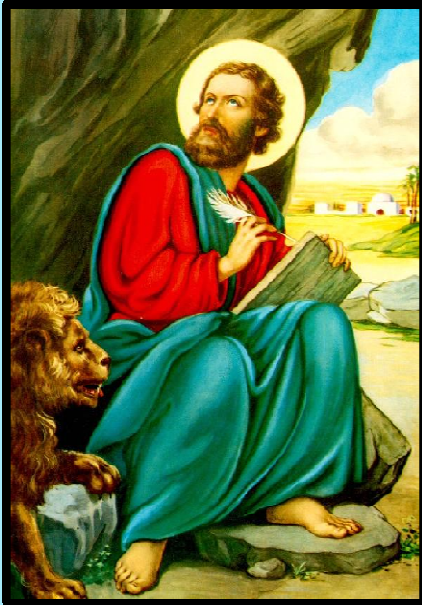


CHURCH STUDY

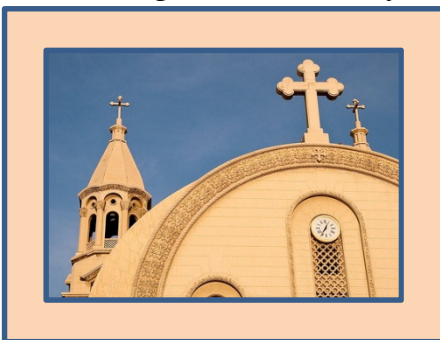
THE BEHOLDER OF GOD ST. MARK THE EVANGELIST



1. He was a Jew from the tribe of Levi
2. He was born in Cyrene city in the Pentapolis of North Africa.
3. His father's name was Aristopolis and his mother's name was Mary
4. He was a nephew of Barnabas
5. He had 2 names "John" a Jewish name meaning "Kindness of God" and "Mark" a gentile name meaning "Hammer"
6. His mother was among the women who followed Jesus and served Him out of their own money
7. He was chosen by our Lord Jesus Christ as one of the seventy Apostles.



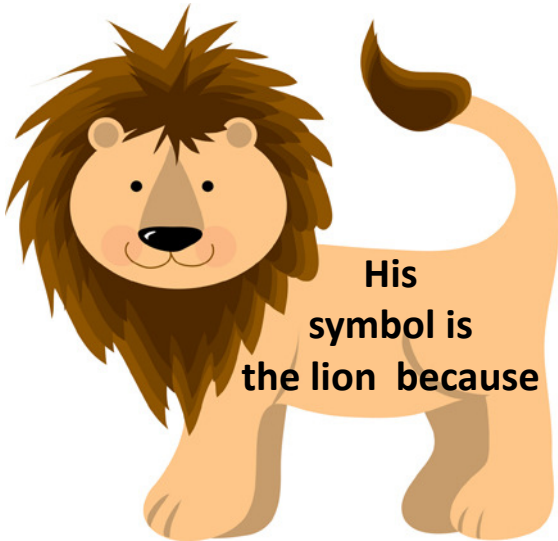
8. He accompanied St. Paul and St. Barnabas on their first missionary trip.
9. He is the founder of the church in Egypt, he ordained Anianus as Bishop for Alexandria
11. On Easter eve, 68 A.D., he was seized by the pagan mob and was dragged around the city of Alexandria until he passed away. Thus, he received the crowns of Apostleship, Evangelism and Martyrdom.



THE RETURN OF HIS RELICS



On June 24, 1968 (the 17th of Baounah , 1684) during the papacy of Pope Kyrillos VI, 116th Pope of Alexandria, the relics of St. Mark the Apostle, the Evangelist of the Egyptian land and the first Patriarch of Alexandria, were returned to Egypt.



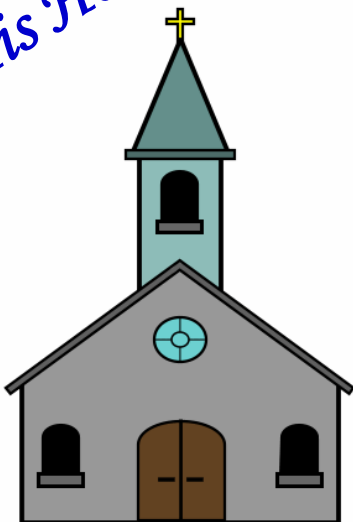
His
symbol is
the lion because

THE BEHOLDER OF GOD
ST. MARK
THE EVANGELIST, Cont..

