



Summer Festival | 2024 / 2025

The Lord is My Light and



Gr 4-6 | English Edition

My Salvation (Psalm 27:1)



COPTIC ORTHODOX
DIOCESE OF MELBOURNE

His Holiness Pope Tawadros II



118th Pope of Alexandria and Patriarch of The See of Saint Mark

Appreciation

The summer festival central committee of the Coptic Orthodox Diocese of Melbourne and its affiliated regions would like to give thanks and appreciation to the **Coptic Orthodox Diocese of the Southern United States** (www.smfsus.org) for their blessed and tireless work in the translation, revision and art-work of St. Mark's Festival (Mahragan Al Keraza) books from the original Arabic version under the guidance and prayers of **H.G Bishop Youssef**.

May The Lord bless all their fruitful services and for many years to come.

In Christ,

SF Melbourne Central Committee.

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The Lord is My God

Proof of the Divinity of our Lord Jesus Christ

Learning about God and the divinity of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Our faith is built on the belief that our God is one of three Hypostases (persons). The Father is God, the Son is God, and the Holy Spirit is God. They are not three but **one God** with equal divine nature. As the Holy Bible says: **"For there are three that bear witness in heaven: the Father, the Word, and the Holy Spirit; and these three are one."** (1 John 5:7)



We Pray in the Creed:

"We believe in one God, God the Father, the Pantocrator...We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all ages... Yes, we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the Giver of Life, who proceeds from the Father."

Our Lord Jesus Christ is God, one of the three Hypostases.

Proof of the Divinity of our Lord Jesus Christ

1- Prophecies of the Lord Jesus Christ in the Old Testament were fulfilled in the New Testament:

- The prophecy of His birth from a virgin in the Old Testament: **"Behold the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son and shall call His name Immanuel."** (Isaiah 7:14)
- This prophecy was fulfilled in the New Testament: **"Behold the virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel."** (Matthew 1:23)
- The prophecy of His crucifixion in the Old Testament: **"They pierced My hands and My feet."** (Psalm 22:16)
- This prophecy was fulfilled in the New Testament: **"They crucified Him and the criminals."** (Luke 23:33)



“ THE LORD IS MY LIGHT AND MY SALVATION ”

2- Our Lord Jesus Christ announced that He is God:

In the Old Testament, Moses asked God, **“What is His name? what shall I say to them?”** And God said to Moses, **“I AM WHO I AM.”** And He said, **“Thus you shall say to the children of Israel, ‘I AM has sent me to you.’”** (Exodus 3:13-14)

The phrase **“I AM”** is a term associated with God in the Old Testament, showing His eternal nature and divine identity. Our Lord Jesus Christ used the same expression many times in the New Testament to reveal His divinity: **“Most assuredly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I AM.”** (John 8:58)



3- The divine characteristics of God are equal to those of our Lord Jesus Christ:

- **God is unlimited:** God is not limited to time or space: He fills heaven and earth. God is present everywhere. He has no beginning or end. He is eternal and everlasting.

Unlimited in place: Jeremiah 23:24, Matthew 18:20

Unlimited in time: Psalm 90:2, John 8:56-58, Matthew 28:20

- **God is the creator:** He created heaven and earth. He created everything out of nothing. Our Lord Jesus Christ created eyes for the man born blind. (John 9)
- **God is ever existing:** He existed from the beginning and was never created. (John 5:26)
- **God is unchangeable:** God doesn't change His words, His promises, or His love for us. (Malachi 3:6, Hebrews 13:8)
- **God knows everything:** (Jeremiah 17:10, John 4)
- **God is omnipotent:** He can do everything! (Psalm 135:6)
 - Authority over nature: Christ walked on water.
 - Authority over animals: the miracle of catching many fish.
 - Authority over plants: the fig tree that didn't bear fruit.
 - Authority over matter: Christ changed water into wine.
 - Authority over man: Christ raised people from the dead.
 - Authority over the devil: Christ defeated the devil.
 - He gives authority to the saints to do miracles.



Our Lord Jesus Christ is God!

- Our Lord Jesus Christ has all the characteristics attributed to God alone.
- Our Lord Jesus Christ is God incarnate. **He is the second Hypostasis.**
- Our Lord Jesus Christ revealed that He is God when He said, "I AM".
- Our Lord Jesus Christ performed many miracles.

