. St. John I, the 29th Patriarch of Alexandria. St. John V, the 72nd Patriarch of Alexandria.

April 30 / Ⲡⲁϣⲁⲛⲥ 5 see September 5 (6) / Ⲑⲟⲟⲩⲧ 8, page 22.

Annual tune. Jeremias the Prophet.

## May or Ⲡⲁϣⲁⲛⲥ

### May 1 / Ⲡⲁϣⲁⲛⲥ 6 through May 4 / Ⲡⲁϣⲁⲛⲥ 9

May 1 / Ⲡⲁϣⲁⲛⲥ 6 see April 18 / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙⲟⲩⲧⲉ 23, page 210.

Annual tune. St. Isaac El-Defrawi the martyr. St. Macarius of Alexandria. St. Paphnouti of El-Bandara the presbyter.

May 2 / Ⲡⲁϣⲁⲛⲥ 7 see June 27 / Ⲉⲡⲏⲡ 3, page 264.

Annual tune. St. Athanasius the Apostolic, the 20th Patriarch of Alexandria.

May 3 / Ⲡⲁϣⲁⲛⲥ 8 see April 18 / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙⲟⲩⲧⲉ 23, page 210.

Annual utne. St. John of Senhout, the martyr. St. Daniel, the Hegoumen of Scetis (Sheheet).

May 4 / Ⲡⲁϣⲁⲛⲥ 9 see September 13 (14) / Ⲑⲟⲟⲩⲧ 16, page 25.

Annual tune. St. Helena the Empress. St. John XI, the 89th Patriarch of Alexandria. St. Gabriel VIII, the 97th Patriarch of Alexandria.

### May 5 / Ⲡⲁϣⲁⲛⲥ 10

Annual Tune

Commemoration of the Three Holy Youths in the Fiery Furance

#### The Pauline Epistle

##### Hebrews 11:32-12:2

A chapter from the Epistle of our teacher Paul to the Hebrews. His blessing be upon us. Amen.

What more shall I say? Time would fail me if I mentioned Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, David, Samuel, and the prophets. Through faith, they overpowered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched the power of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, became strong in weakness, grew mighty in war and caused foreign armies to flee. Women received their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured, not accepting their deliverance, that they might obtain a better resurrection. Others were tried by mocking and scourging, yes, by bonds and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn apart, they were tempted and they were slain with the sword. They went around in sheep and goat skins, being destitute, afflicted and ill-treated. And yet the world was not worthy of them! They wandered in deserts, mountains, caves, and the holes of the earth. All of them received a testimony through their faith but they did not receive the promise, for God had made provision for us to have something better, and they were not to reach perfection apart from us.

And so, seeing that we are surrounded by such a great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight and the sin which so easily entangles us. Let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith. For the joy that was set before him, he endured the cross, despising its shame, and he has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

The grace of God the Father be with you all. Amen.

#### The Catholic Epistle

##### 1 Peter 4:12-19a

The Catholic Epistle from the First Epistle of our teacher Peter. His Blessing be upon us. Amen.

Beloved, do not be astonished at the fiery trial which has come upon you and that is testing you. It is not as if something strange was happening to you. But because you are partakers of Christ’s sufferings, rejoice, so that at the revelation of his glory you also may rejoice with exceeding joy. If you are insulted for the Name of Christ, you are blessed because the divine Spirit of glory is resting upon you. On their part, Christ is blasphemed, but on your part he is glorified. But let none of you suffer as a murderer, a thief, an evil doer or a meddler in other people’s matters. However, if one of you suffers for being a Christian, there is no reason to be ashamed but {instead let such a one} glorify God in this matter. For the time has come for judgment to begin with the household of God. If it begins first with us, what will happen to those who do not obey the Good News of God? “If it is hard for the righteous to be saved, what will happen to the ungodly and the sinner?” Therefore, let those who suffer according to the will of God in doing good entrust their souls to him.

Do not love the world, nor the things which are in the world. The world shall pass away and all its desires; but he who does the will of God shall abide forever. Amen.

#### The Praxis

##### Acts 19:23-41

A chapter from the Acts of our fathers the pure Apostles, who were invested with the grace of the Holy Spirit. Their blessing be with us all. Amen.

About that time, there arose a serious disturbance concerning the Way. A certain man named Demetrius, a silversmith who made silver shrines of Artemis, brought much business to the craftsmen. He held a meeting with craftsmen of the same occupation and said, “Men, you know that we obtain our wealth through this business. As you can see and hear, not in Ephesus alone, but almost throughout all Asia, this Paul has convinced and turned away many people, saying that our gods are no gods and that they are made with [human] hands. Not only is there danger that our trade will lose its credit, but also that the temple of the great goddess Artemis whom all Asia and the world revere will be considered as nothing, and that her majesty will be destroyed!”

When they heard this, they were filled with anger, and shouted, “Great is Artemis of the Ephesians!” The whole city was filled with confusion. The people rushed with one accord into the theater and arrested Gaius and Aristarchus, men of Macedonia, Paul’s companions in travel. But when Paul desired to enter in to [speak to] the people, the disciples did not allow him. Some of the officials of the province who were his friends sent word to him and begged him not to venture into the theater. Some people shouted one thing, and some another as the assembly was in turmoil. Most of them did not [even] know why they had come together. The Jews pushed Alexander and he was brought out of the multitude. He motioned his hand in order to present a defense to the people, but when they realized that he was a Jew, they all with one voice shouted, “Great is Artemis of the Ephesians!” And they did this for about two hours.

When the town clerk had quieted the multitude, he said, “Men of Ephesus, who is there who does not know that the city of the Ephesians is temple keeper of the great goddess Artemis and of the image which fell down from Zeus? Since these things cannot be denied, you should be quiet, and to do nothing rash. For you have brought these men here, who are neither temple-robbers nor blasphemers of your goddess. If therefore Demetrius and the craftsmen who are with him have a case against anyone, the courts are open, and there are proconsuls. Let them press charges against one another. But if you seek anything about other matters, it will be settled in the lawful assembly. For indeed, we are in danger of being accused concerning today’s riot since there was no reason [for it]. Concerning it, we would not be able to give an account of this commotion.” After speaking these words, he dismissed the assembly.

The word of the Lord abides in this church and in every church. Amen.

### May 6 / Ⲡⲁϣⲁⲛⲥ 11 through May 14 / Ⲡⲁϣⲁⲛⲥ 19

May 6 / Ⲡⲁϣⲁⲛⲥ 11 see November 24 (25) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 28, page 100.

Annual tune. St. Theoclia the wife of St. Justus, the martyr. St. Paphnouti the bishop.

May 7 / Ⲡⲁϣⲁⲛⲥ 12 see November 13 (14) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 17, page 86.

Annual tune. The consecration of the Church of St. Demiana. The Relocation of the Relics of St. John Chrysostom. The appearance of the Cross of Light above Glogotha. St. Mark VII, the 106th Patriarch of Alexandria. Teacher (Mo’allem) Malati the martyr.

May 8 / Ⲡⲁϣⲁⲛⲥ 13 see January 17 (18) / Ⲧⲱⲃⲓ 22, page 172.

Annual tune. St. Arsanius the tutor of the Emperor’s children.

May 9 / Ⲡⲁϣⲁⲛⲥ 14 see July 27 / Ⲙⲉⲥⲟⲣⲏ 3, page 290.

Annual tune. St. Pakhom, the father of the Cenobitic Life. St. Epimachus of Pelusium, the martyr.

May 10 / Ⲡⲁϣⲁⲛⲥ 15 see October 9 (10) / Ⲡⲁⲱⲡⲉ 12, page 52.

Annual tune. St. Simon the Zealot, the Apostle. The Four Hundred Martyrs in Dandara. St. Menas the Deacon.

May 11 / Ⲡⲁϣⲁⲛⲥ 16 see December 30 (31) / Ⲧⲱⲃⲓ 4, page 143.

Annual tune. St. John the Evangelist.

May 12 / Ⲡⲁϣⲁⲛⲥ 17 see November 24 (25) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 28, page 100.

Annual tune. St. Epiphanius the bishop of Cyprus.

May 13 / Ⲡⲁϣⲁⲛⲥ 18 see October 24 (25) / Ⲡⲁⲱⲡⲉ 27, page 60.

Annual tune. St. George, the friend of St. Abraam. The Commemoraiton of Pentecost.

May 14 / Ⲡⲁϣⲁⲛⲥ 19 see January 17 (18) / Ⲧⲱⲃⲓ 22, page 172.

Annual tune. Abba Isaac, the presbyter of the Cells. St. Isidore of Antioch, the martyr.

### May 15 / Ⲡⲁϣⲁⲛⲥ 20

Annual Tune

Abba Ammonius the Anchorite

#### The Pauline Epistle

##### 1 Corinthians 3:4-23

A chapter from the First Epistle of our teacher Paul to the Corinthians. His blessing be upon us. Amen.

When one says, “I follow Paul,” and another, “I follow Apollos,” are you not carnal? Who then is Apollos, and who is Paul, if not servants through whom you believed; and each as the Lord gave to him? I planted, Apollos watered, but [it is] God [who] made it grow! And so, neither the one planting nor the one watering is anything: only God makes it grow. Now the one planting and the one watering are the same, but each will receive a personal reward according to his own labor. Indeed, we are God’s coworkers! You are God’s field, God’s building. According to the grace of God which was given to me, as a wise master builder, I laid a foundation, and another builds on it. But let everyone be careful how he builds on it! As it is, no one can lay any other foundation than the one that has [already] been laid, which is Jesus Christ. But as one builds on that foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, or stubble; each person’s work will be revealed. Certainly, the Day will make it manifest, because it is revealed in fire; and the fire will test everyone’s work. If what someone has built on the foundation remains, then a reward shall be received. [On the other hand], if someone’s work is burned, it will be lost, but that person shall be saved, as through fire.

Do you not know that your bodies are a sanctuary of God, and that God’s Spirit lives in you? If anyone destroys God’s sanctuary, God will destroy him because God’s sanctuary is holy, and this is what you are! Let no one deceive himself: if anyone thinks that he is wise among you in this world, let him become a fool, so that he may become wise. For the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God. As it is written, “He has taken the wise in their craftiness.” And also, “The Lord knows the reasoning of the wise, that it is worthless.” Therefore, let no one boast in human beings! All things are yours, whether Paul, or Apollos, or Kephas, or the world, or life, or death, or things present, or things to come. All belong to you, and you belong to Christ, and Christ belongs to God.

The grace of God the Father be with you all. Amen.

#### The Catholic Epistle

##### 1 Peter 5:5-14

The Catholic Epistle from the First Epistle of our teacher Peter. His Blessing be upon us. Amen.

Likewise, you younger ones, be subject to those who are older. Yes, all of you should clothe yourselves with humility and subject yourselves to one another, for “God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble.” Humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. Cast all your worries on him, because he cares for you.

Be sober, self-controlled and watchful. Your adversary, the devil, roams around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. Resist him, steadfast in your faith, knowing that your brethren throughout the world experience the same sufferings. But after you have suffered a little while, may the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, make you perfect, restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast. To him be the glory and the power unto ages of ages. Amen.

Through Silvanus, our faithful brother as I consider him, I have written to you briefly, exhorting, and testifying that this is the true grace of God in which you stand.

She who is in Babylon, chosen together with you, greets you; and so does Mark, my son. Greet one another with a kiss of love! Peace be to you all who are in Christ Jesus! Amen.

Do not love the world, nor the things which are in the world. The world shall pass away and all its desires; but he who does the will of God shall abide forever. Amen.

#### The Praxis

##### Acts 18:24-19:6

A chapter from the Acts of our fathers the pure Apostles, who were invested with the grace of the Holy Spirit. Their blessing be with us all. Amen.

Now, a certain Jew named Apollos who was an Alexandrian by race and an eloquent man arrived in Ephesus, and he was powerful with the Scriptures. He had been instructed in the way of the Lord, and being fervent in spirit, he spoke and taught accurately about Jesus, although he had only experienced the baptism of John. Apollos began to speak boldly in the synagogue, but when Priscilla and Aquila heard him, they took him aside and explained to him the way of God more accurately.

When Apollos had determined to cross over into Achaia, the brethren encouraged him and wrote to the disciples to receive him. When he arrived there, he greatly helped those who had believed through grace, for he powerfully refuted the Jews, publicly showing by the Scriptures that Jesus was the Christ.

It happened that, while Apollos was in Corinth, Paul had passed through the upper country and arrived in Ephesus. There, he found some disciples and asked them, “Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?”

They replied, “No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit!”

Paul asked, “Then, into what were you baptized?”

They answered, “Into John’s baptism.”

Paul said, “John indeed baptized with the baptism of repentance, saying to the people that they should believe in the one who would come after him, that is, in Jesus.”

After hearing this, they were baptized in the Name of the Lord Jesus. When Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they spoke in other tongues and prophesied.

The word of the Lord abides in this church and in every church. Amen.

### May 16 / Ⲡⲁϣⲁⲛⲥ 21 through May 18 / Ⲡⲁϣⲁⲛⲥ 23

May 16 / Ⲡⲁϣⲁⲛⲥ 21 see July 27 / Ⲙⲉⲥⲟⲣⲏ 3, page 290.

Annual tune. Monthly commemoration of the Theotokos. St. Marcian.

May 17 / Ⲡⲁϣⲁⲛⲥ 22 see December 27 (28) / Ⲧⲱⲃⲓ 1, page 138.

Annual tune. St. Andronicus the Disciple

May 18 / Ⲡⲁϣⲁⲛⲥ 23 see April 25 / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙⲟⲩⲧⲉ 30, page 216.

Annual tune. St. Junia the Disciople. St. Julian and his mother, the martyrs.

### May 19 / Ⲡⲁϣⲁⲛⲥ 24

Joyful Tune

The Feast of the Entry of the Lord into the Land of Egypt

Habakkuk the Prophet

St. Bashnouna El-Makari the monk and martyr

#### The Pauline Epistle

##### Ephesians 2:1-22

A chapter from the Epistle of our teacher Paul to the Ephesians. His blessing be upon us. Amen.

You were dead in transgressions and sins, and this was your lifestyle according to the age of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the children of disobedience. We used to live among them and we used to live in self-indulgence, doing the desires of the [fallen] flesh and mind, and we were by nature children of wrath, just as the others. But God who is rich in mercy, on account of his great love by which he loved us, even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved! God raised us up with him, and granted us to sit with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the ages to come, he might show the overflowing treasure of his grace in kindness toward us, in Christ Jesus. Yes, by grace you have been saved through faith, not by yourselves. It is the gift of God, not of works, so that no one would boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared in advance for us to walk in them.

Therefore, remember that you, the Gentiles in the flesh who are called “uncircumcision” by what is called “circumcision” (in the flesh, made by hands); remember, I say, that you used to be separated from Christ. You were alienated from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers from the covenants of the promise, having no hope and without God in the world. But now, in Christ Jesus, you who once were far off have been brought near in the blood of Christ. He is our peace, he who made both [groups to be] one and tore down the wall of separation. He abolished in his flesh the enmity which is the law of commandments with its decrees, so that he might create in himself one new humanity instead of two, making peace. He reconciled both [groups] to God in one body, through the cross, by which he destroyed that enmity. He came and preached peace to you who were far off and also to those who were near. Through him, we both have access to the Father in one Spirit. And so, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but you are fellow-citizens with the saints, and member’s of God’s household, being built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets. Christ Jesus himself is the chief cornerstone; in whom the whole building, fitted together, grows into a holy sanctuary in the Lord. In Christ, you too are built up into a dwelling-place of God in the Spirit.

The grace of God the Father be with you all. Amen.

#### The Catholic Epistle

##### 1 John 4:7-19

The Catholic Epistle from the First Epistle of our teacher John. His Blessing be upon us. Amen.

Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God. Everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. This is how God’s love was revealed in us: that God sent his only-begotten Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, if God loved us in this way, we also should love one another. No one has seen God at any time, but if we love one another, God remains in us, and his love has come true in us.

By this, we know that we remain in him and he in us, because he has given us [as share] of his Spirit. We have seen and testify that the Father has sent the Son, the Savior of the world. God remains in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they remain in God. We know and we believed in the love which God has for us: God is love, and whoever remains in love remains in God, and God remains in him. In this, love has been made perfect among us, so that we may have boldness in the day of judgment, because in this world, we are just as he is. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear, because fear is connected with punishment. But the one who fears is not yet perfect in love. We love him, because he first loved us.

Do not love the world, nor the things which are in the world. The world shall pass away and all its desires; but he who does the will of God shall abide forever. Amen.

