

Preservants course



St Mark Preservant Course

We are so excited to bring you this service

Weekly meeting Thursday 8- 9 pm

Please be aware that these sessions are being recorded . Recordings will be saved after each talk to an access restricted site within the church website.

Please mute your line unless you would like to contribute.

Course will last a year concluding October 2025.

God bless you and please take the most of this opportunity

-Rituals-

Father Antony Aziz & Fr David Ramzy

Liturgy:

Offertory

Liturgy of the Word

Liturgy of the Faithful

Raising of Incense:

Vespers & Matins



- Old Testament -
Subdeacon **Simon Kamel**

Introduction to the Old Testament:

- The books of Moses: Christ my redeemer
- The Historical Books: Christ my King
- The Prophets: Christ my hope
- Poetry and wisdom books



- New Testament -

Subdeacon Emad Elias

- Holy Gospels and Acts
- Pauline Epistles
- Catholic letters
- Revelations



- Dogmatic Theology -

Subdeacon Dr Ghali Hanna

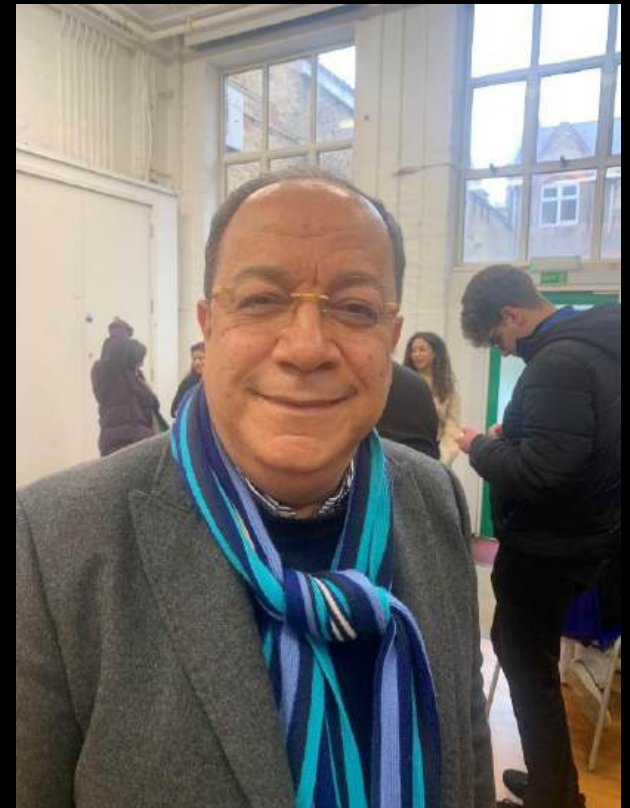
- Sacraments
- Trinity
- Incarnation
- Salvation



- Comparative Theology -

Subdeacon Dr Ghali Hanna

- World Religions
- Christian Denominations



Patrology

Subdeacon Ehab Roufail

- Nicene Post Nicene
- Ante-Nicene Fathers



- Church History – Deacon Basilios

Apostolic Era
Martyrdom
Monasticism

Ecumenical Councils
Chalcedon
The Great Schism
and Protestantism



- How to Serve / Spirituality of the Servant – Subdeacon David Boutros

- Characteristics of a servant.
- How to prepare and to give a lesson
- Church leadership (being part of & subservient to)
- Prayer and follow up in service

Serving in Love / walking with your youth



- Safeguarding
- Examples of lessons for youth/ how to tackle difficult subjects

Characteristics


of a servant 17/10/2024





Who is
called to
serve ?

WE ALL ARE!



My brethren, let
not many of you
become
teachers, knowing
that we shall
receive a stricter
judgment.

James 3:1

Therefore, to him
who knows to do
good and does not
do it, to him it is sin.

James 4:17



ΙΩΑΝΝΗΣ
ΠΡΟΧΡΥΣΟΣΤΟΜΟΣ

"With us everything should be secondary compared to our concern with children, and their upbringing in the instruction and teaching of the Lord." (St. John Chrysostom)



But as God has distributed to each one, as the Lord has called each one, so let him walk. And so I ordain in all the churches.

1 Corinthians 7:17

commitment

[kuh-mit-muhnt]

See synonyms for: [commitment](#) / [commitments](#) on Thesaurus.com

noun

the act of committing.

the state of being committed.

the act of committing, pledging, or engaging oneself.

a pledge or promise; [obligation](#):

We have made a commitment to pay our bills on time.

[dedication](#); [allegiance](#): *They have a sincere commitment to religion.*

perpetration or commission, as of a crime.

What is the most obvious fruit of a servants commitment?

Consistency

“Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labour is not in vain in the Lord. 1 Cor. 15:58

Service is fuelled by LOVE!





“Service is not an art which one can acquire through mere practice as other types of fine arts may be.

It is not a subjective study in which one can excel by personal effort. It is not a science like physical sciences. It does not start in seminaries, but it starts rather in the heart.

Its school is the school of the Holy Spirit which inflames the heart, sanctifies it, teaches it everything, and reminds it of the words of the Lord Jesus. Moreover, it takes from what it has and gives to the individual.”