“He who believes in the Son has everlasting life and he who does not believe the Son shall not see life” (John 3:36)



The Lord is My God

Complete the verse and match the verse to the characteristic of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Psalms 135:6

“Whatever the Lord _____
He does, In heaven and in earth, In the
seas and in all deep places.”

Jeremiah 17:10

“I, the Lord, search the _____,
I test the mind, Even to give every man
according to his ways, According to the
fruit of his doings.”

Jeremiah 23:24

“Can anyone _____ himself in secret
places, So I shall not see him?” says the
Lord; “Do I not fill heaven and earth?”
says the Lord.”

Matthew 28:20

“teaching them to observe all things
that I have commanded you; and lo, I
am with you _____, even to
the end of the age.” Amen.

John 5:26

“For as the Father has life in Himself, so

Malachi 3:6

“For I am the Lord, I do not
_____.”

God knows everything

God is unchangeable

God is ever existing

God is unlimited in place

God is omnipotent

God is unlimited in time



The Lord is a Light to Our Path

St. John the Beloved

The Synaxarion of the 4th day of the Coptic Month of Tobe (January 12)

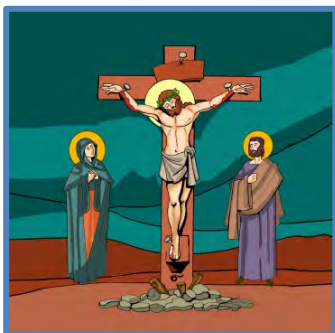
We learn that our Lord's commandments are light to our path.

- St. John was the son of Zebedee and the brother of St. James.
- St. John was originally the disciple of St. John the Baptist.
- St. John's mother was one of the women who followed our Lord Jesus Christ.
- St. John and his brother were fishermen. One day while they were fishing, our Lord Jesus Christ called them, and they immediately left everything and followed Him.
- St. John, along with his brother St. James and St. Peter were the only witnesses to some miracles, for instance raising the daughter of Jairus from death (Mark 5:21-37), and the transfiguration (Matthew 17:1-13).
- St. John was always with the Lord Jesus Christ; he learned from Him and saw many of His miracles. **He was filled with the light of our Lord Jesus Christ.**



St. John was close to our Lord Jesus Christ even when the other disciples left Him:

- He accompanied the Lord to the cross. Our Lord Jesus Christ told him to take care of St. Mary, the mother of God and she lived with him thereafter. (John 19:25-28)
- He went to the tomb of our Lord Jesus Christ very early on the day of Christ's Resurrection. He bent down to look into the tomb to check the linen cloths, but he didn't enter. (John 20:1-10)
- He was the only disciple who recognized our Lord Jesus Christ after the Resurrection at the Sea of Tiberias. (John 21:7)



“ THE LORD IS MY LIGHT AND MY SALVATION ”

After our Lord Jesus Christ ascended into heaven, St. John preached in many places:

- St. John preached with St. Peter at the gate of the temple after healing the lame man. (Acts 3-4)
- St. John witnessed to our Lord Jesus Christ before the high priests. (Acts 4)
- St. John along with St. Peter laid hands on the people of Samaria to receive the Holy Spirit. (Acts 8:14-17)
- St. John went to Asia and preached to the people of Ephesus. Many of them believed and were baptized by him.



St. John preached the faith that he received from the Lord Jesus Christ Himself.

“For I received from the Lord that which I also delivered to you” (1 Corinthians 11:23)

St. John experienced many hardships and persecution. He was arrested and exiled to the island of Patmos where he wrote the book of Revelation.



One day, St. John met a young man and preached to him about salvation. This man repented but after a few years, he became the leader of a group of bad people.



When St. John heard about what happened to this young man, he went looking for him in the mountains. Thieves found St. John and took him to their leader; the leader was that young man. When the young man saw St. John, he ran away, but St. John ran after him and begged him to stop and listen to what he had to say to him. The young man stopped and offered true repentance for his sins.