#### The Praxis

##### Acts 7:20-34

A chapter from the Acts of our fathers the pure Apostles, who were invested with the grace of the Holy Spirit. Their blessing be with us all. Amen.

At that time, Moses was born, and he was pleasing to God. For three months, he was nourished in his father’s house; and when he was thrown out, Pharaoh’s daughter took him and raised him as her own son. Moses was instructed in all the wisdom of the Egyptians, and he was powerful in his words and actions. But when he was forty years old, it came into his heart to visit his brethren, the children of Israel. Seeing one of them treated unjustly, he defended and avenged him who was oppressed, striking the Egyptian. He supposed that his brethren would understand that God, by his hand, was giving them deliverance; but they did not understand.

The following day, Moses appeared to them as they are quarreling and urged them to be at peace again, saying: ‘Men, you are brothers! Why do you wrong each other?’ But the man who was mistreating the other pushed Moses away, saying: ‘Who made you a ruler and a judge over us? Do you want to kill me, as you killed the Egyptian yesterday?’ When he heard this, Moses fled and became a stranger in the land of Midian, where he became the father of two sons.

When forty years were fulfilled, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in the wilderness of Mount Sinai, in a flame of fire in a bush. When Moses saw it, he wondered at the sight. As he came close to see, a voice of the Lord came to him, [saying], ‘I am the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.’ Moses trembled and dared not look. The Lord said to him, ‘Take your sandals off of your feet, for the place where you stand is holy ground. I have indeed seen the affliction of my people in Egypt and heard their groaning. I have come down to deliver them. Now come, I will send you into Egypt.’

The word of the Lord abides in this church and in every church. Amen.

### May 20 / Ⲡⲁϣⲁⲛⲥ 25

See November 21 (22) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 25, page 95.

Annual tune. St. Colluthus of Antione the martyr. Ibrahim El-Gohari.

### May 21 / Ⲡⲁϣⲁⲛⲥ 26

Annual Tune

St. Thomas the Apostle

#### The Pauline Epistle

##### Romans 10:4-18

A chapter from the Epistle of our teacher Paul to the Romans. His blessing be upon us. Amen.

For Christ is the fulfillment of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes. Moses writes about the righteousness of the law, “The one who does them will live by them.” But the righteousness which is of faith speaks this way, “Do not say in your heart, ‘Who will ascend into heaven?’ (that is, to bring Christ down); or, ‘Who will descend into the abyss?’ (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead.)” But what does it say? “The word is near you, in your mouth, and in your heart;” that is, the word of faith, which we preach. If you will confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. With the heart, one believes, resulting in righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made, resulting in salvation. As the Scripture says, “Whoever believes in him will not be disappointed.”

Indeed, there is no distinction between Jew and Greek because the same Lord is Lord of all, and he is bountiful to all who call on him. For, “Whoever will call on the Name of the Lord will be saved.” But how will they call on him in whom they have not believed? How will they believe in him whom they have not heard? How will they hear without a preacher? And how will they preach unless they are sent? As it is written:

*How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the Good News of peace, Who bring glad tidings of good things!*

But they did not all listen to the Good News. For Isaias says, “Lord, who has believed our report?” And so, faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God. But I say, did they not hear? Yes, most certainly:

*Their sound went out into all the earth,*

*Their words to the ends of the world.*

The grace of God the Father be with you all. Amen.

#### The Catholic Epistle

##### 2 Peter 1:12-21

The Catholic Epistle from the Second Epistle of our teacher Peter. His Blessing be upon us. Amen.

Therefore, I will not be negligent to remind you of these things although you [already] know them and are established in the truth which you now have. I think it right, as long as I am in this tent, to stir you up by reminding you [these things]. I know that I shall lay aside my tent very quickly, even as our Lord Jesus Christ made clear to me. And so, I will make every effort [to ensure] that you will always be able to remember these things, even after my departure. For we did not depend on cleverly invented fables when we told you about the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ; we were eyewitnesses of his majesty! For he received from God the Father honor and glory when the voice came to him from the Majestic Glory, “This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.” We heard this voice come out of heaven when we were with him on the holy mountain.

Therefore, we have the word of prophecy made even more certain, and you should pay attention to it as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star arises in your hearts. Know this first of all, that no interpretation of Scriptural prophecy happens as something private, because no prophecy ever came by human will: holy men of God spoke, being moved by the Holy Spirit.

Do not love the world, nor the things which are in the world. The world shall pass away and all its desires; but he who does the will of God shall abide forever. Amen.

#### The Praxis

##### Acts 3:1-16

A chapter from the Acts of our fathers the pure Apostles, who were invested with the grace of the Holy Spirit. Their blessing be with us all. Amen.

Peter and John would go up into the temple at the hour of prayer, the ninth hour. A certain man who was lame from his mother’s womb was being carried. Every day, he was laid at the gate of the temple (the one which is called ‘Beautiful’) to ask alms from those entering the temple. Seeing Peter and John about to go into the temple, he asked to receive alms. Then Peter, along with John, fixed his gaze on him and said, “Look at us!” The man gave them attention, expecting to receive something from them. But Peter said, “I have neither silver nor gold, but what I do have, I give to you. In the Name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, get up and walk!” Peter took the man by the right hand and raised him up. At once, his feet and ankles received strength. Leaping up, the man stood up and began to walk! He entered with them into the temple, walking, leaping, and praising God! When all the people saw him walking and praising God, they recognized that it was the man who used to sit at the Beautiful Gate of the temple, begging for alms; and they were filled with wonder and amazement at what had happened to him. As the lame man who had been healed held on to Peter and John, all the people were greatly astonished and ran together to them in the porch that is called Solomon’s [Porch].

When Peter saw this, he answered to the people, “Men of Israel, why do you marvel at this man? Why do you gaze at us, as though by our own power or godliness we had made him walk? The God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, the God of our fathers, has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you delivered up and denied in the presence of Pilate, when he had determined to release him. But you denied the Holy and Righteous One and asked for a murderer to be granted to you. Then you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. By faith in his Name, this man whom you see and know was made strong. Yes, the faith which comes through Jesus has given him this perfect soundness as you all can see.

The word of the Lord abides in this church and in every church. Amen.

### May 22 / Ⲡⲁϣⲁⲛⲥ 27 through May 26 / Ⲡⲁⲱⲛⲉ 1

May 22 / Ⲡⲁϣⲁⲛⲥ 27 see November 24 (25) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 28, page 100.

Annual tune. St. John II, the 13th Patriarch of Alexandira. St. Lazarus, the Beloved of the Lord.

May 23 / Ⲡⲁϣⲁⲛⲥ 28 see November 13 (14) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 17, page 86.

Annual tune. The relocation of the relics of St. Epiphanius.

May 24 / Ⲡⲁϣⲁⲛⲥ 29 see July 27 / Ⲙⲉⲥⲟⲣⲏ 3, page 290.

Annual tune. St. Simon the Stylite.

May 25 / Ⲡⲁϣⲁⲛⲥ 30 see June 27 / Ⲉⲡⲏⲡ 3, page 264.

Annual tune. St. Michael I, the 68th Patriarch of Alexandria. St. Phorus the Disciple.

May 26 / Ⲡⲁⲱⲛⲉ 1 see December 27 (28) / Ⲧⲱⲃⲓ 1, page 138.

Annual tune. St. Carpus the Disciple. Consecration of the Church of Sst. Leontius of Tripoli. St. Cosman and his companions, the martyrs. St. Epipam the soldier. St. Zikam the martyr.

### May 27 / Ⲡⲁⲱⲛⲉ 2

Annual Tune

Discovery of the Relics of St. John the Baptist

St. John VIII, the 107th Patriarch of Alexandria

#### The Pauline Epistle

##### Hebrews 11:1-10

A chapter from the Epistle of our teacher Paul to the Hebrews. His blessing be upon us. Amen.

Now, faith is the personal foundation of things hoped for, certainty about things that cannot be seen. By this, those of old obtained approval. By faith, we understand that the universe was formed by the word of God, so that what is visible was made from what is invisible.

By faith, Abel offered to God a sacrifice more excellent than Cain, and through this a testimony was given to him that he was righteous. God testified about his gifts, and although Abel is now dead, he still speaks. By faith, Enoch was taken away in order not to see death: he was not found because God had translated him. He too had received a testimony that before his translation, he had been well-pleasing to God.

Without faith it is impossible to please God, for whoever comes to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him.

By faith, Noah, being warned about things not yet seen was moved with godly fear. He prepared a ship to save his household and by this means he condemned the world and became heir of the righteousness which is according to faith. By faith, Abraham, when he was called, obeyed and left the place which he was supposed to receive as his inheritance. He left, not knowing where he was going. By faith, he lived as an alien in the land of the promise, as in a land that was not his own, dwelling in tents with Isaac and Jacob who were heirs with him of the same promise. For Abraham looked for the city which has foundations, and whose architect and builder is God.

The grace of God the Father be with you all. Amen.

#### The Catholic Epistle

##### 1 Peter 1:25b-2:10

The Catholic Epistle from the First Epistle of our teacher Peter. His Blessing be upon us. Amen.

This is the word of Good News which was preached to you.

Therefore, putting away all wickedness, deceit, hypocrisy, envies, and all evil speaking, as newborn babies, long for the pure milk of the Word, so that you may grow from it. If indeed you have tasted that the Lord is gracious, come to him who is a living stone, rejected by men but chosen by God and precious. You also, as living stones, are being built up as a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, in order to offer up spiritual sacrifices that are acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. As the Scripture has it:

*Behold, I lay in Zion a chief cornerstone, chosen, and precious:*

*Whoever believes in him will not be disappointed.*

For you who believe, this brings honor, but for those who are disobedient:

*The stone which the builders rejected,*

*has become the chief cornerstone,*

and:

*a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense.*

For they stumble at the word and they are disobedient, which is what they were laid aside for. But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for God’s own possession, so that you may proclaim the wonderful deeds of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. In the past, you were not a people, but now, you are God’s people. In the past, you had not obtained mercy, but now, you have obtained mercy.

Do not love the world, nor the things which are in the world. The world shall pass away and all its desires; but he who does the will of God shall abide forever. Amen.

#### The Praxis

##### Acts 13:25-33

A chapter from the Acts of our fathers the pure Apostles, who were invested with the grace of the Holy Spirit. Their blessing be with us all. Amen.

As John was completing his work, he said, ‘Who do you suppose that I am? I am not he! But behold, one comes after me whose sandals I am unworthy to untie.’ Brethren, children of the line of Abraham, and those among you [Gentiles] who fear God, this message of salvation has been sent to you! Indeed, those who dwell in Jerusalem and their rulers did not recognize him or the voices of the prophets which are read every Sabbath. But by condemning him, they fulfilled the prophets! Although they could find no cause for his execution, they still asked Pilate to have Jesus killed. After fulfilling all the things that were written about him, they took him down from the tree, and laid him in a tomb. But God raised him from the dead, and he was seen for many days by those who came up with him from Galilee to Jerusalem. They are his witnesses to the people. And now, we bring you the Good News that the promise made to the fathers as come about: God has fulfilled it for us, their children, by raising up Jesus. As it is also written in the second psalm:

*‘You are my Son.*

*Today I have become your father.’*

The word of the Lord abides in this church and in every church. Amen.

### May 28 / Ⲡⲁⲱⲛⲉ 3 through May 31 / Ⲡⲁⲱⲛⲉ 6

May 28 / Ⲡⲁⲱⲛⲉ 3 see November 24 (25) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 28, page 100.

Annual tune. **St. Alladius the bishop and martyr.** Anba Abraam the bishop pof Fayum. St. Cosmas, the 44th Patriarch of Alexandria. Consecration of the Church of St. George in the city of Burma. St. Martha the Egyptian.

May 29 / Ⲡⲁⲱⲛⲉ 4 see November 11 (12) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 15, page 84.

Annual tune. **St. Shenousi the martyr**. Sts. Abamoun and Sophia the martyrs. St. John of Heraclia the martyr. St. Apahor the martyr. St. John VIII, the 8th Patriarch of Alexandria.

May 30 / Ⲡⲁⲱⲛⲉ 5 see January 17 (18) / Ⲧⲱⲃⲓ 22, page 172.

Annual tune. **St. James the Confessor**. Sts. Pishoy and Peter ,the martyrs. Consecraiton of the Church of St. Victor.

May 31 / Ⲡⲁⲱⲛⲉ 6 see July 14 / Ⲉⲡⲏⲡ 20, page 287.

Annual tune. St. Theodore the monk and martyr. St. Dydimus the Dean of the Catechetical School of Alexandria.

## June or Ⲡⲁⲱⲛⲉ

### June 1 / Ⲡⲁⲱⲛⲉ 7 through June 9 / Ⲡⲁⲱⲛⲉ 15

June 1 / Ⲡⲁⲱⲛⲉ 7 see April 18 / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙⲟⲩⲧⲉ 23, page 210.

Annual tune. St. Episkhairon the martyr.

June 2 / Ⲡⲁⲱⲛⲉ 8 see May 19 / Ⲡⲁϣⲁⲛⲥ 24, page 236.

Annual tune. **Dedication of the Church of the All-Holy and Blessed Virgin.** Sts. Amanda nad her children, the martyrs. St. George the new martyr.

June 3 / Ⲡⲁⲱⲛⲉ 9 see September 5 (6) / Ⲑⲟⲟⲩⲧ 8, page 22.

Annual Tune. **Samuel the Prophet.** St. Lucilianus the martyr. Translocaiton of the relics of St. Mercurius to Egypt.

June 4 / Ⲡⲁⲱⲛⲉ 10 see November 18 (19) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 22, page 90.

Annual Tune. **St. Eudaemon** the martyr. The closure of all Pagan temples by Constantine. St. John XVI, the 103rd Patriarch of Alexandria. The Ordination of St. Demetrius II as the 111st Patriarch of Alexandria.

June 5 / Ⲡⲁⲱⲛⲉ 11 see April 22 / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙⲟⲩⲧⲉ 27, page 213.

Annual tune. **St. Cladius** Stratelates the martyr. Concration of the Church of the Forty Martyrs in Alexandria.

June 6 / Ⲡⲁⲱⲛⲉ 12 see November 8 (9) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 12, page 80.

Annual tune. Monthly commemoration of **Archangel Michael**. St. Justis, the 7th Patriarch of Alexandria. St. Cyril II, the 67th Patriarhc of Alexanria. St. Euphemia.

June 7 / Ⲡⲁⲱⲛⲉ 13 see August 26 / Ⲕⲟⲩϫⲓ ⲛ̀ⲁ̀ⲃⲟⲧ 3, page 333.

Annual Tune. Commemoration of **Archangel Gabriel**. St John, the bishop of Jerusalem.

June 8 / Ⲡⲁⲱⲛⲉ 14 see November 24 (25) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 28, page 100.

Annual tune. St John XIX, the 113th Patriarch of Alexanria. Sts. Apakir, John, Ptolemy and Philip the martyrs.

June 9 / Ⲡⲁⲱⲛⲉ 15 see November 11 (12) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 15, page 84.

Annual tune. Translocaitn of the relics of St. Mark the Evangelist during the tenth year of St. Cyril VI. Consecraiton of the Church of Abba Menas at Maryut.

### June 10 / Ⲡⲁⲱⲛⲉ 16

Annual Tune

St. Onuphrius (Abba Nofer)

#### The Pauline Epistle

##### Hebrews 11:32-12:2

A chapter from the Epistle of our teacher Paul to Hebrews. His blessing be upon us. Amen.

What more shall I say? Time would fail me if I mentioned Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, David, Samuel, and the prophets. Through faith, they overpowered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched the power of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, became strong in weakness, grew mighty in war and caused foreign armies to flee. Women received their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured, not accepting their deliverance, that they might obtain a better resurrection. Others were tried by mocking and scourging, yes, by bonds and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn apart, they were tempted and they were slain with the sword. They went around in sheep and goat skins, being destitute, afflicted and ill-treated. And yet the world was not worthy of them! They wandered in deserts, mountains, caves, and the holes of the earth. All of them received a testimony through their faith but they did not receive the promise, for God had made provision for us to have something better, and they were not to reach perfection apart from us.

And so, seeing that we are surrounded by such a great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight and the sin which so easily entangles us. Let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith. For the joy that was set before him, he endured the cross, despising its shame, and he has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

The grace of God the Father be with you all. Amen.

#### The Catholic Epistle

##### James 5:9-20

The Catholic Epistle from the Epistle of our teacher James. His Blessing be upon us. Amen.