1. *On their way to Jordan, St. Mark and his father were faced by 2 beasts (a lion and a lioness). The father realized that they were going to be devoured by the beasts and asked his son to escape. St. Mark prayed to the Lord Jesus Christ, and the lions miraculously dropped dead. This event led the artists to insert a lion in all St. Mark's pictures.*
2. *He started his Gospel with the roar of a lion: "The voice of one crying in the wilderness"*
3. *His Gospel represents the Lord Jesus Christ in His majesty and Kingdom as He is "the lion of the tribe of Judah"*



His House was the first church in Christianity where:



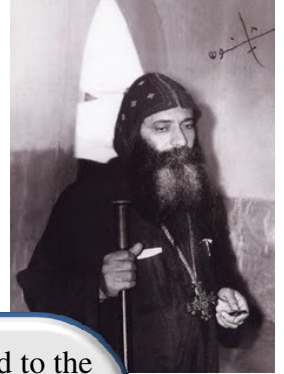
- I. **Christ observed Passover with His disciples**
- II. **Christ washed His disciples' feet**
- III. **Christ instituted the Sacrament of the Eucharist**
- IV. **The disciples met for prayer after the Resurrection and before the Pentecost**
- V. **The Holy Spirit descended on the Apostles on the day of Pentecost**
- VI. **St. Peter went when the angel released him from the prison**

H. H. POPE SHENOUDA III BIOGRAPHY



"...I found in monasticism, a life of complete freedom and clarification."

Pope Shenouda III



- His Holiness was born on August 3, 1923 in the city of Asuit in Upper Egypt.
- He was given the name of Nazir Gayed.
- He obtained his Bachelor of Arts degree in History in 1947 from the University of Cairo.
- He was very active in his church and served as a Sunday School teacher
- He completed his Bachelor of Theology and the Dean appointed him as lecturer in the Old and New Testaments.
- From his youth, His Holiness enjoyed writing very much, especially poems.

- ❖On July 18, 1954, Mr. Gayed was led to the monastic life at "El-Suryan" Monastery in the western desert of Egypt; he was given the name of Father Antonyos El-Suryaani.
- ❖For six years, from 1956 to 1962, he lived a life of solitude in a cave about seven miles away from the monastery, dedicating all his time to meditation, prayer, and asceticism.
- ❖On September 30, 1962, Pope Kyrillos VI ordained him as Bishop Shenouda, the first bishop for Christian Education.
- ❖He became the President and Dean of the Theological Seminary



ENTHRONMENT

**40th Enthronement
Anniversary
14th November 2011**

- On March 9, 1971, His Holiness Pope Kyrillos (Cyril) VI departed in peace. The Holy Synod met to plan for the election of the new Patriarch..
- On October 31, 1971, the altar ballot was conducted during the divine Liturgy. At the end of the Liturgy, H. G. Metropolitan Antonyos, declared God's chosen shepherd for His church as His Grace Bishop Shenouda, Bishop of Education.
- On November 14, 1971, His Holiness Pope Shenouda III was enthroned as 117th Pope of Alexandria,



H. H. POPE SHENOUDA III BIOGRAPHY (Cont..)

Despite his many responsibilities, His Holiness usually manages to spend three days a week in the monastery.

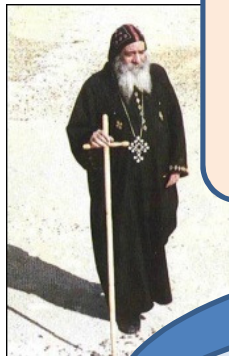
His Holiness has been awarded four honorary Doctoral Degrees in Theology, three from American Universities and one from a German University.

In 1978 the Browning Institute awarded him the prize for the best Christian preacher in the world.

His love of monasticism has led to a monastic revival in the Coptic Church. He has ordained hundreds of monks and nuns and renovated and reestablished many monasteries and convents.

THE 1ST

- Pope to establish Coptic monasteries outside of Egypt.
- Pope since the fifth century to have been Dean of the Theological Seminar



In May 1973, His Holiness Pope Shenouda III visited His Holiness, the late Pope Paul VI in Rome. In welcoming His Holiness to Rome, the late Pope Paul VI said,

"You are indeed the head of a church whose origin goes back to the Evangelist Mark and which had in Saint Athanasius...the invincible defender of our common Nicene faith, that is, faith in the divinity of our Lord Jesus Christ."

The late Egyptian president Anwar El Sadat, issued a presidential decree to exile H.H. to the Monastery of St. Bishoy.

Despite having to spend forty months away from his flock, he continued to care for his church.

He saw the exile as an opportunity for spiritual retreat and wrote 16 books during that time.



When H. H. Pope Shenouda III was enthroned, there were only 7 Coptic churches outside of Egypt; today there are more than 150 churches outside of Egypt.

There are two theological seminaries in the U.S, and a monastery in California.

The Papal Visits

H. H. has made many pastoral visits outside of Egypt. During his trips, He laid foundation stones of new Churches, consecrated most of the altars in the churches, baptized hundreds of children, ordained hundreds of deacons, delivered many lectures at theological seminaries and universities....