St. John is called **‘the disciple of love’** and **‘St. John the beloved’**. He talked about love in all his sermons and books. He always asked his disciples to love one another. St. John was called **‘the evangelist’** because he wrote one of the four gospels. St. John was called **‘John the Seer’** because he saw the revelation. St. John was called **"the disciple whom Jesus loved."**



St. John wrote 5 books in the New Testament: **The Gospel of St. John, the 3 Epistles (1 John, 2 John, 3 John), and the book of Revelation.**

He departed when he was 100 years old. He is the only disciple who was not martyred.

May the prayers of St. John the Beloved be with us all. Amen.

**"I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness,
but have the light of life" (John 8:12)**



St. John the Beloved

Who is St. John the Beloved? Answer the questions below and find the words.

1. Who was St. John's brother? St. _____
2. St. John and his brother were _____.
3. St. John the Beloved accompanied the Lord to the _____.
4. St. John was the only disciple who recognized our Lord Jesus Christ after the _____ at the Sea of Tiberias.
5. St. John preached with St. _____ at the gate of the temple after healing the lame man.
6. St. John preached the _____ that he received from the Lord Jesus Christ Himself.
7. St. John was arrested and exiled to the island of Patmos where he wrote the book of _____.
8. St. John wrote _____ books in the New Testament.
9. St. John is called 'the disciple of _____'
10. He is the only disciple who was not _____.

F	S	Y	L	E	L	M	M	V	P	C	S	V	R
S	S	O	R	C	C	E	Y	E	L	M	I	E	V
R	I	E	T	V	E	T	H	M	D	A	S	R	V
A	Y	N	A	E	O	S	M	F	U	R	E	R	N
V	C	V	E	A	E	N	A	V	T	T	M	N	O
V	D	P	E	T	E	V	I	E	V	Y	A	E	I
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R	E	V	I	N	J	M	R	V	S	S	M	A	E
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Y	U	F	C	T	P	L	R	N	E	H	S	T	E
N	E	M	R	E	H	S	I	F	T	E	Y	H	R
H	E	T	M	E	L	C	L	E	C	F	I	V	E



The Lord is My Salvation

Pope Dioscorus the Champion of Orthodoxy

The Synaxarion of the 7th day of the Coptic Month of Thoout (September 17)

We learn the importance of preserving the faith that shows us that the Lord is our salvation.

God was incarnate and born from the Virgin St. Mary and became man. His humanity and divinity never separated. The Lord Jesus Christ has one nature from two natures. He is perfect human and perfect divine and He united His humanity with His divinity without mingling or confusion or alteration.



Defending the Faith

St. Dioscorus was born to a Coptic family in the city of Alexandria in Egypt. He joined the Theological School of Alexandria and studied the Greek language. Pope Cyril I, 'the Pillar of Faith' chose him to be his disciple.



After the departure of Pope Cyril, **St. Dioscorus was ordained the 25th Pope of Alexandria.** Then he began his journey of defending the faith.



Leo, the Bishop of Rome tried to convince the emperor of **his false teachings.** Leo believed that our Lord Jesus Christ has two natures; a human nature that was shown when He was crucified and a divine nature that was shown when He did miracles **(which is NOT true).**



Leo sent many letters to Emperor Marcian explaining his beliefs, and the emperor helped him to spread these false beliefs about the two natures of God. They even tried to convince Pope Dioscorus to accept those beliefs. When they failed, the emperor called for an **Ecumenical Council in the city of Chalcedon in the year 451 A.D.**



Pope Dioscorus took charge to refute the new belief. He told them that our Lord Jesus Christ is one, He who was invited to the wedding in Cana of Galilee as a man, changed the water into wine as God, and **the two natures were not separated in all His works.**

He repeated what he learned from Pope Cyril I, "The Hypostatic Union of the Word of God with the flesh is like the union of the soul with the body and like the union of fire and iron: even as they are of two different natures, by their union they became one"; neither becomes the other. Likewise, our Lord Christ is **one Lord** and **one Nature.**"

“ THE LORD IS MY LIGHT AND MY SALVATION ”

No one at the council dared to disagree with Pope Dioscorus. They informed Emperor Marcian and Empress Pulcheria that Pope Dioscorus was the only one who disobeyed their commands concerning the faith.