Brethren, do not grumble against one another, so that you will not be judged. Behold, the judge stands at the door! Brethren, consider as an example of suffering and patience the prophets who spoke in the Name of the Lord. Behold, we call them blessed who endured. You have heard of the patience of Job and you have seen the Lord in the outcome, how the Lord is full of compassion and mercy.

But above all things, my brethren, do not swear, neither by heaven or earth, nor by any other oath. Instead, let your “yes” be “yes,” and your “no,” “no;” so that you may not fall into hypocrisy.

Are any among you suffering? Let them pray. Are any cheerful? Let them sing praises. Are any among you sick? Let them call for the presbyters of the Church: they should pray over them and anoint them with oil in the Name of the Lord. The prayer of faith will heal those who are sick and the Lord will raise them up. If they have committed sins, they will be forgiven. Confess your offenses to one another and pray for one another in order to be healed. The insistent prayer of a righteous person is powerfully effective! Elias was a man with a nature like ours, and when he prayed earnestly that it might not rain, it did not rain on the earth for three years and six months! When he prayed later on, the sky gave rain and the earth brought forth its fruit.

Brethren, if someone among you wander from the truth and is brought back by another, know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save a soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

Do not love the world, nor the things which are in the world. The world shall pass away and all its desires; but he who does the will of God shall abide forever. Amen.

#### The Praxis

##### Acts 18:24-19:6

A chapter from the Acts of our fathers the pure Apostles, who were invested with the grace of the Holy Spirit. Their blessing be with us all. Amen.

Now, a certain Jew named Apollos who was an Alexandrian by race and an eloquent man arrived in Ephesus, and he was powerful with the Scriptures. He had been instructed in the way of the Lord, and being fervent in spirit, he spoke and taught accurately about Jesus, although he had only experienced the baptism of John. Apollos began to speak boldly in the synagogue, but when Priscilla and Aquila heard him, they took him aside and explained to him the way of God more accurately.

When Apollos had determined to cross over into Achaia, the brethren encouraged him and wrote to the disciples to receive him. When he arrived there, he greatly helped those who had believed through grace, for he powerfully refuted the Jews, publicly showing by the Scriptures that Jesus was the Christ.

It happened that, while Apollos was in Corinth, Paul had passed through the upper country and arrived in Ephesus. There, he found some disciples and asked them, “Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?”

They replied, “No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit!”

Paul asked, “Then, into what were you baptized?”

They answered, “Into John’s baptism.”

Paul said, “John indeed baptized with the baptism of repentance, saying to the people that they should believe in the one who would come after him, that is, in Jesus.”

After hearing this, they were baptized in the Name of the Lord Jesus. When Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they spoke in other tongues and prophesied.

The word of the Lord abides in this church and in every church. Amen.

### June 11 / Ⲡⲁⲱⲛⲉ 17 through June 23 / Ⲡⲁⲱⲛⲉ 29

June 11 / Ⲡⲁⲱⲛⲉ 17 After A.D. 1968 see January 17 (18) / Ⲧⲱⲃⲓ 22, page 172.

Annual tune. Return of the relics of **St. Mark the Evangelist** in A.D. 1968. St. Latsoun the monk.

June 12 / Ⲡⲁⲱⲛⲉ 18 see November 25 (26) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 29, page 103.

Annual tune. **St. Damian**, the 35th Patriarch of Alexanria. Inauguration of the New Cathedral fo St. Mark in the Monastery of Anba Reweiss.

June 13 / Ⲡⲁⲱⲛⲉ 19 see April 18 / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙⲟⲩⲧⲉ 23, page 210.

Annual tune. Placement of the relics of St. Mark in the Cathedral of Alexandria in 1968. St. Archelaus the 18th Patriach of Alexandria. **St. Geroge** the New Martyr. St. Bishai Anoub.

June 14 / Ⲡⲁⲱⲛⲉ 20 see September 5 (6) / Ⲑⲟⲟⲩⲧ 8, page 22.

Annual tune. Elisha the prophet.

June 15 / Ⲡⲁⲱⲛⲉ 21 see April 26 / Ⲡⲁϣⲁⲛⲥ 1, page 219.

Annual tune. Dedication of the first Church for the All-holy and Blessed Virgin in Phillipi. St. Timothy of Memphis the martyr. St. Cedron, the 4th Patriarch of Alexandria.

June 16 / Ⲡⲁⲱⲛⲉ 22 see November 18 (19) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 22, page 90.

Annual tune. Concecraiton of the Church of Sts. Cosmas and Damina, their mother and their brothers.

June 17 / Ⲡⲁⲱⲛⲉ 23 see January 17 (18) / Ⲧⲱⲃⲓ 22, page 172.

Annual tune. St. Apanoub the Confessor.

June 18 / Ⲡⲁⲱⲛⲉ 24 see July 27 / Ⲙⲉⲥⲟⲣⲏ 3, page 290.

Annual tune. The Strong St. Moses.

June 19 / Ⲡⲁⲱⲛⲉ 25 see December 27 (28) / Ⲧⲱⲃⲓ 1, page 138.

Annual tune. St. Jude the Apostle and martyr. St. Peter IV, the 34th Patriarch of Alexandria.

June 20 / Ⲡⲁⲱⲛⲉ 26 see see September 5 (6) / Ⲑⲟⲟⲩⲧ 8, page 22. (Kitchener previously had Tobi 1)

Annual tune. Joshua the Prophet. Consecration of the Church of Archangel Gabriel in Fayoum.

June 21 / Ⲡⲁⲱⲛⲉ 27 see April 25 / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙⲟⲩⲧⲉ 30, page 216.

Annual tune. **St. Ananias** the Disciple and martyr. St. Thomas of Shentalet.

June 22 / Ⲡⲁⲱⲛⲉ 28 see June 27 / Ⲉⲡⲏⲡ 3, page 264.

Annual tune. St. Theodosius, the 33rd Patriarch of Alexandria. Consecraiton of the Church of Abba Sarapamon the martyr, the bishop of Nikios.

June 23 / Ⲡⲁⲱⲛⲉ 29 see May 15 / Ⲡⲁϣⲁⲛⲥ 20, page 233.

Joyful tune. Commemoration of the Annunciation, Nativity and Resurrection. Commemoraiton of the Seven Ascetic Martyrs of Mount Tounar. Sts. Abba Hor, Pishai, and their mother, Theodora, the martys.

### June 24 / Ⲡⲁⲱⲛⲉ 30

Annual Tune

Nativiyt of St. John the Baptist

#### The Pauline Epistle

##### Hebrews 11:32-12:2

A chapter from the Epistle of our teacher Paul to the Hebrews. His blessing be upon us. Amen.

What more shall I say? Time would fail me if I mentioned Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, David, Samuel, and the prophets. Through faith, they overpowered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched the power of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, became strong in weakness, grew mighty in war and caused foreign armies to flee. Women received their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured, not accepting their deliverance, that they might obtain a better resurrection. Others were tried by mocking and scourging, yes, by bonds and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn apart, they were tempted and they were slain with the sword. They went around in sheep and goat skins, being destitute, afflicted and ill-treated. And yet the world was not worthy of them! They wandered in deserts, mountains, caves, and the holes of the earth. All of them received a testimony through their faith but they did not receive the promise, for God had made provision for us to have something better, and they were not to reach perfection apart from us.

And so, seeing that we are surrounded by such a great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight and the sin which so easily entangles us. Let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith. For the joy that was set before him, he endured the cross, despising its shame, and he has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

The grace of God the Father be with you all. Amen.

#### The Catholic Epistle

##### 1 Peter 2:11-17

The Catholic Epistle from the First Epistle of our teacher Peter. His Blessing be upon us. Amen.

Beloved, I beg you as exiles and pilgrims [in this world] to abstain from carnal lusts which war against the soul. Live righteous lives among the nations so that if they accuse you of being evildoers, they may, by your good works which they see, glorify God in the day of visitation. Therefore, for the Lord’s sake, submit yourselves to every human institution: to the emperor as supreme [law-giver], or to governors as commissions by him to punish those who do evil and to praise to those who do good. For this is the will of God: that by going good you should silence the ignorance of foolish men. Be free, but do not use your freedom for a cloak of wickedness, but as slaves of God.

Honor everyone. Love the [family of] brethren. Fear God. Honor the king.

Do not love the world, nor the things which are in the world. The world shall pass away and all its desires; but he who does the will of God shall abide forever. Amen.

#### The Praxis

##### Acts 7:8-22

A chapter from the Acts of our fathers the pure Apostles, who were invested with the grace of the Holy Spirit. Their blessing be with us all. Amen.

God also gave Abraham the covenant of circumcision. Then Abraham became the father of Isaac and circumcised him on the eighth day. Isaac became the father of Jacob, and Jacob became the father of the Twelve patriarchs.

Filled with jealousy against Joseph, the patriarchs sold him into Egypt, but God was with him. He delivered him out of all his afflictions and gave him favor and wisdom before Pharaoh, the king of Egypt. Pharaoh appointed him governor over Egypt and his entire house. Now, a famine came over all the land of Egypt and Canaan, along with great suffering, and our fathers could not find any food. But when Jacob heard that there was grain in Egypt, he sent out our fathers on a first visit. On their second visit, Joseph was revealed to his brothers and Pharaoh learned about Joseph’s family. Joseph sent [a message] and called his father Jacob as well as all his relatives (seventy-five souls). So Jacob went down into Egypt where he died, along with our fathers. Later, they were brought back to Shechem and laid in the tomb that Abraham had purchased for a price in silver from the children of Hamor of Shechem.

As the time of the promise which God had sworn to Abraham came close, the people were growing and multiplying in Egypt. Then, a different king, one who did not know Joseph, came to power there. This king took advantage of our race and mistreated our fathers, forcing them to throw out their babies, so that they would not stay alive. At that time, Moses was born, and he was pleasing to God. For three months, he was nourished in his father’s house; and when he was thrown out, Pharaoh’s daughter took him and raised him as her own son. Moses was instructed in all the wisdom of the Egyptians, and he was powerful in his words and actions.

The word of the Lord abides in this church and in every church. Amen.

### June 25 / Ⲉⲡⲏⲡ 1 through June 26 / Ⲉⲡⲏⲡ 2

June 25 / Ⲉⲡⲏⲡ 1 see January 25 (26) / Ⲧⲱⲃⲓ 30, page 177.

Annual tune. St. Febronia the martyr. Sts. Bioukha and Benjamin, the presbyters.

June 26 / Ⲉⲡⲏⲡ 2 see April 25 / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙⲟⲩⲧⲉ 30, page 216.

Annual tune. St. Thaddeaus the Apostle.

### June 27 / Ⲉⲡⲏⲡ 3

Annual Tune

**Abba Cyril the Great**

St. Celestine the Patriarch of rome

#### The Pauline Epistle

##### 2 Corinthians 4:5-5:11

A chapter from the Second Epistle of our teacher Paul to the Corinthians. His blessing be upon us. Amen.

For we do not preach [about] ourselves, but [about] Christ Jesus as Lord, and [we present] ourselves as your servants for the sake of Jesus, seeing that it is God who said, “Light will shine out of darkness,” and he has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

However, we have this treasure in clay vessels, so that the amazing power may be from God, and not from ourselves. We are pressed on every side, yet [we are] not crushed! We are perplexed, but not to [the point of] despair. We are persecuted yet not forsaken; struck down, yet not destroyed; and we always carry in our bodies the death of the Lord Jesus, so that the life ofJesus may also be revealed in our body. Indeed, we who live are always delivered to death for Jesus’ sake, that the life of Jesus may be revealed in our mortal flesh. And so, death is at work in us, but life in you. But we have the same spirit of faith, according to what is written, “I believed, and therefore I spoke.” We believe, and therefore we also speak; knowing that he who raised the Lord Jesus will also raise us with Jesus, and bring us with you into his presence. All these things are for your benefit, so that as grace is extended to many, this may also cause thanksgiving to be multiplied to the glory of God. Therefore, we do not lose heart, but even if outwardly we are decaying, yet our inner self is being renewed day by day. Indeed, or our light affliction (which is temporary) is producing for us an ever-increasing standing in eternal glory! This is because we do not look at visible things but at invisible things, and the things which are seen are temporal, but the things which are not seen are eternal.

We know that if our earthly tent is dissolved, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. It is certain that we groan in this [tent], longing to be clothed with our heavenly dwelling; so that being clothed we will not be found naked. We who are in this tent are truly groaning as we are burdened; but it is not that we desire to be unclothed; rather, we desire to be clothed, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life. Now, the one who has prepared us for this very thing is God, who also gave us the pledge of the Spirit.

Therefore, we are always confident and know that while we are at home in the body, we are absent from the Lord; for we walk by faith, not by sight. I dare say that we are courageous and that we would rather be absent from the body and at home with the Lord. And so, we make this our aim: that whether at home or absent, we would be well-pleasing to him. For we must all be revealed before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive according to what was done in the body; good or evil.

But since we know the fear of the Lord, let us try to persuade others. What we are is revealed to God, and I hope that we are also revealed to your consciences.

The grace of God the Father be with you all. Amen.

#### The Catholic Epistle

##### 1 Peter 2:18-3:7

The Catholic Epistle from the First Epistle of our teacher Peter. His Blessing be upon us. Amen.

Servants, be in subjection to your masters with full reverence, not only to the good and kind but also to the wicked. For it is worthy of praise if someone endures pain and suffers unjustly because of conscience toward God. But what glory is there if when you sin, you patiently endure a beating? But if you patiently endure suffering when you do good, this is worthy of praise with God. You were called to this, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example so that you should follow in his steps. Yet he did not sin, “neither was deceit found in his mouth” and when he was cursed, he did not curse back. When he suffered, he did not threaten but committed himself to the one who judges righteously. In his body, he bore in himself our sins on the tree, so that having died to sins, we might live to righteousness; and ‘by his stripes you were healed’. Indeed, you were going astray like sheep, but now, you have returned to the shepherd and overseer of your souls.

In the same way, wives, be in subjection to your own husbands. This way, even if they do not obey the word, they may be won by the behavior of their wives without a word, seeing your pure and reverent attitude. Your beauty should not only consist in external ornaments and hairstyles, golden jewelry or fine clothing. Instead, let it be in the hidden person of the heart, in the incorruptible adornment of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is very precious in the sight of God. This is how the holy women of the past hoped in God and also adorned themselves. They were submissive to their own husbands, as Sarah obeyed Abraham, calling him “lord”. You are now her children if you do what is good and do not give way to fear.

In the same way, you husbands should live with your wives according to knowledge, giving them honor as to the weaker vessel and also as joint- heirs of the grace of life. Thus your prayers will not be hindered.

Do not love the world, nor the things which are in the world. The world shall pass away and all its desires; but he who does the will of God shall abide forever. Amen.

#### The Praxis

##### Acts 20:17-38

A chapter from the Acts of our fathers the pure Apostles, who were invested with the grace of the Holy Spirit. Their blessing be with us all. Amen.

From Miletus, Paul sent a message to Ephesus and called to himself the presbyters of the Church. When they arrived, he told them, “You yourselves know, from the first day that I set foot in Asia, how I was with you all the time. I served the Lord with all humility, with many tears, and with trials which happened to me by the plotting of the Jews. I did not shrink from declaring to you anything that was profitable, teaching you publicly and from house to house. To both Jews and to Greek, I borewitness to repentance before God and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ. Now, behold, I go to Jerusalem bound by the Spirit. I do not know what will happen to me there, except that the Holy Spirit testifies in every city, saying that bonds and afflictions wait for me. But these things do not count, and I do not hold my life dear to myself, so that I may finish my race with joy and [fulfill] the ministry which I received from the Lord Jesus, to fully bear witness to the Good News of the grace of God.

Now, behold, I know that none of you among whom I have gone about preaching the kingdom will ever see my face again. And so, I testify to you today that I am clean from the blood of all men, for I did not hesitate to proclaim to you the whole counsel of God. Therefore, keep watch overyourselves and over the flock in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers! Be shepherds of the Church of God which he has purchased with the blood of his own [son]. For I know that after my departure, vicious wolves will enter in among you and they will not spare the flock. From among your own group, men will arise who will speak perverse things in order to draw away the disciples after them. Therefore, keep watch! Remember that for a period of three years, I did not cease night and day to warn everyone with tears. Now, brethren, I entrust you to God, and to the word of his grace which is able to build up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified. I coveted no one’s silver,or gold, or clothing. You yourselves know that these [my] hands served my needs and those who were with me. In all things, I have given you an example, that by this kind of hard work you should support the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, as he himself said, ‘It is more blessed to give than to receive!’”

After saying these things, Paul knelt down and prayed with them all. They were all in tears, embracing Paul and kissing him. Most of all, they were sorrowful because of what he had said, that they should never again see his face. Then, they accompanied him to the ship.

The word of the Lord abides in this church and in every church. Amen.

### June 28 / Ⲉⲡⲏⲡ 4

See November 11 (12) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 15, page 84.

Annual tune. Translocaiton of the relics of Sts. Apakir and John.

### June 29 / Ⲉⲡⲏⲡ 5

Annual Tune

The Apostles’ Feast

Sts. Theodosia and her Companions

#### The Pauline Epistle of the Blessing of the Waters (Lakane—the Prayer over the Basin)

##### 1 Corinthians 10:1-13

A chapter from the First Epistle of our teacher Paul to the Corinthians. His blessing be upon us. Amen.

Now, I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, that our forefathers were all under the cloud: all passed through the sea; and they were all baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea. They all ate the same spiritual food and drank the same spiritual drink. They drank from a spiritual rock that followed them, and that rock was Christ. However, God was not well pleased with most of them because they were struck down in the wilderness. Now these things were written as examples for us, so that we may not lust after evil things, as they also lusted. Do not become idolaters, as some of them were. As it is written, “The people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to play.”a Let us not commit sexual immorality, as some of them did, and in one day twenty-three thousand fell! Let us not put the Lord to the test, as some of them did, and they perished by the poisonous snakes. Let us not grumble either, as some of them did, and they were killed by the destroying angel. Now, all these things happened to them as an example and they were written for our instruction, since the ends of the agesb have come on us. Therefore, let the one who thinks he is standing be careful not to fall.

No temptation has come to you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful: he will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able to resist, but with the temptation he will also create a way to escape, so that you may be able to endure it.

The grace of God the Father be with you all. Amen.

#### The Pauline Epistle

##### Hebrews 10:22-38a

A chapter from the Epistle of our teacher Paul to the Hebrews. His blessing be upon us. Amen.

Let us draw near with a true heart full of faith. Since our hearts have been sprinkled from an evil conscience and our body washed with pure water, let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful.

Let us consider how to stimulate each other to love and good works. Let us not abandon our own gatherings, which is the habit of some. Instead, exhort one another, and even more as you see the Day approaching. But if we sin willfully after receiving the knowledge of the truth, there is no more sacrifice for sins. All that remains is a fearful expectation of judgment and a fury of fire which will devour the adversaries. One who disregards Moses’ law dies without compassion on the word of two or three witnesses. How much worse a punishment, do you think, will one receive who has trampled the Son of God and profanated the blood of the covenant with which he was sanctified, and offended the Spirit of grace? For we know him who said, “Vengeance is mine, says the Lord”, “I will repay.” And also, “The Lord will judge his people.” It is a dreadful thing to fall into the hands of the living God! But remember the early days when you had just been enlightened, how you endured a great struggle with sufferings. Sometimes you were exposed to insults and oppressions; and at other times you stood with those who were treated in such a way. Indeed, you had compassion for me in my chains and joyfully accepted the seizure of your property, knowing that you have a better and enduring property in the heavens. Therefore, do not throw away your confidence which has a great reward. Indeed, you need endurance in order to receive the promise after having done the will of God:

*In a very little while,*

*he who comes will come and will not wait.*

*But the righteous will live by faith.*

The grace of God the Father be with you all. Amen.

#### The Pauline Epistle

##### Romans 10:4-18

A chapter from the Epistle of our teacher Paul to the Romans. His blessing be upon us. Amen.

For Christ is the fulfillment of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes. Moses writes about the righteousness of the law, “The one who does them will live by them.” But the righteousness which is of faith speaks this way, “Do not say in your heart, ‘Who will ascend into heaven?’ (that is, to bring Christ down); or, ‘Who will descend into the abyss?’ (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead.)” But what does it say? “The word is near you, in your mouth, and in your heart;” that is, the word of faith, which we preach. If you will confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. With the heart, one believes, resulting in righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made, resulting in salvation. As the Scripture says, “Whoever believes in him will not be disappointed.”

Indeed, there is no distinction between Jew and Greek because the same Lord is Lord of all, and he is bountiful to all who call on him. For, “Whoever will call on the Name of the Lord will be saved.” But how will they call on him in whom they have not believed? How will they believe in him whom they have not heard? How will they hear without a preacher? And how will they preach unless they are sent? As it is written:

*How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the Good News of peace, Who bring glad tidings of good things!*

But they did not all listen to the Good News. For Isaias says, “Lord, who has believed our report?” And so, faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God. But I say, did they not hear? Yes, most certainly:

*Their sound went out into all the earth,*

*Their words to the ends of the world.*

The grace of God the Father be with you all. Amen.

#### The Catholic Epistle

##### 2 Peter 1:12-21

The Catholic Epistle from the Second Epistle of our teacher Peter. His Blessing be upon us. Amen.

Therefore, I will not be negligent to remind you of these things although you [already] know them and are established in the truth which you now have. I think it right, as long as I am in this tent, to stir you up by reminding you [these things]. I know that I shall lay aside my tent very quickly, even as our Lord Jesus Christ made clear to me. And so, I will make every effort [to ensure] that you will always be able to remember these things, even after my departure. For we did not depend on cleverly invented fables when we told you about the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ; we were eyewitnesses of his majesty! For he received from God the Father honor and glory when the voice came to him from the Majestic Glory, “This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.” We heard this voice come out of heaven when we were with him on the holy mountain.

Therefore, we have the word of prophecy made even more certain, and you should pay attention to it as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star arises in your hearts. Know this first of all, that no interpretation of Scriptural prophecy happens as something private, because no prophecy ever came by human will: holy men of God spoke, being moved by the Holy Spirit.

Do not love the world, nor the things which are in the world. The world shall pass away and all its desires; but he who does the will of God shall abide forever. Amen.

#### The Praxis

##### Acts 3:1-16

A chapter from the Acts of our fathers the pure Apostles, who were invested with the grace of the Holy Spirit. Their blessing be with us all. Amen.

Peter and John would go up into the temple at the hour of prayer, the ninth hour. A certain man who was lame from his mother’s womb was being carried. Every day, he was laid at the gate of the temple (the one which is called ‘Beautiful’) to ask alms from those entering the temple. Seeing Peter and John about to go into the temple, he asked to receive alms. Then Peter, along with John, fixed his gaze on him and said, “Look at us!” The man gave them attention, expecting to receive something from them. But Peter said, “I have neither silver nor gold, but what I do have, I give to you. In the Name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, get up and walk!” Peter took the man by the right hand and raised him up. At once, his feet and ankles received strength. Leaping up, the man stood up and began to walk! He entered with them into the temple, walking, leaping, and praising God! When all the people saw him walking and praising God, they recognized that it was the man who used to sit at the Beautiful Gate of the temple, begging for alms; and they were filled with wonder and amazement at what had happened to him. As the lame man who had been healed held on to Peter and John, all the people were greatly astonished and ran together to them in the porch that is called Solomon’s [Porch].

When Peter saw this, he answered to the people, “Men of Israel, why do you marvel at this man? Why do you gaze at us, as though by our own power or godliness we had made him walk? The God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, the God of our fathers, has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you delivered up and denied in the presence of Pilate, when he had determined to release him. But you denied the Holy and Righteous One and asked for a murderer to be granted to you. Then you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. By faith in his Name, this man whom you see and know was made strong. Yes, the faith which comes through Jesus has given him this perfect soundness as you all can see.

The word of the Lord abides in this church and in every church. Amen.

### June 30 / Ⲉⲡⲏⲡ 6

See December 27 (28) / Ⲧⲱⲃⲓ 1, page 138.

Annual tune. **St. Olympus the Disciple**. St. Theodosia na dher companions, the martyrs.

## July or Ⲉⲡⲏⲡ

### July 1 / Ⲉⲡⲏⲡ 7 through July 13 / Ⲉⲡⲏⲡ 19

July 1 / Ⲉⲡⲏⲡ 7 see January 27 (28) / Ⲙϣⲓⲣ 2, page 179.

Annual tune. St. Shenouti the Archimandrite. **St. Ignatius** the bishop of Rome, the martyr.

July 2 / Ⲉⲡⲏⲡ 8 see October 24 (25) / Ⲡⲁⲱⲡⲉ 27, page 60.

Annual tune. **St. Pishoi**. Sts. Piroou and Athom. St. Balanah the presbyter. St. Pimanon. St. Cyrus (Karas), the brother of Emperor Theodosius.

July 3 / Ⲉⲡⲏⲡ 9 see April 25 / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙⲟⲩⲧⲉ 30, page 216.

Annual tune. **St. Simon Cleophas** the Disciple and martyr. St. Cleadion, the 9th Patriarch of Alexandria.

July 4 / Ⲉⲡⲏⲡ 10 see November 24 (25) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 28, page 100.

Annual tune. St. Theodore, the bishop of Pentapolis, the martyr. St. Theodore, the bishop of Corinth, the martyr. **St. Gabriel VII**, the 9th Patriarch of Alexandria.

July 5 / Ⲉⲡⲏⲡ 11 see April 22 / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙⲟⲩⲧⲉ 27, page 213.

Annual tune. St. John and his cousin, Simon. **St. Isaiah the hermit.**

July 6 / Ⲉⲡⲏⲡ 12 see November 11 (12) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 15, page 84.

Annual tune. Montly commemoration of Archangel Michael. Abba Hor the martyr.

July 7 / Ⲉⲡⲏⲡ 13 seeNovember 24 (25) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 28, page 100.

Annual tune. **St. Pisentius** the bishop of Kift. St. Apamon of touch, the martyr.Abba Shenouti the new martyr.

July 8 / Ⲉⲡⲏⲡ 14 see October 24 (25) / Ⲡⲁⲱⲡⲉ 27, page 60.

Annual tune. **St. Macarius of Alexandria**. St. Pocopius of Jerusalem, the martyr. St Peter V, the 83rd Patriarch of Alexandria.

July 9 / Ⲉⲡⲏⲡ 15 see July 27 / Ⲙⲉⲥⲟⲣⲏ 3, page 290.

Annual tune. St. Ephriam the Syrian.

July 10 / Ⲉⲡⲏⲡ 16 see December 30 (31) / Ⲧⲱⲃⲓ 4, page 143.

Annual tune. **St. John of the Golden Gospel.** Recovery of the relics of St. George the mew martyr.

July 11 / Ⲉⲡⲏⲡ 17 see January 25 (26) / Ⲧⲱⲃⲓ 30, page 177.

Annual tune. St. Euphemia the martyr.

July 12 / Ⲉⲡⲏⲡ 18 see June 29 / Ⲉⲡⲏⲡ 5, page 268.

Annual tune. St James the brother of the Lord, the bishop of Jerusalem.

July 13 / Ⲉⲡⲏⲡ 19 see November 18 (19) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 22, page 90.

Annual tune. St. Bidaba the bishop of Kift the martyr. St. Pantalemon the physician and martyr. St. John X, the 85th Patriarch of Alexandria.

### July 14 / Ⲉⲡⲏⲡ 20

Annual Tune

St. Theodore Strathelatis the Martyr

#### The Pauline Epistle

##### 2 Timothy 2:3-15

A chapter from the Second Epistle of our teacher Paul to Timothy. His blessing be upon us. Amen.

You too must endure tribulations as a good soldier of Christ Jesus. No soldier on duty entangles himself in the affairs of this life in order to be able to please the one who enrolled him as a soldier. Likewise, anyone who competes in athletics cannot be crowned unless he has competed by the rules. The farmers who labor must be the first to get a share of the crops. Think over what I have said, and may the Lord give you understanding in all things.

Remember my Good News: Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, of the seed of David. Because of this I suffer tribulations to the point of being in chains as a criminal. But God’s word is not chained! Therefore, I endure all things for the sake of the elect, so that they may obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus and with it eternal glory. This saying is sure:

*For if we died with him, we will also live with him.*

*If we endure, we will also reign with him.*

*If we deny him, he also will deny us.*

*If we are faithless, he remains faithful.*

*He cannot deny himself.*

Remind the people of these things, charging them in the sight of the Lord, that they should not argue about words: this profits nothing and it brings ruin to those who listen.

Work hard to present yourself as approved by God, as a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly handling the word of truth.

The grace of God the Father be with you all. Amen.

#### The Catholic Epistle

##### 1 Peter 3:8-15a

The Catholic Epistle from the First Epistle of our teacher Peter. His Blessing be upon us. Amen.

Finally, be all like-minded, compassionate, loving as brethren, tenderhearted, polite, not giving back evil for evil or insult for insult. Instead, give back blessing, knowing that you are called to do this, so that you [yourselves] may inherit a blessing. For:

*Whoever would love life,*

*and see good days,*

*should keep his tongue from evil,*

*and his lips from speaking deceit.*

*Let him turn away from evil, and do good.*

*Let him seek peace, and pursue it.*

*For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous,*

*and his ears open to their prayer;*

*but the face of the Lord is against those who do evil.*

Now, who will harm you, if you become imitators of what is good? Buteven if you should suffer for righteousness’ sake, you are blessed. “Do not fear what they fear, and do not be troubled.” Sanctify the Lord God in your hearts.

Do not love the world, nor the things which are in the world. The world shall pass away and all its desires; but he who does the will of God shall abide forever. Amen.

#### The Praxis

##### Acts 27:42-28:6

A chapter from the Acts of our fathers the pure Apostles, who were invested with the grace of the Holy Spirit. Their blessing be with us all. Amen.

The soldiers’ advice was to kill the prisoners, so that none of them would swim out and escape. But the centurion, desiring to save Paul, kept them from carrying out their plan. He gave orders that those who could swim should throw themselves overboard first and go to shore. The rest should follow, some on planks, and some on other things from the ship. And so it was that they all escaped safely to the land.

Once safe on the shore, we learned that the island was called Malta. The natives showed us unusual kindness; they kindled a fire and welcomed us all because it was raining and cold. But as Paul was gathering a bundle of sticks and placing them on the fire, a viper came out because of the heat and fastened itself on his hand. When the natives saw the creature hanging from his hand, they said one to another, “There is no doubt that this man is a murderer! He has escaped from the sea but Justice has not allowed him to live.” However, Paul shook off the creature into the fire and remained unharmed Nevertheless, they expected that he would have swollen or suddenly fallen down dead. After watching for a long time and seeing nothing bad happen to him, they changed their minds and said that he was a god!

The word of the Lord abides in this church and in every church. Amen.

### July 15 / Ⲉⲡⲏⲡ 21 through July 26 / Ⲙⲉⲥⲟⲣⲏ 2

July 15 / Ⲉⲡⲏⲡ 21 see March 9 / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙϩⲟⲧⲡ 13, page 201.

Annual tune. Montly commemoration of the Theotokos. **St. Sosenius** the eunuch.

July 16 / Ⲉⲡⲏⲡ 22 see April 22 / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙⲟⲩⲧⲉ 27, page 213.

Annual tune. **St. Macarius the martyr.** St. Leontius of Tripoli the martyr.

July 17 / Ⲉⲡⲏⲡ 23 see November 23 (24) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 27, page 98.

Annual tune. **St. Longinus the martyr**. St. Marina the martyr.

July 18 / Ⲉⲡⲏⲡ 24 see November 11 (12) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 15, page 84.

Annual tune. **St. Apanoub** the martyr. St. Simeon I, the 42nd Patriarch of Alexandria. St. Isidore.

July 19 / Ⲉⲡⲏⲡ 25 see November 21 (22) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 25, page 95.

Annual tune. St. Anthony the martyr. St. Hilaria. St. Domatius the Syrian martyr. Abba Isaac the martyr. Sts. Thecla and Mouji the martyrs. St. Apakragon the martyr. St. Palamon the father of the monks. St. Thecla. **The Consecraiton of the Church of St. Mercurius.**

July 20 / Ⲉⲡⲏⲡ 26 Prior to A.D. 2014 see September 5 (6) / Ⲑⲟⲟⲩⲧ 8, page 22.

Annual tune. St. Joseph the Carpenter. St. Timothy, the 22nd Patriarch of Alexandria.

July 20 / Ⲉⲡⲏⲡ 26 After A.D. 2014 see May 19 / Ⲡⲁϣⲁⲛⲥ 24, page 236.

Annual tune. **St. Joseph** the Carpenter. St. Timothy, the 22nd Patriarch of Alexandria.

July 21 / Ⲉⲡⲏⲡ 27 see April 18 / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙⲟⲩⲧⲉ 23, page 210.

Annual tune. St. Apamon the martyr. Consecration of the church of Abba Fam. Sts. Boushra and Emad the martyrs.

July 22 / Ⲉⲡⲏⲡ 28 see January 25 (26) / Ⲧⲱⲃⲓ 30, page 177.

Annual tune. St. Mary Magdaline.

July 23 / Ⲉⲡⲏⲡ 29 see June 29 / Ⲉⲡⲏⲡ 5, page 268.

Joyful tune. Commemoration of the Annunciation, Nativity and Resurrection. Translocaiton of the relics of St. Andrew the Apostle. **St. Ourshenoufa the martyr.**

July 24 / Ⲉⲡⲏⲡ 30 see November 18 (19) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 22, page 90.

Annual tune. Sst. Mercurius and Ephraem the martyrs.

July 25 / Ⲙⲉⲥⲟⲣⲏ 1 see November 11 (12) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 15, page 84.

Annual tune**. St. Apoli**, son of Justus, son of Emperor Nomerius, the martyrs. St. Cyril V, the 112th Patriarch of Alexandria.

July 26 / Ⲙⲉⲥⲟⲣⲏ 2 see January 25 (26) / Ⲧⲱⲃⲓ 30, page 177.

Annual tune. St. Paesa.

### July 27 / Ⲙⲉⲥⲟⲣⲏ 3

Annual Tune

Translocation of the relics of St. Simon the Stylite

St Abramius, the 5th Patriarch of Alexandria

#### The Pauline Epistle

##### 1 Corinthians 3:1-8

A chapter from the First Epistle of our teacher Paul to the Corinthians. His blessing be upon us. Amen.

Brethren, I could not speak to you as to spiritual persons, but as to carnal ones - infants in Christ. I fed you with milk, not with meat, because you were not yet ready. Indeed, you are not even ready now because you are still carnal. As long as there is jealousy, strife, and factions among you, are you not carnal, walking according to human ways? When one says, “I follow Paul,” and another, “I follow Apollos,” are you not carnal? Who then is Apollos, and who is Paul, if not servants through whom you believed; and each as the Lord gave to him? I planted, Apollos watered, but [it is] God [who] made it grow! And so, neither the one planting nor the one watering is anything: only God makes it grow. Now the one planting and the one watering are the same, but each will receive a personal reward according to his own labor.

The grace of God the Father be with you all. Amen.

#### The Catholic Epistle

##### 2 Peter 1:1-11

The Catholic Epistle from the Second Epistle of our teacher Peter. His Blessing be upon us. Amen.

Simon Peter, a servant and apostle of Jesus Christ, to those who have obtained a precious faith like ours, with us, in the righteousness of our God and Savior Jesus Christ: May grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord.

His divine power has granted us all that we need to live in godliness, through the knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and virtue. Though these things, he has granted to us his precious and tremendous promises, so that having escaped from the corruption that is in the world by lust, you may become partakers of the divine nature. For this very reason, do your utmost to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge. To knowledge, add self-control; and to self-control, perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness; and in godliness add brotherly affection; and in brotherly affection, love. For if these things are yours and overflow, they will prevent you from being idle or unfruitful to the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. But those who lack these things are blind; they only see what is near and they have forgotten the cleansing from their old sins. Therefore, brethren, do all that you can to make your calling and election sure. For if you do these things, you will never stumble. Thus, you will be richly granted the entrance into the eternal Kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Do not love the world, nor the things which are in the world. The world shall pass away and all its desires; but he who does the will of God shall abide forever. Amen.

#### The Praxis

##### Acts 15:13-29

A chapter from the Acts of our fathers the pure Apostles, who were invested with the grace of the Holy Spirit. Their blessing be with us all. Amen.

When they had finished, James said, “Brethren, listen to me! Simeon has reported how God first showed concern towards the Gentiles in order to take from them a people for his Name. This agrees with the words of the prophets. As it is written:

*‘After these things I will return.*

*I will again build the tabernacle of David, which has fallen.*

*I will again build its ruins.*

*I will set it up,*

*That the rest of men may seek after the Lord;*

*All the Gentiles who are called by my Name,*

*Says the Lord, who does all these things.*

*All his works are known to God from eternity.’*

Therefore, I judge that we should not trouble those who turn to God from among the Gentiles. Instead, we should write to them to abstain from the pollution of idols, from sexual immorality, from what is strangled, and from blood. For from generations of old, Moses has had in every city those who preach him, being read every Sabbath in the synagogues.”

Then it seemed good to the apostles and the presbyters, along with the whole Church, to choose some of their own men and to send them to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas: Judas (called Barsabbas) and Silas, leading men among the brethren. Through their hands, they wrote:

“The apostles, the presbyters, and the brethren; to the brethren who are of the Gentiles in Antioch, Syria, and Cilicia: greetings! We have heard that some who went out from us have troubled you with words and unsettled your souls by saying: ‘You must be circumcised and keep the law’, although they had no such commission from us. Having assembled with one accord, it has seemed good to us to select men and to send them to you with our beloved Barnabas and Paul, men who have risked their lives for the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, we have sent Judas and Silas, who will also tell you the same things by word of mouth. It has seemed good to the Holy Spirit and to us to impose no greater burden on you than what is necessary: that you abstain from things sacrificed to idols, from blood, from the meat of strangled animals and from sexual immorality. If you abstain from these things, it will be well with you. Farewell!”

The word of the Lord abides in this church and in every church. Amen.

### July 28 / Ⲙⲉⲥⲟⲣⲏ 4 through July 31 / Ⲙⲉⲥⲟⲣⲏ 7

July 28 / Ⲙⲉⲥⲟⲣⲏ 4 see September 5 (6) / Ⲑⲟⲟⲩⲧ 8, page 22.

Annual Tune. **Ezekieh the King**. Consecration of the church of St. Anthony.

July 29 / Ⲙⲉⲥⲟⲣⲏ 5 see January 21 (22) / Ⲧⲱⲃⲓ 26, page 174.

Annual tune. St. John the soldier and martyr.

July 30 / Ⲙⲉⲥⲟⲣⲏ 6 see January 25 (26) / Ⲧⲱⲃⲓ 30, page 177.

Annual tune. St. Julietta the martyr.

July 31 / Ⲙⲉⲥⲟⲣⲏ 7 see September 23 (24) / Ⲑⲟⲟⲩⲧ 26, page 37.

Annual tune. **Annunciation nativity of the Theotokos to Joachim.** St. Timothy II, the 26th Patriarch of Alexandria.

## August or Ⲙⲉⲥⲟⲣⲏ and Ⲕⲟⲩϫⲓ ⲛ̀ⲁ̀ⲃⲟⲧ (The Little Month)

### August 1 / Ⲙⲉⲥⲟⲣⲏ 8 through August 5 / Ⲙⲉⲥⲟⲣⲏ 12

August 1 / Ⲙⲉⲥⲟⲣⲏ 8 see May 5 / Ⲡⲁϣⲁⲛⲥ 10, page 230.

Annual tune. **Sts. Lazarus, Salmi, his wife, and their children, the martyrs.** The confession of St. Peter the Apostle.

August 2 / Ⲙⲉⲥⲟⲣⲏ 9 see November 11 (12) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 15, page 84.

Annual tune. St. Ari the presbyter and martyr.

August 3 / Ⲙⲉⲥⲟⲣⲏ 10 see November 23 (24) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 27, page 98.

Annual tune. St. Matra the martyr. St. Pigebus the martyr.

August 4 / Ⲙⲉⲥⲟⲣⲏ 11 see November 24 (25) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 28, page 100.

Annual tune. St. Moses the bishop of Ousim.

August 5 / Ⲙⲉⲥⲟⲣⲏ 12 see The Pauline Epistle

Hebrews 9:1-10

A chapter from the Epistle of our teacher Paul to the Hebrews. His blessing be upon us. Amen.

Even the first tabernacle and covenant had ordinances of divine service and an earthly sanctuary. A tabernacle was set up; in the first part which is called the Holy Place were the lampstand, the table, and the show bread. Beyond the second veil was found the tabernacle which is called the Holy of Holies. It had a golden altar of incense and the Ark of the Covenant all covered with gold. The Ark contained a golden jar holding the manna, Aaron’s rod that budded and the tablets of the covenant. Above it, cherubim of glory overshadowed the mercy seat, but now we cannot speak about these things in detail. According to this arrangement, priests are continually entering the outer tabernacle, accomplishing the rites of offering divine service. Into the second tabernacle, only the high priest enters, once in the year and with blood, which he offers for himself and for the sins committed in ignorance by the people. The Holy Spirit is indicating that the way into the Holy Place was not yet revealed, [at least] while the first tabernacle was still standing. It is a figure of the present age, where the gifts and sacrifices that are offered are incapable, as far as conscience is concerned, to make the one who offers divine service perfect. The reason is that they are only carnal ordinances (with meats, drinks and various washings), imposed until a time of reformation.

The grace of God the Father be with you all. Amen.

#### The Catholic Epistle

##### 1 Peter 2:1-10

The Catholic Epistle from the First Epistle of our teacher Peter. His Blessing be upon us. Amen.

[And this is the word which by the Gospel is preached to you.]\* Therefore, putting away all wickedness, deceit, hypocrisy, envies, and all evil speaking, as newborn babies, long for the pure milk of the Word, so that you may grow from it. If indeed you have tasted that the Lord is gracious, come to him who is a living stone, rejected by men but chosen by God and precious. You also, as living stones, are being built up as a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, in order to offer up spiritual sacrifices that are acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. As the Scripture has it:

*Behold, I lay in Zion a chief cornerstone, chosen, and precious:*

*Whoever believes in him will not be disappointed.*

For you who believe, this brings honor, but for those who are disobedient:

*The stone which the builders rejected,*

*has become the chief cornerstone,*

and:

*a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense.*

For they stumble at the word and they are disobedient, which is what they were laid aside for. But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for God’s own possession, so that you may proclaim the wonderful deeds of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. In the past, you were not a people, but now, you are God’s people. In the past, you had not obtained mercy, but now, you have obtained mercy.

Do not love the world, nor the things which are in the world. The world shall pass away and all its desires; but he who does the will of God shall abide forever. Amen.

\*This verse is found only in Coptic.

#### The Praxis

##### Acts 9:31-43

A chapter from the Acts of our fathers the pure Apostles, who were invested with the grace of the Holy Spirit. Their blessing be with us all. Amen.

And so, the Churches throughout all Judea and Galilee and Samaria had peace and were edified. Walking in the fear of the Lord and in the comfort of the Holy Spirit, they continued to grow.

Now, as Peter traveled through all those regions, he also came down to the saints who lived in Lydda. There, he found a certain man named Aeneas, who was paralyzed and who had been bedridden for eight years. Peter said to him, “Aeneas, Jesus Christ heals you! Get up and make your bed!” And immediately, he arose. All who lived in Lydda and Sharon saw him and turned to the Lord.

Now, there lived in Joppa a certain disciple named Tabitha, (which, when translated, means Dorcas). This woman was full of good works and acts of mercy. But it happened that at this time, she became ill and died. She was washed and placed in an upper room. As Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, hearing that Peter was there, sent two men to him, imploring him, ‘Do not to delay in coming to help us!” So Peter arose and went with them. When he arrived, the disciples led him into the upper room. All the widows stood by him weeping, showing [to Peter] the coats and garments which Dorcas had made while she was with them. But having put everyone out [of the room], Peter knelt down and prayed. Turning towards the body, he said, “Tabitha, get up!” She opened her eyes, and when she saw Peter, she sat up. Then Peter gave her his hand and raised her up. Calling the saints and widows, he presented her alive. This became known all over Joppa, and many people believed in the Lord. Then he stayed in Joppa for a while, lodging with Simon, a tanner.

The word of the Lord abides in this church and in every church. Amen.

September 14 (15) / Ⲑⲟⲟⲩⲧ 17, page 25.

Annual tune. Montly commemoration of Archangel Michael. The regin of **Emeror Constantine.**

### August 6 / Ⲙⲉⲥⲟⲣⲏ 13

Joyful Tune

The Feast of the Transfiguration of our Lord on Mount Tabor

#### The Pauline Epistle

##### Colossians 1:1-23

A chapter from the Epistle of our teacher Paul to the Colossians. His blessing be upon us. Amen.

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus through the will of God, and Timothy our brother, to the saints and faithful brethren in Christ at Colossae: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

We give thanks to God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, and we always pray for you. We have heard about your faith in Christ Jesus and about the love which you have for all the saints, because of the hope which is prepared for you in heaven. Of this hope you have heard before in the word of the truth of the Good News which has come to you; even as it is [spreading] in the whole world. It has been bearing fruit and growing [everywhere], as it has done in you too since the day you heard and experienced the grace of God in truth. This is what you also learned from Epaphras, our beloved fellow-servant, who is a faithful servant of Christ on our behalf. He has informed us of your love in the Spirit. For this reason, since the day we heard this, we do not cease praying and making requests for you, so that you may be filled with the knowledge of his will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding. We also pray that you may walk worthily of the Lord, to please him in all respects, bearing fruit in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God. May you be strengthened with all power, according to the might of his glory, for all endurance and perseverance with joy! May you give thanks to the Father, who has granted to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in the light. He has delivered us from the power of darkness, and translated us into the Kingdom of the Son of his love. In him, we have our redemption, the forgiveness of our sins.

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For in him, all things were created, in the heavens and on earth, things visible and invisible, thrones, dominions, principalities and powers; all things have been created through him, and for him. He is before all things, and in him all things are held together. He is the head of the body, the Church; [he is] the first cause, the firstborn from the dead, so that in all things he might have the first place. For [God] was pleased that all fullness should dwell in him, and through him to reconcile all things to himself, both earthly and heavenly, having made peace through the blood of his cross.

In the past, you were alienated and hostile in mind, doing in your evil works. But now, he has reconciled [you] in the body of his flesh through death, in order to present you holy, without blemish and blameless before him. This is [for you] if you continue in the faith, grounded and steadfast, not moved away from the hope of the Good News which you heard. I, Paul, became a servant of this Good News that is being proclaimed throughout all creation under heaven.

The grace of God the Father be with you all. Amen.

#### The Catholic Epistle

##### 2 Peter 1:12-21

The Catholic Epistle from the Second Epistle of our teacher Peter. His Blessing be upon us. Amen.

Therefore, I will not be negligent to remind you of these things although you [already] know them and are established in the truth which you now have. I think it right, as long as I am in this tent, to stir you up by reminding you [these things]. I know that I shall lay aside my tent very quickly, even as our Lord Jesus Christ made clear to me. And so, I will make every effort [to ensure] that you will always be able to remember these things, even after my departure. For we did not depend on cleverly invented fables when we told you about the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ; we were eyewitnesses of his majesty! For he received from God the Father honor and glory when the voice came to him from the Majestic Glory, “This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.” We heard this voice come out of heaven when we were with him on the holy mountain.

Therefore, we have the word of prophecy made even more certain, and you should pay attention to it as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star arises in your hearts. Know this first of all, that no interpretation of Scriptural prophecy happens as something private, because no prophecy ever came by human will: holy men of God spoke, being moved by the Holy Spirit.

Do not love the world, nor the things which are in the world. The world shall pass away and all its desires; but he who does the will of God shall abide forever. Amen.

#### The Praxis

##### Acts 7:44-8:1a

A chapter from the Acts of our fathers the pure Apostles, who were invested with the grace of the Holy Spirit. Their blessing be with us all. Amen.

Our fathers had the tabernacle of the testimony in the wilderness which the one who had spoken to Moses had commanded him to build according to the pattern that he had seen. It was handed down to our fathers, and in their turn, they brought it with Joshua when they entered into the possession of the nations which God drove out before the face of our fathers. This tabernacle was there to the days of David, who found favor in the sight of God, and who prayed to find a habitation for the God of Jacob. But it was Solomon who built him a house. However, the Most High does not dwell in places made with hands, as the prophet says:

*‘Heaven is my throne,*

*and the earth is a footstool for my feet.*

*What kind of house will you build for me?’ says the Lord;*

*‘or what is the place of my rest?*

*Did not my hand make all these things?’*

You stiff-necked and uncircumcised in heart and ears, you always resist the Holy Spirit! As your fathers did, you do likewise. Which of the prophets did your fathers not persecute? They [even] killed those who foretold the coming of the Righteous One, of whom you have now become betrayers and murderers. You received the law as it was ordained by angels, and did not keep it!”

Now, when they heard these things, they were furious and gnashed their teeth at him. But Stephen, full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing on the right hand of God. He exclaimed, “Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!”