Pope Dioscorus, and the leading bishops of the council debated and discussed the matter for a very long time, but Pope Dioscorus would not deviate from his Orthodox belief. This bothered the emperor and empress. The empress commanded to strike Pope Dioscorus on his mouth and to pull out the hair of his beard. His hair and teeth were sent to Alexandria with a message from Pope Dioscorus saying, **"This is the outcome of my struggle for the sake of faith."**



When the other bishops saw what happened to Pope Dioscorus, they were afraid and agreed to sign the document of the false belief.

When Pope Dioscorus heard about what happened, he asked to see the document and pretended that he wanted to sign it. When he read the document, he wrote at the bottom that he excommunicated everyone who signed it, as well as everyone who deviated from the Orthodox Faith.



From that moment, the churches split into **Chalcedonian churches** (those who accepted and signed Leo's Tome - letter) and **non-Chalcedonian churches** (those who didn't sign it, including the Coptic Church).

The emperor was very angry, and he commanded to exile Pope Dioscorus to the island of Gagra.

He spent five years in exile, and he departed on the 7th day of the Coptic month of Thoout (September 17) in the year 454 A.D., and his body was laid there.

Pope Dioscorus is called 'the Champion of Orthodoxy'.

May the prayers of St. Dioscorus, the 25th Pope of Alexandria be with us all. Amen.

"And the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also."

(2 Timothy 2:2)





Pope Dioscorus



- Across**
6. Where was Pope Dioscorus born?
 7. Pope Dioscorus is called 'the _____ of Orthodoxy'.
 8. Which pope chose St. Dioscorus to be his disciple?
 9. Pope Dioscorus departed on _____ 7.
 10. Were Leo's teaching true or false?

1. Pope Cyril I is known as the _____ of faith.
2. What island was Pope Dioscorus exiled to?
3. How many years did Pope Dioscorus spend in exile?
4. What city was the Ecumenical Council in 451 A.D.?
5. "Our Lord Christ is one Lord and one _____."
9. Pope Dioscorus' hair and _____ were sent to Alexandria.
11. The Bishop of Rome.

The Lord is My Refuge

King Jehoshaphat and the Life of Prayer

2 Chronicles 17-20 & 1 Kings 22

We learn that through prayer we receive power from the Lord, our refuge.

- “Prayer is the key to heaven. I can do all things through prayer.” (St. Augustine)
- “Prayer is getting attached to God throughout our lives.” (St. Basil)
- “Prayer is a great weapon and source of countless blessings” (St. John Chrysostom)
- Prayer is a very strong weapon against all evil. **“This kind can come out by nothing but prayer and fasting.” (Mark 9:29)**

Prayer is a relationship we have with God.

We talk to God because we love Him, and we are certain that God can hear us.

Our Lord Jesus Christ taught us the importance of prayer when He Himself prayed:

- When He healed Simon's mother-in-law, He woke up very early and went out to a solitary place to pray. (Mark 1:35)
- Before choosing the 12 disciples, the Lord Jesus Christ spent the whole night in prayer on the mountain. (Luke 6:12)
- In the Transfiguration on the Mount, He went up to the mountain to pray with St. Peter, St. John, and St. James. **“As He prayed, the appearance of His face was altered, and His robe became white and glistening.” (Luke 9:28-29)**



God's commandment to us is to pray all the time:

- Thank God when we are joyful.
- Seek condolences and comfort when we are sad.
- Ask for peace when we are scared.
- Ask for forgiveness for our sins.



“Men always ought to pray and not lose heart.” (Luke 18:1)

“ THE LORD IS MY LIGHT AND MY SALVATION ”

Our Coptic Orthodox Church organized 7 prayers a day called the **Agpeya Prayers** (the hourly prayers): **the First Hour, Third Hour, Sixth Hour, Ninth Hour, Eleventh Hour, Twelfth Hour, and Midnight Hour.** Praying from the Agpeya allows us to spend more time with God.

The Agpeya includes different prayers:

- The Prayer of Thanksgiving, giving thanks to our Lord Jesus Christ for everything.
- Psalm 150, asking for forgiveness of our sins.
- The Gloria, praising and glorifying God.
- Prayers for ourselves and for others.