Then, they shouted with a loud voice, blocking their ears, and rushed at him with one accord. So they threw him out of the city and stoned him. The witnesses placed their garments at the feet of a young man named Saul. As they were stoning Stephen, he called in prayer, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit!” Kneeling down, he cried out with a loud voice, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them!” Having said this, he fell asleep.

Now, Saul was in full agreement with his death.

The word of the Lord abides in this church and in every church. Amen.

### August 7 / Ⲙⲉⲥⲟⲣⲏ 14 through August 9 / Ⲙⲉⲥⲟⲣⲏ 16

August 7 / Ⲙⲉⲥⲟⲣⲏ 14 see November 13 (14) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 17, page 86.

Annual tune. A miracle at Alexandria in the time of Abba Thjeophilus, the 23rd Patriarch of Alexandria.

August 8 / Ⲙⲉⲥⲟⲣⲏ 15 see January 25 (26) / Ⲧⲱⲃⲓ 30, page 177.

Annual utne. St. Marina the ascetic.

August 9 / Ⲙⲉⲥⲟⲣⲏ 16 see April 26 / Ⲡⲁϣⲁⲛⲥ 1, page 219.

Annual tune. **The Assumption of the Theotokos**. St. Matthias IV, the 102 Patriarch of Alexandria.

### August 10 / Ⲙⲉⲥⲟⲣⲏ 17

Annual Tune

St. Jacob the Soldier and Martyr

#### The Pauline Epistle

##### Galatians 1:1-19

A chapter from the Epistle of our teacher Paul to the Galatians. His blessing be upon us. Amen.

Paul, an apostle (sent neither by human commission nor from human authorities, but through Jesus Christ and God the Father, who raised him from the dead), and all the brethren who are with me, to the Churches of Galatia: Grace to you and peace from God the Father, and our Lord Jesus Christ, who gave himself for our sins, so that he might rescue us from this present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father - to whom be the glory unto ages of ages! Amen.

I am amazed that you are so quickly deserting him who called you in the grace of Christ in order to embrace a different “Good News” - and there is no other “Good News”! Yet, there are some who disturb you and want to pervert the Good News of Christ. Now, even if ourselves or an angel from heaven should preach to you any “Good News” that is not what we preached to you, let such a one be accursed! We have said it before and now I say it again: if anyone preaches to you any other “Good News” than what you received, let such a one be accursed! I am now seeking to please God or people? I am striving to please human beings? But if I was still trying to please men, then I would not be a servant of Christ!

As regards the Good News which I preached, I proclaimed this to you, brethren, that it is not of human origin. I did not receive it from man and I was not taught [this Good News] by man, but it came to me through a revelation of Jesus Christ. You have heard about how I used to live in Judaism, how I persecuted the Church of God beyond measure, and how I ravaged it. I advanced in the Jewish religion beyond many of my own ageamong my countrymen, as I was more extremely zealous for the traditions of my forefathers. But when it was the good pleasure of God, (who had set me apart from my mother’s womb and called me through his grace, to reveal his Son in me so that I might preach him among the Gentiles), I did not immediately confer with flesh and blood: I did not go up to Jerusalem to visit those who were apostles before me, but I went away into Arabia. Later on, I returned to Damascus. Then, after three years, I did go up to Jerusalem to visit Peter and I stayed with him for fifteen days. However, I did not see any of the other apostles, except James, ‘the Lord’s brother’.

The grace of God the Father be with you all. Amen.

#### The Catholic Epistle

##### James 1:1-12

The Catholic Epistle from the Epistle of our teacher James. His Blessing be upon us. Amen.

James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, to the Twelve tribes which are in the Dispersion: Greetings!

Consider it as all joy, my brethren, when you fall into various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance. Let endurance have its full effect, so that you may be perfect and whole, lacking in nothing. But if any of you lacks wisdom, let such one ask of God who gives to all abundantly and without finding fault; and it will be given to him. But ask in faith, without any doubting, for whoever doubts is like a wave of the sea, driven by the wind and tossed. Such a person should not think that anything will be received from the Lord. This is being double- minded, unstable in every way.

But let the brethren of humble circumstances glory in their high position. But the rich should rejoice in being made humble, because like the flower in the grass, they will pass away. For the sun arises with the scorching wind and withers the grass, its flower falls and the beauty of its appearance perishes. Likewise, the rich shall fade away in their pursuits.

Blessed is the one who endures temptation, for when he has been approved, he will receive the crown of life which the Lord promised to those who love him.

Do not love the world, nor the things which are in the world. The world shall pass away and all its desires; but he who does the will of God shall abide forever. Amen.

#### The Praxis

##### Acts 15:12-21

A chapter from the Acts of our fathers the pure Apostles, who were invested with the grace of the Holy Spirit. Their blessing be with us all. Amen.

At this, the whole multitude kept silence. They listened to Barnabas and Paul report what signs and wonders God had accomplished among the nations through them. When they had finished, James said, “Brethren, listen to me! Simeon has reported how God first showed concern towards the Gentiles in order to take from them a people for his Name. This agrees with the words of the prophets. As it is written:

*‘After these things I will return.*

*I will again build the tabernacle of David, which has fallen.*

*I will again build its ruins.*

*I will set it up,*

*That the rest of men may seek after the Lord;*

*All the Gentiles who are called by my Name,*

*Says the Lord, who does all these things.*

*All his works are known to God from eternity.’*

Therefore, I judge that we should not trouble those who turn to God from among the Gentiles. Instead, we should write to them to abstain from the pollution of idols, from sexual immorality, from what is strangled, and from blood. For from generations of old, Moses has had in every city those who preach him, being read every Sabbath in the synagogues.”

The word of the Lord abides in this church and in every church. Amen.

### August 11 / Ⲙⲉⲥⲟⲣⲏ 18 through August 17 / Ⲙⲉⲥⲟⲣⲏ 24

August 11 / Ⲙⲉⲥⲟⲣⲏ 18 see June 27 / Ⲉⲡⲏⲡ 3, page 264.

Annual tune. St. Alexander, Patriarch of Constantinople. St. Eudaemon the martyr.

August 12 / Ⲙⲉⲥⲟⲣⲏ 19 see October 24 (25) / Ⲡⲁⲱⲡⲉ 27, page 60.

Annual tune. Translocatin of the relics of St. Macarius to his monastery in Scetis (Sheheet).

August 13 / Ⲙⲉⲥⲟⲣⲏ 20 see November 18 (19) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 22, page 90.

Annual tune. The Seven Holy Youths, the martyrs of Ephesus.

August 14 / Ⲙⲉⲥⲟⲣⲏ 21 see January 25 (26) / Ⲧⲱⲃⲓ 30, page 177.

Annual Tune. The monthly commemoration of the Theotokos. **St. Irene.**

August 15 / Ⲙⲉⲥⲟⲣⲏ 22 see September 5 (6) / Ⲑⲟⲟⲩⲧ 8, page 22.

Annual tune. **Michah the Prophet.** St. Hadid the martyr.

August 16 / Ⲙⲉⲥⲟⲣⲏ 23 see April 18 / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙⲟⲩⲧⲉ 23, page 210.

Annual tune. **The 30,000 martyrs of Alexandria** during the reign of Marcian. St. Damian the martyr in Antioch.

August 17 / Ⲙⲉⲥⲟⲣⲏ 24 see November 24 (25) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 28, page 100.

Annual tune. **St. Thecla Hemanoute**, the Ethiopian. St. Thomas, bishop of Marsh.

### August 18 / Ⲙⲉⲥⲟⲣⲏ 25

Annual Tune

**St. Besarion the Great, the first disciple of St. Anthony**

St. Macarius III the 114th Patriach of Alexandria.

#### The Pauline Epistle

##### Philippians 3:20-4:9

A chapter from the Epistle of our teacher Paul to the Philippians. His blessing be upon us. Amen.

But our citizenship is in heaven, from which we are expecting a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. He will change the body of our humiliation to be conformed to the body of his glory, by the working of his power, by which he is able to subject all things to himself.

Therefore, my beloved brethren whom I miss so much, my joy and my crown, stand firm in the Lord! I exhort Evodia and Syntyche to think the same way in the Lord. Yes, I beg you also, Syzygus, help these women, for they labored with me in the Good News and also with Clement and the rest of my fellow-workers, whose names are in the book of life. Rejoice in the Lord always! Again I will say, rejoice! Let your kindness be known to all. The Lord is at hand! Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition with thanksgiving, let your requests be known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your thoughts in Christ Jesus.

Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are honorable, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are commendable, if there is any virtue or any praise, think about these things. What you learned, received, heard, and saw in me: practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you.

The grace of God the Father be with you all. Amen.

#### The Catholic Epistle

##### James 5:9-12

The Catholic Epistle from the Epistle of our teacher James. His Blessing be upon us. Amen.

Brethren, do not grumble against one another, so that you will not be judged. Behold, the judge stands at the door! Brethren, consider as an example of suffering and patience the prophets who spoke in the Name of the Lord. Behold, we call them blessed who endured. You have heard of the patience of Job and you have seen the Lord in the outcome, how the Lord is full of compassion and mercy.

But above all things, my brethren, do not swear, neither by heaven or earth, nor by any other oath. Instead, let your “yes” be “yes,” and your “no,” “no;” so that you may not fall into hypocrisy.

Do not love the world, nor the things which are in the world. The world shall pass away and all its desires; but he who does the will of God shall abide forever. Amen.

#### The Praxis

##### Acts 18:24-19:6

A chapter from the Acts of our fathers the pure Apostles, who were invested with the grace of the Holy Spirit. Their blessing be with us all. Amen.

Now, a certain Jew named Apollos who was an Alexandrian by race and an eloquent man arrived in Ephesus, and he was powerful with the Scriptures. He had been instructed in the way of the Lord, and being fervent in spirit, he spoke and taught accurately about Jesus, although he had only experienced the baptism of John. Apollos began to speak boldly in the synagogue, but when Priscilla and Aquila heard him, they took him aside and explained to him the way of God more accurately.

When Apollos had determined to cross over into Achaia, the brethren encouraged him and wrote to the disciples to receive him. When he arrived there, he greatly helped those who had believed through grace, for he powerfully refuted the Jews, publicly showing by the Scriptures that Jesus was the Christ.

It happened that, while Apollos was in Corinth, Paul had passed through the upper country and arrived in Ephesus. There, he found some disciples and asked them, “Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?”

They replied, “No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit!”

Paul asked, “Then, into what were you baptized?”

They answered, “Into John’s baptism.”

Paul said, “John indeed baptized with the baptism of repentance, saying to the people that they should believe in the one who would come after him, that is, in Jesus.”

After hearing this, they were baptized in the Name of the Lord Jesus. When Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they spoke in other tongues and prophesied.

The word of the Lord abides in this church and in every church. Amen.

### August 19 / Ⲙⲉⲥⲟⲣⲏ 26

Annual Tune

St. Moses and his sister Sarah, the Martyrs

St. Agabius the soldier, and Thecla his sister, the Martyrs

#### The Pauline Epistle

##### Romans 8:14-27

A chapter from the Epistle of our teacher Paul to the Romans. His blessing be upon us. Amen.

As many as are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. You did not receive the spirit of bondage to [live in] fear again, but you received the Spirit of adoption, by whom we cry, “Abba! Father!”

The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are children of God; and if [we are] children, then [we are] heirs; heirs of God, and jointheirs with Christ; if indeed we suffer with him, so that we may also be glorified with him. For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which will be revealed toward us. As it is, the creation waits with eager expectation for the revelation of God’s children. Indeed, creation was subjected to vanity, not of its own will, but because of him who subjected it, in hope that creation will also be delivered from the bondage of decay into the glorious freedom of the children of God. We know that the whole of creation groans and labors in pain until now. Moreover, so do we who have the first fruits of the Spirit! We groan within ourselves, awaiting the adoption, the redemption of our body. We were saved in hope, but hope that is seen is not hope. Indeed, who hopes for what can be seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience. Also, the Spirit helps our weaknesses, because we do not know how to pray as we should. But the Spirit himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. He who searches the hearts knows the way of thinking of the Spirit, because the prayers that the Spirit makes for the saints are always in accordance with God.

The grace of God the Father be with you all. Amen.

#### The Catholic Epistle

##### 1 Peter 2:11-17

The Catholic Epistle from the First Epistle of our teacher Peter. His Blessing be upon us. Amen.

Beloved, I beg you as exiles and pilgrims [in this world] to abstain from carnal lusts which war against the soul. Live righteous lives among the nations so that if they accuse you of being evildoers, they may, by your good works which they see, glorify God in the day of visitation. Therefore, for the Lord’s sake, submit yourselves to every human institution: to the emperor as supreme [law-giver], or to governors as commissions by himt o punish those who do evil and to praise to those who do good. For this is the will of God: that by going good you should silence the ignorance of foolish men. Be free, but do not use your freedom for a cloak of wickedness, but as slaves of God.

Honor everyone. Love the [family of] brethren. Fear God. Honor the king.

Do not love the world, nor the things which are in the world. The world shall pass away and all its desires; but he who does the will of God shall abide forever. Amen.

#### The Praxis

##### Acts 19:11-20

A chapter from the Acts of our fathers the pure Apostles, who were invested with the grace of the Holy Spirit. Their blessing be with us all. Amen.

God worked remarkable miracles by the hands of Paul, so [much] that even handkerchiefs or aprons that had touched him were taken to the sick, and the evil spirits were expelled.

But some of the itinerant Jews who were exorcists took it on themselvesto invoke the Name of the Lord Jesus over those who had the evil spirits. They said, “We adjure you by Jesus whom Paul preaches.” There were seven sons of a certain Sceva, a Jewish chief priest, who did this.

But the evil spirit answered, “Jesus I know, and Paul I know, but who are you?” The man in whom the evil spirit was leaped on them and overpowered them. He gave them such a beating that they escaped from that house naked and wounded. This became known to all who lived at Ephesus, both Jews and Greeks. Fear fell on them all, and the Name of the Lord Jesus was magnified. Many also of those who had believed came forward to confess and reveal their [evil] deeds. Many of those who practiced magical arts brought their books and burned them in the sight of all. Their price was counted and found to be fifty thousand pieces of silver. In this way, the word of the Lord was growing and becoming powerful.

The word of the Lord abides in this church and in every church. Amen.

### August 20 / Ⲙⲉⲥⲟⲣⲏ 27

See April 18 / Ⲡⲁⲣⲙⲟⲩⲧⲉ 23, page 210.

Annual tune. Sts. Benjamin and Eudoxia the martyrs. St. Mary the Armenian, the martyr.

### August 21 / Ⲙⲉⲥⲟⲣⲏ 28

Annual Tune

Commemoration of the Patriarchs: Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob

#### The Pauline Epistle

##### Hebrews 11:1-10

A chapter from the Epistle of our teacher Paul to the Hebrews. His blessing be upon us. Amen.

Now, faith is the personal foundation of things hoped for, certainty about things that cannot be seen. By this, those of old obtained approval. By faith, we understand that the universe was formed by the word of God, so that what is visible was made from what is invisible.

By faith, Abel offered to God a sacrifice more excellent than Cain, and through this a testimony was given to him that he was righteous. God testified about his gifts, and although Abel is now dead, he still speaks. By faith, Enoch was taken away in order not to see death: he was not found because God had translated him. He too had received a testimony that before his translation, he had been well-pleasing to God.

Without faith it is impossible to please God, for whoever comes to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him.

By faith, Noah, being warned about things not yet seen was moved with godly fear. He prepared a ship to save his household and by this means he condemned the world and became heir of the righteousness which is according to faith. By faith, Abraham, when he was called, obeyed and left the place which he was supposed to receive as his inheritance. He left, not knowing where he was going. By faith, he lived as an alien in the land of the promise, as in a land that was not his own, dwelling in tents with Isaac and Jacob who were heirs with him of the same promise. For Abraham looked for the city which has foundations, and whose architect and builder is God.

The grace of God the Father be with you all. Amen.

#### The Catholic Epistle

##### James 2:14-23

The Catholic Epistle from the Epistle of our teacher James. His Blessing be upon us. Amen.

What good is it, my brethren, if someone claims to have faith but has no works? Can faith save such a person? If a brother or sister is in rags and lacking daily food, and one of you tells them, “Go in peace, be warmed and filled” and not give them what the body needs, what good is that? Likewise faith, if it has no works, is dead in itself. Yes, someone will say, “You have faith, and I have works!” Show me your faith without works, and by my works, I will show you my faith.