King Jehoshaphat

King Jehoshaphat was the son of King Asa and his mother’s name was Azubah. Jehoshaphat was 35 years old when he became king after his father's death. He was the fourth king of the Kingdom of Judah (the southern kingdom). (After the death of King Solomon, Israel was divided into 2 kingdoms: **the Kingdom of Israel** in the north and **the Kingdom of Judah** in the south.)



Jehoshaphat was a good king, and he loved God and followed His commandments.

- He organized the kingdom and placed troops in all the cities. (2 Chronicles 17:2)
- He removed the high places and the wooden images from Judah (used for worshiping idols) and followed the ways of his great grandfather David. (2 Chronicles 17:3-6)
- He selected leaders to teach in the cities of Judah. (2 Chronicles 17:7-9)



“ THE LORD IS MY LIGHT AND MY SALVATION ”

One day, the people of Moab, Ammon, and Mount of Seir came down to fight King Jehoshaphat. Instead of preparing the army for the battle, he prepared differently.

- He set himself to seek the Lord.
- He proclaimed a fast throughout all of Judah.
- He gathered all the people of Judah and prayed, and he concluded his prayers by saying: **"Nor do we know what to do, but our eyes are upon You." (2 Chronicles 20:12)**

Jahaziel the son of Zechariah stood amid the assembly and said, **"Thus says the Lord to you: 'Do not be afraid nor dismayed because of this great multitude, for the battle is not yours, but God's'."** (2 Chronicles 15:20) He told them that they will not fight but they will stand still and see the salvation of the Lord. All the people of Judah and Jehoshaphat the king bowed their heads to the ground in prayer before the Lord.



Jehoshaphat was very confident that God would save them. He told the people, **"Believe in the Lord your God and you shall be established; believe His prophets and you shall prosper."** (2 Chronicles 20:20)

Then he appointed those who sing and praise the Lord to go before the army, and they sang, **"Praise the Lord, for His mercy endures forever."** (2 Chronicles 20:21) When they began to sing and praise God, the Lord sent a surprise attack against the people of Ammon, Moab, and Mount Seir and they were defeated. The Lord answered their prayers and protected the kingdom.





7 times everyday...



Our Coptic Orthodox Church organized 7 prayers a day called the **Agpeya Prayers** (the hourly prayers): **the First Hour, Third Hour, Sixth Hour, Ninth Hour, Eleventh Hour, Twelfth Hour, and Midnight**. Praying from the Agpeya allows us to spend more time with God.

Match the hour of the Agpeya to the time it represents.

Prime
The First Hour

Terce
The Third Hour

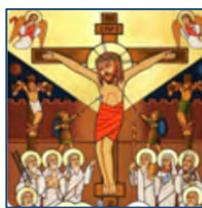
Sext
The Sixth Hour

None
The Ninth Hour

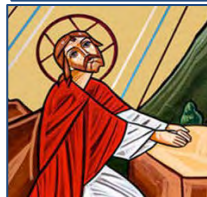
Vespers
The Eleventh Hour

Compline
The Twelfth Hour

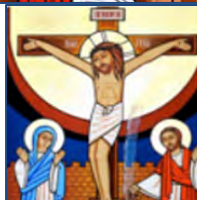
Midnight



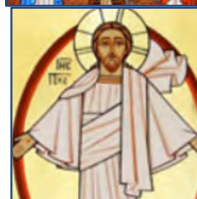
The death of our Lord and acceptance of the thief.



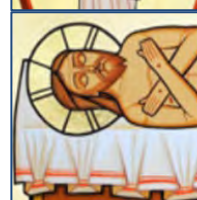
The 3 times our Lord prayed in Gethsemane.



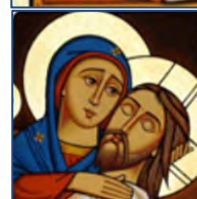
The crucifixion of our Lord.



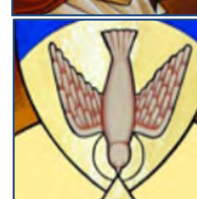
The Resurrection of our Lord.



The laying of our Lord in the tomb.



The body of our Lord Jesus was taken down from the cross, anointed with spices, and wrapped in linen.



The descent of the Holy Spirit upon the disciples.