You believe that God is one! You do well! The demons also believe, and they shudder. Fool! Will you not recognize that apart from works, faith is dead? Was not our father Abraham justified by works, by offering up his son Isaac on the altar? You can see that [his] faith was working with his works, and that by works, faith was perfected. Thus, the Scripture which says, “Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him as righteousness” was fulfilled, and he was called the friend of God.

Do not love the world, nor the things which are in the world. The world shall pass away and all its desires; but he who does the will of God shall abide forever. Amen.

#### The Praxis

##### Acts 7:20-34

A chapter from the Acts of our fathers the pure Apostles, who were invested with the grace of the Holy Spirit. Their blessing be with us all. Amen.

At that time, Moses was born, and he was pleasing to God. For three months, he was nourished in his father’s house; and when he was thrown out, Pharaoh’s daughter took him and raised him as her own son. Moses was instructed in all the wisdom of the Egyptians, and he was powerful in his words and actions. But when he was forty years old, it came into his heart to visit his brethren, the children of Israel. Seeing one of them treated unjustly, he defended and avenged him who was oppressed, striking the Egyptian. He supposed that his brethren would understand that God, by his hand, was giving them deliverance; but they did not understand.

The following day, Moses appeared to them as they are quarreling and urged them to be at peace again, saying: ‘Men, you are brothers! Why do you wrong each other?’ But the man who was mistreating the other pushed Moses away, saying: ‘Who made you a ruler and a judge over us? Do you want to kill me, as you killed the Egyptian yesterday?’ When he heard this, Moses fled and became a stranger in the land of Midian, where he became the father of two sons.

When forty years were fulfilled, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in the wilderness of Mount Sinai, in a flame of fire in a bush. When Moses saw it, he wondered at the sight. As he came close to see, a voice of the Lord came to him, [saying], ‘I am the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.’ Moses trembled and dared not look. The Lord said to him, ‘Take your sandals off of your feet, for the place where you stand is holy ground. I have indeed seen the affliction of my people in Egypt and heard their groaning. I have come down to deliver them. Now come, I will send you into Egypt.’

The word of the Lord abides in this church and in every church. Amen.

### August 22 / Ⲙⲉⲥⲟⲣⲏ 29

Joyful Tune

Commemoration of the Annunciation, Nativity, and Resurrection

**Sts. Athanasius the bishop, Gerasimus, and Theodotus, the Martyrs**

Arrival of the relics of St. John the Short to Scetis (Sheheet) in 515 A.D.

#### The Pauline Epistle

##### 1 Corinthians 10:25-11:1

A chapter from the First Epistle of our teacher Paul to the Corinthians. His blessing be upon us. Amen.

You may eat whatever is sold at the market, asking no question for the sake of conscience, for “the earth is the Lord’s, and its fullness.” If you are invited for a meal by an unbeliever (and if you are inclined to accept), eat whatever is set before you, asking no questions for the sake of conscience. But if anyone says to you, “This was offered to idols,” do not eat it for the sake of the one who told you, and for the sake of conscience, for “the earth is the Lord’s, and all its fullness.” I say conscience, not your own, but the other’s conscience. But why is my freedom judged by someone else’s conscience? If I partake with gratefulness, why am I denounced for what I give thanks for? And so, whether you eat, or drink, or whatever [else] you do, do it all to the glory of God. Give no occasions for stumbling, either to Jews, or to Greeks, or to the Church of God; even as I also [attempt to] please everyone in all things, not seeking my own profit, but the profit of many, so that they may be saved.

Be my imitators, even as I imitate Christ.

The grace of God the Father be with you all. Amen.

#### The Catholic Epistle

##### 1 John 4:15-21

The Catholic Epistle from the First Epistle of our teacher John. His Blessing be upon us. Amen.

God remains in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they remain in God. We know and we believed in the love which God has for us: God is love, and whoever remains in love remains in God, and God remains in him. In this, love has been made perfect among us, so that we may have boldness in the day of judgment, because in this world, we are just as he is. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear, because fear is connected with punishment. But the one who fears is not yet perfect in love. We love him, because he first loved us. If someone says, “I love God,” and yet hates his brother [or sister], such a person is a liar! If someone does not love the brethren who can be seen, how can such a person [claim to] love God whom he has not seen? Indeed, this is commandment we have received from him: that the one who loves God should also love his brother.

Do not love the world, nor the things which are in the world. The world shall pass away and all its desires; but he who does the will of God shall abide forever. Amen.

#### The Praxis

##### Acts 5:34-42

A chapter from the Acts of our fathers the pure Apostles, who were invested with the grace of the Holy Spirit. Their blessing be with us all. Amen.

But someone stood up in the council, a Pharisee named Gamaliel, a teacher of the law who was honored by all the people. He instructed that the apostles be put out for a while. He said to them, “Men of Israel, consider carefully what you intend to do to these men. Some time ago, Theudas arose, claiming to be someone. A number of men, about four hundred, joined themselves to him. He was [eventually] killed, all those who obeyed him were scattered, and it all came to nothing. After this man, Judas of Galilee arose during the days of the census, and he led some people to follow him. He also perished, and all those who obeyed him were scattered abroad. Now I tell you: stay away from these men and leave them alone. If this plan or work is of human origin, it will be overthrown. But if it is of God, you will not be able to overthrow it, and you would find yourselves fighting against God!”

They agreed with him. Summoning the apostles, they had them flogged and ordered them not to speak in the Name of Jesus; then, they released them. The apostles left the Sanhedrin, rejoicing that they had been considered worthy to suffer dishonor for the sake of his Name.

Every day, in the temple and at home, they never stopped teaching and preaching that Jesus is the Christ.

The word of the Lord abides in this church and in every church. Amen.

### August 23 / Ⲙⲉⲥⲟⲣⲏ 30

Annual Tune

Malachi the Prophet

#### The Pauline Epistle

##### Ephesians 4:8-16

A chapter from the Epistle of our teacher Paul to the Ephesians. His blessing be upon us. Amen.

Therefore, he says, “When he ascended on high, he led captivity captive, and gave gifts to men.” Now, what does “he ascended” mean, if not that he first descended into the lower parts of the earth? He who descended is the [same] one who also ascended far above all the heavens, so that he might fill all things.

He gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some shepherds and teachers, for the perfecting of the saints, for a work of ministry, to build up of the body of Christ. This is until we all attain to the unity of the faith and to the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, having reached the very fullness of Christ. The goal is that we may no longer be children, tossed back and forth and carried about by every wind of doctrine through human trickery, according to clever deceits and mistaken schemes. Instead, speaking the truth in love, may we grow up in all things into him who is the head, Christ. From him, the whole body, being fitted and knit together, as every joint supplies and according to the participation of each part, grows and builds itself in love.

The grace of God the Father be with you all. Amen.

#### The Catholic Epistle

##### 2 Peter 1:19-2:3

The Catholic Epistle from the Second Epistle of our teacher Peter. His Blessing be upon us. Amen.

Therefore, we have the word of prophecy made even more certain, and you should pay attention to it as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star arises in your hearts. Know this first of all, that no interpretation of Scriptural prophecy happens as something private, because no prophecy ever came by human will: holy men of God spoke, being moved by the Holy Spirit.

But false prophets also arose among the people, as false teachers will also be among you. They will secretly bring in destructive heresies, even denying the Master who bought them, bringing upon themselves swift destruction. Many will follow their immoral ways and as a result, the way of the truth will be brought into disrepute. They will exploit you greedily with deceptive words. Their sentence, pronounced long ago, does not linger, and their destruction does not slumber.

Do not love the world, nor the things which are in the world. The world shall pass away and all its desires; but he who does the will of God shall abide forever. Amen.

#### The Praxis

##### Acts 7:30-37

A chapter from the Acts of our fathers the pure Apostles, who were invested with the grace of the Holy Spirit. Their blessing be with us all. Amen.

When forty years were fulfilled, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in the wilderness of Mount Sinai, in a flame of fire in a bush. When Moses saw it, he wondered at the sight. As he came close to see, a voice of the Lord came to him, [saying], ‘I am the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.’ Moses trembled and dared not look. The Lord said to him, ‘Take your sandals off of your feet, for the place where you stand is holy ground. I have indeed seen the affliction of my people in Egypt and heard their groaning. I have come down to deliver them. Now come, I will send you into Egypt.’

This Moses, whom they had rejected by saying: ‘Who made you a ruler and a judge?’—God sent as both a ruler and a deliverer by the hand of the angel who appeared to him in the bush. Having worked wonders and signs in Egypt, this man led them out in the Red Sea and in the wilderness for forty years. It is that [same] Moses who said to the children of Israel, ‘The Lord our God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your brothers. [You shall listen to him.]\*’

The word of the Lord abides in this church and in every church. Amen.

\*Laking in EOB, found in TR and Coptic.

### August 24 / Ⲕⲟⲩϫⲓ ⲛ̀ⲁ̀ⲃⲟⲧ 1

Annual Tune

**St. Eutychus, a disciple of St. John the Evangelist**

St. Pishay the Antiochian

#### The Pauline Epistle

##### Romans 10:4-18

A chapter from the Epistle of our teacher Paul to the Romans. His blessing be upon us. Amen.

For Christ is the fulfillment of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes. Moses writes about the righteousness of the law, “The one who does them will live by them.” But the righteousness which is of faith speaks this way, “Do not say in your heart, ‘Who will ascend into heaven?’ (that is, to bring Christ down); or, ‘Who will descend into the abyss?’ (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead.)” But what does it say? “The word is near you, in your mouth, and in your heart;” that is, the word of faith, which we preach. If you will confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. With the heart, one believes, resulting in righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made, resulting in salvation. As the Scripture says, “Whoever believes in him will not be disappointed.”

Indeed, there is no distinction between Jew and Greek because the same Lord is Lord of all, and he is bountiful to all who call on him. For, “Whoever will call on the Name of the Lord will be saved.” But how will they call on him in whom they have not believed? How will they believe in him whom they have not heard? How will they hear without a preacher? And how will they preach unless they are sent? As it is written:

*How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the Good News of peace, Who bring glad tidings of good things!*

But they did not all listen to the Good News. For Isaias says, “Lord, who has believed our report?” And so, faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God. But I say, did they not hear? Yes, most certainly:

*Their sound went out into all the earth,*

*Their words to the ends of the world.*

The grace of God the Father be with you all. Amen.

#### The Catholic Epistle

##### 1 John 1:1-2:6

The Catholic Epistle from the First Epistle of our teacher John. His Blessing be upon us. Amen.

What was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we saw and what our hands touched, [this is our message] concerning the word of life. The life was revealed and we have seen, we testify and we proclaim to you the life, the eternal life which was with the Father and which was revealed to us. What we have seen and heard, this is what we proclaim to you, so that you also may have communion with us. Truly, our communion is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. We write these things to you so that our joy may be fulfilled!

This is the message which we have heard from him and which we now announce to you: that God is light, and in him there is no darkness at all. If we say that we have communion with him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie – we do not tell the truth.

But if we walk in the light as he is in the light, then we do have communion with one another and the blood of his Son Jesus Christ cleanses us from all sin. If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and righteous so that he will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar and his word is not in us.

My little children, I write these things to you so that you may not commit sin. But if someone does commit a sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ, the righteous. He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the whole world.

This is how we have come to know that we know him: if we keep his commandments. The one who says, “I know him,” and yet does not keep his commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in such a person. But if someone keeps God’s word, God’s love has most certainly been perfected in him. This is how we know that we are in him: whoever claims to abide in him should also live just as he lived.

Do not love the world, nor the things which are in the world. The world shall pass away and all its desires; but he who does the will of God shall abide forever. Amen.

#### The Praxis

##### Acts 3:1-16

A chapter from the Acts of our fathers the pure Apostles, who were invested with the grace of the Holy Spirit. Their blessing be with us all. Amen.

Peter and John would go up into the temple at the hour of prayer, the ninth hour. A certain man who was lame from his mother’s womb was being carried. Every day, he was laid at the gate of the temple (the one which is called ‘Beautiful’) to ask alms from those entering the temple. Seeing Peter and John about to go into the temple, he asked to receive alms. Then Peter, along with John, fixed his gaze on him and said, “Look at us!” The man gave them attention, expecting to receive something from them. But Peter said, “I have neither silver nor gold, but what I do have, I give to you. In the Name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, get up and walk!” Peter took the man by the right hand and raised him up. At once, his feet and ankles received strength. Leaping up, the man stood up and began to walk! He entered with them into the temple, walking, leaping, and praising God! When all the people saw him walking and praising God, they recognized that it was the man who used to sit at the Beautiful Gate of the temple, begging for alms; and they were filled with wonder and amazement at what had happened to him. As the lame man who had been healed held on to Peter and John, all the people were greatly astonished and ran together to them in the porch that is called Solomon’s [Porch].

When Peter saw this, he answered to the people, “Men of Israel, why do you marvel at this man? Why do you gaze at us, as though by our own power or godliness we had made him walk? The God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, the God of our fathers, has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you delivered up and denied in the presence of Pilate, when he had determined to release him. But you denied the Holy and Righteous One and asked for a murderer to be granted to you. Then you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. By faith in his Name, this man whom you see and know was made strong. Yes, the faith which comes through Jesus has given him this perfect soundness as you all can see.

The word of the Lord abides in this church and in every church. Amen.

### August 25 / Ⲕⲟⲩϫⲓ ⲛ̀ⲁ̀ⲃⲟⲧ 2

Annual Tune

St. Titus the Disciple

#### The Pauline Epistle

##### 2 Corinthians 3:12-4:4

A chapter from the Second Epistle of our teacher Paul to the Corinthians. His blessing be upon us. Amen.

Since we have such a hope, we use great boldness of speech, not as Moses, who put a veil on his face so that the children of Israel would not see the end of what was passing away. In this case, their minds were hardened, because to this very day, at the reading of the old covenant, the same veil remains since only in Christ does it pass away. Even to this day, when Moses is read, a veil lies on their heart. But whenever one turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away. Now the Lord is the Spirit and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. With unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, we are all being transformed into the same image, from glory to glory, and this is from the Lord, the Spirit.

Therefore, seeing that we have this ministry, even as we obtained mercy, we do not waver. We have renounced the hidden things of shame: we no longer walk in clever lies and we do not handle the word of God deceitfully. Instead, by the manifestation of the truth, we seek the approval of everyone who has a conscience in the sight of God. Even if our Good News is veiled, it is veiled in those who perish, as the god of this world has blinded the minds of those who do not believe, so that the light of the Good News of the glory of Christ who is the image of God should not dawn on them.

The grace of God the Father be with you all. Amen.

#### The Catholic Epistle

##### 1 John 5:1-11a

The Catholic Epistle from the First Epistle of our teacher John. His Blessing be upon us. Amen.

Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God, and whoever loves the Father also loves the one who is born of the Father. By this we know that we love the children of God: by loving God and keeping his commandments. For this is the love of God: that we keep his commandments, and his commandments are not burdensome. Everyone born of God overcomes the world! This is the victory that has overcome the world: your faith. And who overcomes the world? Is it not the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? This is the one who came by water and blood: Jesus Christ; not with water only, but with water and blood. It is the Spirit who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth. There are three who bear witness <in heaven: the Father, the Word, and the Holy Spirit; and these three are one. And there are three that testify on earth>: the Spirit, the water, and the blood; and the three agree as one. If we accept human testimony, God’s testimony is greater because this is God’s testimony concerning his [very] Son! Whoever believes in the Son of God has the testimony in himself, but whoever does not believe God has made God to be a liar, because such a person has not believed in the testimony that God has given concerning his Son. This is the testimony: God gave us eternal life!

Do not love the world, nor the things which are in the world. The world shall pass away and all its desires; but he who does the will of God shall abide forever. Amen.

#### The Praxis

##### Acts 14:1-7

A chapter from the Acts of our fathers the pure Apostles, who were invested with the grace of the Holy Spirit. Their blessing be with us all. Amen.

In Iconium, both Paul and Barnabas entered into the synagogue of the Jews. They spoke in such a way that a great multitude of both Jews and Greeks believed. But the Jews who refused to believe stirred up and poisoned the souls of the Gentiles against the brethren. Therefore, Paul and Barnabas stayed there for a long time, speaking boldly in the Lord. Moreover, the Lord bore witness to the word of his grace, granting that signs and wonders be done by their hands. However, the city was divided. Some sided with the Jews, and some with the apostles. Then, a group of Gentiles and Jews, along with their leaders, plotted to attack and stone them. But Paul and Barnabas became aware of it and fled to the cities of Lycaonia, Lystra, Derbe, and to the surrounding region. There, they continued to preach the Good News.