The Lord is My Peace

Daniel A Man Greatly Beloved

This story teaches us that God gives peace to those who love Him even when the times are hard.

Daniel was from the tribe of Judah. He lived in Jerusalem. Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon came to Jerusalem and captured many people. King Nebuchadnezzar commanded Ashpenaz, the master of his servants, to bring him young men of the noble people of Israel and the royal family who are wise and good looking, to teach them the language and literature of the Chaldeans.



These young men will spend 3 years in the palace, they will eat from the king's delicacies and drink the wine of the king. At the end of the 3 years, they will serve before the king.

Daniel and his three friends were among those young men. However, they refused to eat the king's food. Daniel bravely asked Ashpenaz if he and his friends could eat only fasting food (vegetables) and drink only water. God blessed Daniel for his faithfulness, and God worked in Ashpenaz's heart and allowed him to like Daniel. Ashpenaz agreed but was afraid that the king would notice if they became weak and he was worried he would get into trouble by the king. Daniel convinced Ashpenaz to test them for 10 days, and after the 10 days of eating only vegetables and water, the king's servant would see how they looked.



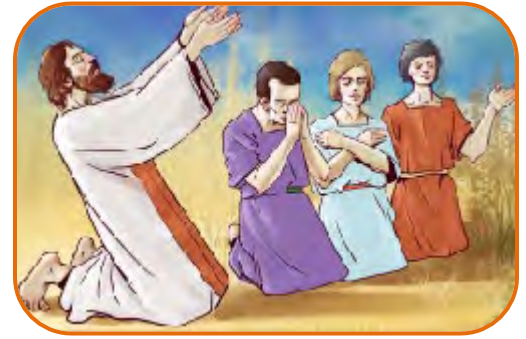
After 10 days, Daniel and his friends looked better and stronger than the other men who ate the king's food. Ashpenaz decided to only feed them vegetables and water from that time on.

One day, King Nebuchadnezzar had a dream that disturbed him very much. He called all the magicians and the astrologers and asked them to tell him the dream and interpret it. Of course, they were not able to do so. The king ordered to kill all the magicians and wise men including Daniel and his three friends.



“ THE LORD IS MY LIGHT AND MY SALVATION ”

Daniel was a man of prayer and loved God. He knew God was always with him and this gave him peace. He went to the king and asked him for some time to figure out the dream and its interpretation. He went home and prayed with his three friends and God revealed the dream and its interpretation to them. Daniel went to the king and told him that no one could tell the king his dream except God in heaven.



Then Daniel told him the dream that God revealed to him; there was a big statue, the head was made of fine gold, the chest and arms were made of silver, the stomach and thighs were made of bronze, and its legs and feet were made from iron and clay. A big stone was cut out without hands and struck and broke the statue into pieces. Then the stone became a big mountain and filled the whole earth.

Daniel then explained the dream; the parts of this statue represent the kingdoms that will rule over the earth. The big stone represents the kingdom of God that will break the other kingdoms into pieces. This kingdom of God shall never be destroyed and will stand forever. The king rewarded Daniel and his friends for explaining the dream.

Many years passed, Daniel was 90 years old at that time and full of wisdom. Darius became king after Nebuchadnezzar. He appointed Daniel as one of 3 governors because he knew Daniel was very wise. The other rulers became jealous of Daniel and wanted to find some charge against him. They went to the king and asked him to sign a decree that whoever worships another god other than the king would be put in the den of lions.

When Daniel heard about the royal order, he went home, knelt on his knees, and prayed to God. He continued to pray to God without hiding 3 times every day. The people saw him praying and he was put in the den of lions. The king said to him: **"Your God, whom you serve continually, He will deliver you."** (Daniel 6:16)

God sent an angel to close the lions' mouth and save him. The king rejoiced when he saw Daniel alive, for he loved him; he witnessed in front of all that Daniel's God is the true God.

The king was so pleased. He punished the evil men who accused Daniel and cast them into the den of lions. The king then declared before everyone that Daniel's God is the living God and His kingdom shall not be destroyed.



“ THE LORD IS MY LIGHT AND MY SALVATION ”

Another time, the king wanted Daniel to worship an idol named Bel. The Babylonians used to offer the idol food. Daniel refused saying that he does not worship idols made with hands, but only the living God, the creator of heaven and earth. The king tried to convince Daniel to worship Bel by telling him how much the idol eats and drinks every day.



Daniel told the king that Bel is just clay inside and brass outside and has never eaten. The king became very angry. He called all the priests of Bel and asked them who eats the food given to Bel. If they can prove that Bel has eaten the food, the priests of Bel will live and Daniel will die, otherwise the priests will die.



The priests asked the king to prepare the food and set it before Bel, close the doors, and seal them overnight. If the king enters in the morning and finds that Bel has eaten the food, then Daniel dies, and if he hasn't eaten the food, then they die.



The king had the priests of Bel prepare food for the idol, place it in front of it, and seal the room with the king's seal to make sure no one comes in the middle of the night to take it. Daniel asked his servants to sift ashes throughout the temple in front of the king before he sealed it.



The next morning, the king did not find the food they placed. However, Daniel showed him the footsteps on the floor. The king then found out that the priests of Bel had secret doors where they came through and ate the food. The king punished the priests of Bel and gave the idol to Daniel who destroyed it.

Daniel's life had many hardships, but he never complained or worried about them.

He always had peace and trusted that God was with him;

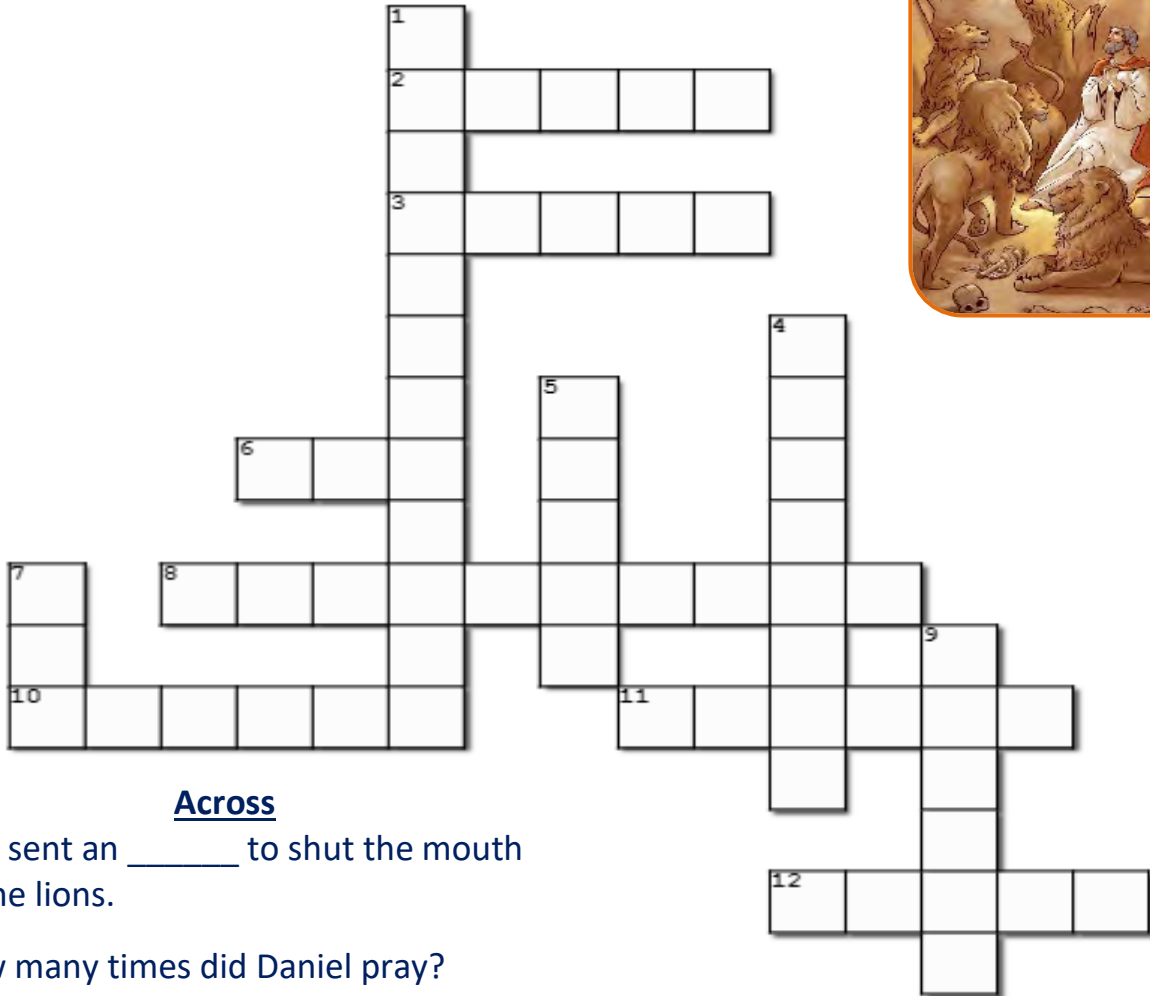
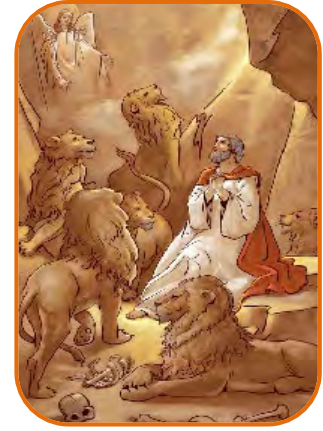
and he was a witness for God to all people.