The word of the Lord abides in this church and in every church. Amen.

### August 26 / Ⲕⲟⲩϫⲓ ⲛ̀ⲁ̀ⲃⲟⲧ 3

Annual Tune

**Archangel Raphael**

St. Andrianus the Martyr

St. John XIV, the 96th Patriarch of Alexandria

#### The Pauline Epistle

##### Hebrews 2:5-18

A chapter from the Epistle of our teacher Paul to the Hebrews. His blessing be upon us. Amen.

Indeed, God did not subject the world to come (which we proclaim) to angels, but there is a place {in Scripture} where someone has testified:

*What is man, that you [should] think of him?*

*Or the son of man, that you care for him?*

*You made him a little lower than the angels.*

*You crowned him with glory and honor.*

*You have put all things in subjection under his feet.*

Since God has subjected all things to him, he left nothing that is not subject to him! But now, we do not see all things subjected to him, [at least not] yet. But we see him who has been made a little lower than the angels, [that is] Jesus, crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he should taste death for everyone.

Indeed, it was fitting for God, (for whom are all things and through whom are all things), in bringing many children to glory, to make the author of their salvation perfect through sufferings. For both the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified are all from one; for this reason, he is not ashamed to call them brethren, saying:

*I will declare your Name tomy brethren.*

*In the midst of the congregation I will sing your praise.*

Again:

*I will put my trust in him,*

and

*Behold, here I am with the children whom God has given me.*

Since the children have shared in [the same] flesh and blood, he likewise shared the same [human nature], so that through death he might bring to nothing the one who had the power of death, the devil, and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to life-long slavery. Certainly, Jesus did not take on the [nature of] angels, but [that of] Abraham’s seed. For this reason, he had to be made like his brethren in all things, so that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, {able} to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. Moreover, since he himself suffered and was tempted, he is able to help those who are tempted.

The grace of God the Father be with you all. Amen.

#### The Catholic Epistle

##### 1 Peter 1:3-12

The Catholic Epistle from the First Epistle of our teacher Peter. His Blessing be upon us. Amen.

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to his great mercy, became our father again. This is to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an incorruptible and undefiled inheritance that does not fade away. It is reserved in heaven for you, who by the power of God are protected through faith for a salvation which is ready to be revealed in the last time. In this, you greatly rejoice, although for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials. This way, may the demonstration of your faith (which is more precious than gold that perishes even though it is tested by fire), be found to result in praise, glory, and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ! Even though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with unspeakable joy and glory. And so you are receiving the result of your faith, the salvation of your souls. About this salvation, the prophets who prophesied of the grace that would come to you did much research and investigation. They were searching the person and time that the Spirit of Christ (which was in them) pointed to by predicting the sufferings of Christ and the glories that would follow them. They received revelation that they were servants of these things not for themselves but for you. These [things] have now have been announced to you by those who preached the Good News by the Holy Spirit sent out from heaven, and [even the] angels desire to gaze upon these things.

Do not love the world, nor the things which are in the world. The world shall pass away and all its desires; but he who does the will of God shall abide forever. Amen.

#### The Praxis

##### Acts 10:21-33

A chapter from the Acts of our fathers the pure Apostles, who were invested with the grace of the Holy Spirit. Their blessing be with us all. Amen.

Peter went down to [meet] the men, and said, “Behold, I am the one you are looking for! Why have you come?”

They replied, “Cornelius, a centurion, a righteous man and one who fears God, someone well spoken of by all the nation of the Jews, was directed by a holy angel to invite you to his house, and to listen to what you say.” Then Peter invited them in and gave them lodging. On the next day, Peter arose and went out with them, and some of the brethren from Joppa accompanied him. The following day, they entered into Caesarea. Cornelius was waiting for them, having called together his relatives and close friends. When Peter entered, Cornelius met him, fell down at his feet, and worshiped him. But Peter raised him up, saying, “Stand up! I am also a man!” As he talked with Cornelius, he went in and found many people assembled. Peter said to them, “You yourselves know that it is unlawful for a Jew to associate with or visit someone of another nation, but God has shown me that I should not call anyone profane or unclean. Therefore, I have come without complaint when I was sent for. And so, I ask, why did you send for me?”

Cornelius replied, “Four days ago, I was fasting until this hour, and at the ninth hour, I was praying in my house. And behold, a man stood before me in bright clothing, and he said, ‘Cornelius, your prayer is heard, and your alms are remembered in the sight of God. Therefore, send [messengers] to Joppa for Simon who is called Peter. He is staying in the house of Simon a tanner, by the seaside. When he comes, he will speak to you.’ And so, I sent for you at once, and it was good of you to come! Now, we are all here present in the sight of God to hear everything that God has commanded you.”

The word of the Lord abides in this church and in every church. Amen.

### August 27 / Ⲕⲟⲩϫⲓ ⲛ̀ⲁ̀ⲃⲟⲧ 4

Annual Tune

**Abba Poemen the Anchorite**

St. Leparius the bishop of Rome

#### The Pauline Epistle

##### 1 Corinthians 3:9-22

A chapter from the First Epistle of our teacher Paul to the Corinthians. His blessing be upon us. Amen.

Indeed, we are God’s coworkers! You are God’s field, God’s building. According to the grace of God which was given to me, as a wise master builder, I laid a foundation, and another builds on it. But let everyone be careful how he builds on it! As it is, no one can lay any other foundation than the one that has [already] been laid, which is Jesus Christ. But as one builds on that foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, or stubble; each person’s work will be revealed. Certainly, the Day will make it manifest, because it is revealed in fire; and the fire will test everyone’s work. If what someone has built on the foundation remains, then a reward shall be received. [On the other hand], if someone’s work is burned, it will be lost, but that person shall be saved, as through fire.

Do you not know that your bodies are a sanctuary of God, and that God’s Spirit lives in you? If anyone destroys God’s sanctuary, God will destroy him because God’s sanctuary is holy, and this is what you are! Let no one deceive himself: if anyone thinks that he is wise among you in this world, let him become a fool, so that he may become wise. For the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God. As it is written, “He has taken the wise in their craftiness.” And also, “The Lord knows the reasoning of the wise, that it is worthless.” Therefore, let no one boast in human beings! All things are yours, whether Paul, or Apollos, or Kephas, or the world, or life, or death, or things present, or things to come. All belong to you, and you belong to Christ, and Christ belongs to God.

The grace of God the Father be with you all. Amen.

#### The Catholic Epistle

##### 1 Peter 5:1-12

The Catholic Epistle from the First Epistle of our teacher Peter. His Blessing be upon us. Amen.

I exhort the presbyters among you, as the fellow-presbyter and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and as one who will also share in the glory that is to be revealed. Be shepherds to the flock of God which is in your care. Do not oversee the flock under compulsion but willingly, not for dishonest gain but with eagerness. Do not act as lords over those entrusted to you but become examples to the flock. When the chief shepherd is revealed, you will receive the crown of glory that does not fade away.

Likewise, you younger ones, be subject to those who are older. Yes, all of you should clothe yourselves with humility and subject yourselves to one another, for “God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble.” Humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. Cast all your worries on him, because he cares for you.

Be sober, self-controlled and watchful. Your adversary, the devil, roams around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. Resist him, steadfast in your faith, knowing that your brethren throughout the world experience the same sufferings. But after you have suffered a little while, may the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, make you perfect, restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast. To him be the glory and the power unto ages of ages. Amen.

Through Silvanus, our faithful brother as I consider him, I have written to you briefly, exhorting, and testifying that this is the true grace of God in which you stand.

Do not love the world, nor the things which are in the world. The world shall pass away and all its desires; but he who does the will of God shall abide forever. Amen.

#### The Praxis

##### Acts 18:24-19:6

A chapter from the Acts of our fathers the pure Apostles, who were invested with the grace of the Holy Spirit. Their blessing be with us all. Amen.

Now, a certain Jew named Apollos who was an Alexandrian by race and an eloquent man arrived in Ephesus, and he was powerful with the Scriptures. He had been instructed in the way of the Lord, and being fervent in spirit, he spoke and taught accurately about Jesus, although he had only experienced the baptism of John. Apollos began to speak boldly in the synagogue, but when Priscilla and Aquila heard him, they took him aside and explained to him the way of God more accurately.

When Apollos had determined to cross over into Achaia, the brethren encouraged him and wrote to the disciples to receive him. When he arrived there, he greatly helped those who had believed through grace, for he powerfully refuted the Jews, publicly showing by the Scriptures that Jesus was the Christ.

It happened that, while Apollos was in Corinth, Paul had passed through the upper country and arrived in Ephesus. There, he found some disciples and asked them, “Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?”

They replied, “No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit!”

Paul asked, “Then, into what were you baptized?”

They answered, “Into John’s baptism.”

Paul said, “John indeed baptized with the baptism of repentance, saying to the people that they should believe in the one who would come after him, that is, in Jesus.”

After hearing this, they were baptized in the Name of the Lord Jesus. When Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they spoke in other tongues and prophesied.

The word of the Lord abides in this church and in every church. Amen.

### August 28 / Ⲕⲟⲩϫⲓ ⲛ̀ⲁ̀ⲃⲟⲧ 5 through August 31 / Ⲑⲟⲟⲩⲧ 3

August 28 / Ⲕⲟⲩϫⲓ ⲛ̀ⲁ̀ⲃⲟⲧ 5 see November 24 (25) / Ⲁⲑⲟⲣ 28, page 100.

Annual tune. Amos the Prophet. St. James the bishop of Egypt. St. Barsoma the naked. **St. John XV**, the 99th Patriarch of Alexandria.

August 29 / Ⲕⲟⲩϫⲓ ⲛ̀ⲁ̀ⲃⲟⲧ 6 see February 29 / Ⲕⲟⲩϫⲓ ⲛ̀ⲁ̀ⲃⲟⲧ (The Little Month) 6, page 196.

Annual tune. A Thanksgiving to God.

August 29 (30) / Ⲑⲟⲟⲩⲧ 1 see August 29 (30) / Ⲑⲟⲟⲩⲧ 1, page 16.

Joyful Tune. **The Ecclesiastical New Year**. St. Bartholomew the Apostle. St. Milieus, the 3rd Patriarch of Alexandria.

August 30 (31) / Ⲑⲟⲟⲩⲧ 2 see The Pauline Epistle

2 Corinthians 5:11-6:13

A chapter from the Second Epistle of our teacher Paul the Corinthians. His blessing be upon us. Amen.

But since we know the fear of the Lord, let us try to persuade others. What we are is revealed to God, and I hope that we are also revealed to your consciences. For we are not trying to obtain your approval once again, but we say this to give you an occasion to be proud of us, so that you may have something to answer to those who boast in appearances—not in the heart [of things]. If we are unreasonable, it is for God, and if we are reasonable, it is for you. Indeed, the love of Christ overwhelms us, because we consider this: that one died for all, therefore all have died. He died for all, so that those who live should no longer live to themselves but to him who died and rose again for them. Therefore, we do not think of anyone according to the [old] flesh any more. Even though we used to think of Christ according to the flesh, we no longer think of him this way. Therefore, anyone who is in Christ is a new creation! The old things have passed away. Behold, all things have become new! But all things are of God, who reconciled us to himself through Jesus Christ and who gave to us the ministry of reconciliation. What I mean is that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not imputing sins, but having entrusted us with the word of reconciliation. Therefore, we are ambassadors of Christ: it is as if God was making [his] supplication through us: we beg you, on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God! God made him who knew no sin to become sin for our sake; so that in him, we might become the righteousness of God.

Since we are God’s fellow-workers, we also entreat you not receive his grace in vain, for he says,

*At an acceptable time I listened to you,*

*in a day of salvation I rescued you.*

Behold, now is the acceptable time! Behold, now is the day of salvation! We give no occasion for stumbling in anything, so that our service may not be blamed. Instead, we seek to be approved as servants of God in everything, in great endurance, in afflictions, in hardships, in distresses, in beatings, in imprisonments, in riots, in labors, in vigils, in fastings; in purity, in knowledge, in patience, in kindness, in the Holy Spirit, in sincere love, in the word of truth, and in the power of God. There is also the armor of righteousness on the right hand and on the left, glory and dishonor, evil report and good report; being thought to be deceivers, and yet true; unknown, and yet well-known; dying, and behold, we live; punished, and yet not killed; sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; poor, yet making many rich; thought to have nothing even though we possess all things!

We have spoken freely to you, O Corinthians, and our heart is open wide. We are not withholding our affection from you, but you are withholding yours from us! In return, I speak to you as to my children: be open [to what we have to say].

The grace of God the Father be with you all. Amen.

#### The Catholic Epistle

##### 1 John 2:7-17

The Catholic Epistle from the First Epistle of our teacher John. His Blessing be upon us. Amen.

Brethren, I am not writing a new commandment to you. This is an old commandment which you have had since the beginning. This old commandment is the word which you heard from the beginning. Yet, in another way, it is a new commandment that I write to you; it is true in him and in you because the darkness is passing away and the true light already shines! Anyone who claims to be in the light and hates his brother [or sister] is still in the darkness. Anyone who loves his brother [or sister] remains in the light, and there is no occasion for stumbling in such a person. But whoever hates a brother [or sister] is in the darkness and walks in the darkness; such a person does not know where he is going because the darkness has blinded his eyes.

I write to you, children, because your sins are forgiven through his Name. I write to you, fathers, because you know the one who has existed from the beginning. I write to you, young men, because you have overcome the evil one. I write to you, children, because you know the Father.

I have written to you, fathers, because you know him who is from the beginning. I have written to you, young men, because you are strong; and the word of God remains in you, and you have overcome the evil one.

Do not love the world or the things that are in the world. The love of the Father is not in those who love the world; because everything that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, pride in possessions, is not from the Father but from the world. The world is passing away with its lusts, but the one who does the will of God remains forever.

Do not love the world, nor the things which are in the world. The world shall pass away and all its desires; but he who does the will of God shall abide forever. Amen.

#### The Praxis

##### Acts 17:16-34

A chapter from the Acts of our fathers the pure Apostles, who were invested with the grace of the Holy Spirit. Their blessing be with us all. Amen.

Now, as Paul was in Athens, waiting for them, his spirit was greatly distressed to see that the city was full of idols. And so, he reasoned in the synagogue with the Jews and the [Gentile] God-fearers, and every day in the marketplace with the people that he met. Some of the Epicurean and Stoic philosophers also had discussions with him. Some said, “What is this babbler trying to say?”

Others suggested, “He seems to be advocating foreign deities,” because he was preaching Jesus and [Anastasin] ‘the resurrection’.

So they took him [by the arm] and brought him to the Areopagus, saying, “May we know what this new teaching that you proclaim is all about? For you bring some strange things to our ears! Therefore we want to know what these things mean.” Now, all the Athenians and the strangers living there spent their time doing nothing else, but either to tell or to hear some new thing.

So Paul stood in the middle of the Areopagus, and said, “Athenians! I perceive that you are very religious in all things. For as I passed along and observed your sacred monuments, I also found an altar with this inscription: ‘To an unknown God.’ What therefore you revere in ignorance, this is what I announce to you! The God who made the world and all things in it, being Lord of heaven and earth, does not dwell in sanctuaries made with hands! Neither is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all life, breath, and everything else. From one, he has made every nation to dwell on the entire surface of the earth (having determined the times and boundaries of their habitation). God did this so that people should seek the Lord and perhaps reach out for him and find him, although he is not far from each one of us. ‘For in him we live, and move, and have our being!’ As some of your own poets have said, ‘For we are also his offspring.’ Since we are God’s offspring, we should not think that the divinity is like gold, silver, or stone, engraved by human art and imagination. In the past, God overlooked such ignorance, but now, he commands that all people everywhere should repent, because he has appointed a day in which he will judge the world in righteousness by the man whom he has ordained. He has given assurance of this to all by raising him from the dead.”

Now, when they heard of the resurrection of the dead, some mocked; but others said, “We want to hear you again on this matter.”

Then Paul left their company. But certain men joined with him and believed. Among them was Dionysius the Areopagite, a woman named Damaris, and others with them.

The word of the Lord abides in this church and in every church. Amen.

August 30 (31) / Ⲑⲟⲟⲩⲧ 2, page 16.

Joyful tune. **The martyrdom of St. John the Baptist.** St. Dasya the soldier and martyr.

August 31 (September 1) / Ⲑⲟⲟⲩⲧ 3 see June 27 / Ⲉⲡⲏⲡ 3, page 264.

Joyful tune. Commemoration of the **Council held in Alexandria**. A great earthquake in 1112 A.D.