Daniel

Complete the crossword puzzle.



Across

- 2. God sent an _____ to shut the mouth of the lions.
- 3. How many times did Daniel pray?
- 6. The name of the idol the king wanted Daniel to worship.
- 8. What did they will eat for 10 days?
- 10. Who became king after Nebuchadnezzar?
- 11. Daniel was a man of _____.
- 12. King Nebuchadnezzar had a _____ that disturbed him.

Down

- 1. God blessed Daniel for his _____.
- 4. The master of the servants.
- 5. Daniel was from which tribe?
- 7. Who did Daniel worship?
- 9. What did the rulers ask the king to sign?

Memorization

PSALM 27 (26)

The Prayer of the First Hour - Agpia

The LORD is my light and my salvation; Whom shall I fear? The LORD is the strength of my life; Of whom shall I be afraid?

When the wicked came against me To eat up my flesh, My enemies and foes, They stumbled and fell. Though an army should encamp against me, My heart shall not fear; Though war should rise against me, In this I will be confident.

One thing I have desired of the LORD, That will I seek: That I may dwell in the house of the LORD All the days of my life, To behold the beauty of the LORD, And to inquire in His temple.

For in the time of trouble He shall hide me in His pavilion; In the secret place of His tabernacle He shall hide me; He shall set me high upon a rock. And now my head shall be lifted up above my enemies all around me; Therefore I will offer sacrifices of joy in His tabernacle; I will sing, yes, I will sing praises to the LORD.

“ THE LORD IS MY LIGHT AND MY SALVATION ”

Hear, O LORD, when I cry with my voice! Have mercy also upon me, and answer me.

When You said, “Seek My face,” My heart said to You, “Your face, LORD, I will seek.” Do not hide Your face from me; Do not turn Your servant away in anger; You have been my help; Do not leave me nor forsake me, O God of my salvation.

When my father and my mother forsake me, Then the LORD will take care of me.

Teach me Your way, O LORD, And lead me in a smooth path, because of my enemies.

Do not deliver me to the will of my adversaries; For false witnesses have risen against me, And such as breathe out violence. I would have lost heart, unless I had believed That I would see the goodness of the LORD In the land of the living.

Wait on the LORD; Be of good courage, And He shall strengthen your heart; Wait, I say, on the LORD!

Alleluia.

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Anthem 2024/2025

(Our God is eternal
Our God is One in Three
Pantocrator, The Logos
Redeemer and Holy) x 2

All generations witness for Him
His creation gives Him praise
Tells of His might and His wonders
How this world His hands have made

We're peaceful in His promises
Guided by His teachings
We live by His commandments
We seek Him and His blessings

Our Church fathers and martyrs
Kept Tradition to this day
A life of Sacraments
My Church unique and firm in faith

My faith and my doctrine are glory
Unchanging the teachings and Holy
The Lord is my light and my salvation
The Lord is my light and my salvation

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