*Paradise of the Spirit – Service
Bishop Youanis of Gharbia (of
blessed memory)*

How committed
is a mother to
her child?



**The Greater the
love of a servant
the more they will
be committed.**



“He who gives to no one is truly poor” St Clement

“Love is nothing more than desiring to do good to one’s
neighbour for the sake for the neighbour.” St Clement

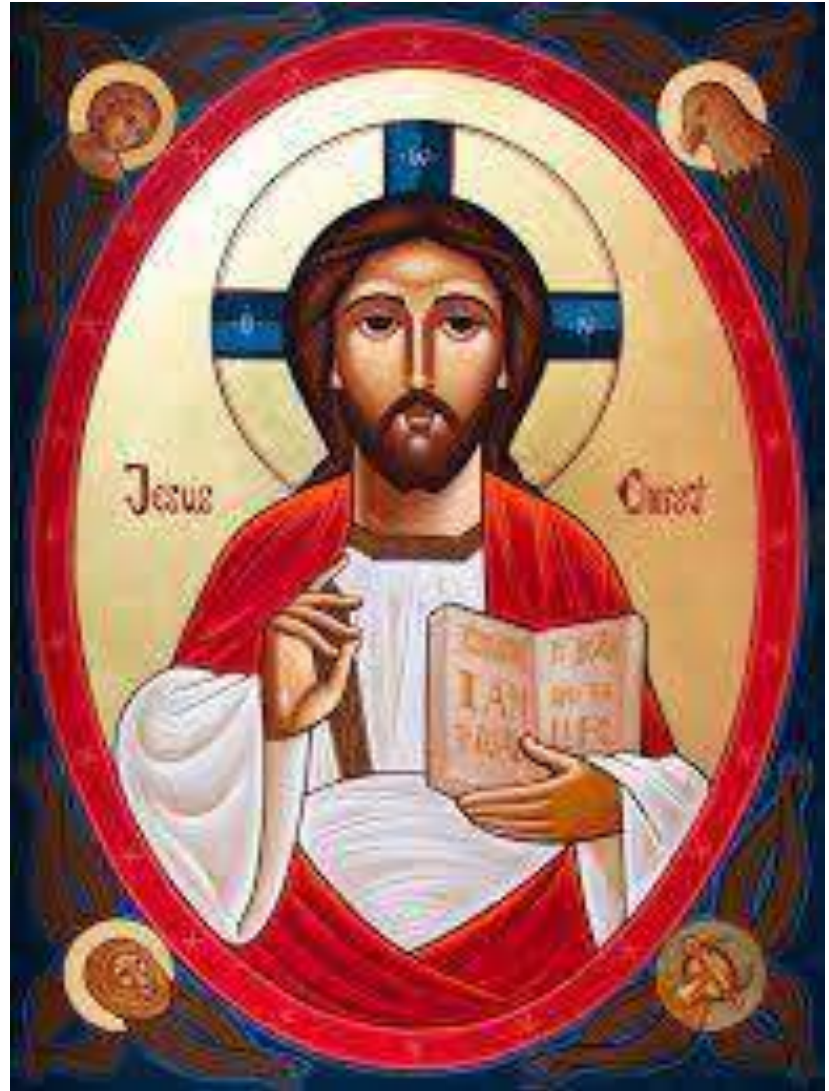
Service is fuelled by LOVE!


1 John 4:19

We love Him because
He first loved us

Declare His glory among the nations,
His wonders among all people

Psalm 96:3





The wise & foolish virgins

Matthew 25

“Then the kingdom of heaven shall be likened to ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. ² Now five of them were wise, and five *were* foolish. ³ Those who *were* foolish took their lamps and took no oil with them, ⁴ **but the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps.** ⁵ But while the bridegroom was delayed, they all slumbered and slept.

⁶ “And at midnight a cry was *heard*: ‘Behold, the bridegroom [\[a\]](#)is coming; go out to meet him!’ ⁷ Then all those virgins arose and trimmed their lamps. ⁸ And the foolish said to the wise, ‘Give us *some* of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’ ⁹ But the wise answered, saying, ‘No, lest there should not be enough for us and you; but go rather to those who sell, and buy for yourselves.’ ¹⁰ And while they went to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the wedding; and the door was shut.

¹¹ “Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, ‘Lord, Lord, open to us!’ ¹² But he answered and said, ‘Assuredly, I say to you, I do not know you.’

¹³ “Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour [\[b\]](#)in which the Son of Man is coming.

What IS THIS OIL ???

The **Grace** of God .

Grace is the very energies of God himself. The Orthodox Church believes that through the **Trinitarian** ministry of the Holy Spirit these energies are mediated to mankind. That is, how God *acts* in forgiving and spiritual healing. Grace is the working of God himself, not a created substance of any kind that can be treated like a commodity.

Crucially – IT IS A FREE GIFT!

We have to but receive it and live in fellowship with God to be filled with **GRACE**



Filling our Jars!

***“but the wise took oil in their vessels
with their lamps”***

***Grace of the Sacraments
“intangible grace through tangible means”***

Grace of a Spiritual life with God



My cup
overflows
with your
blessings.

Psalms 23:5

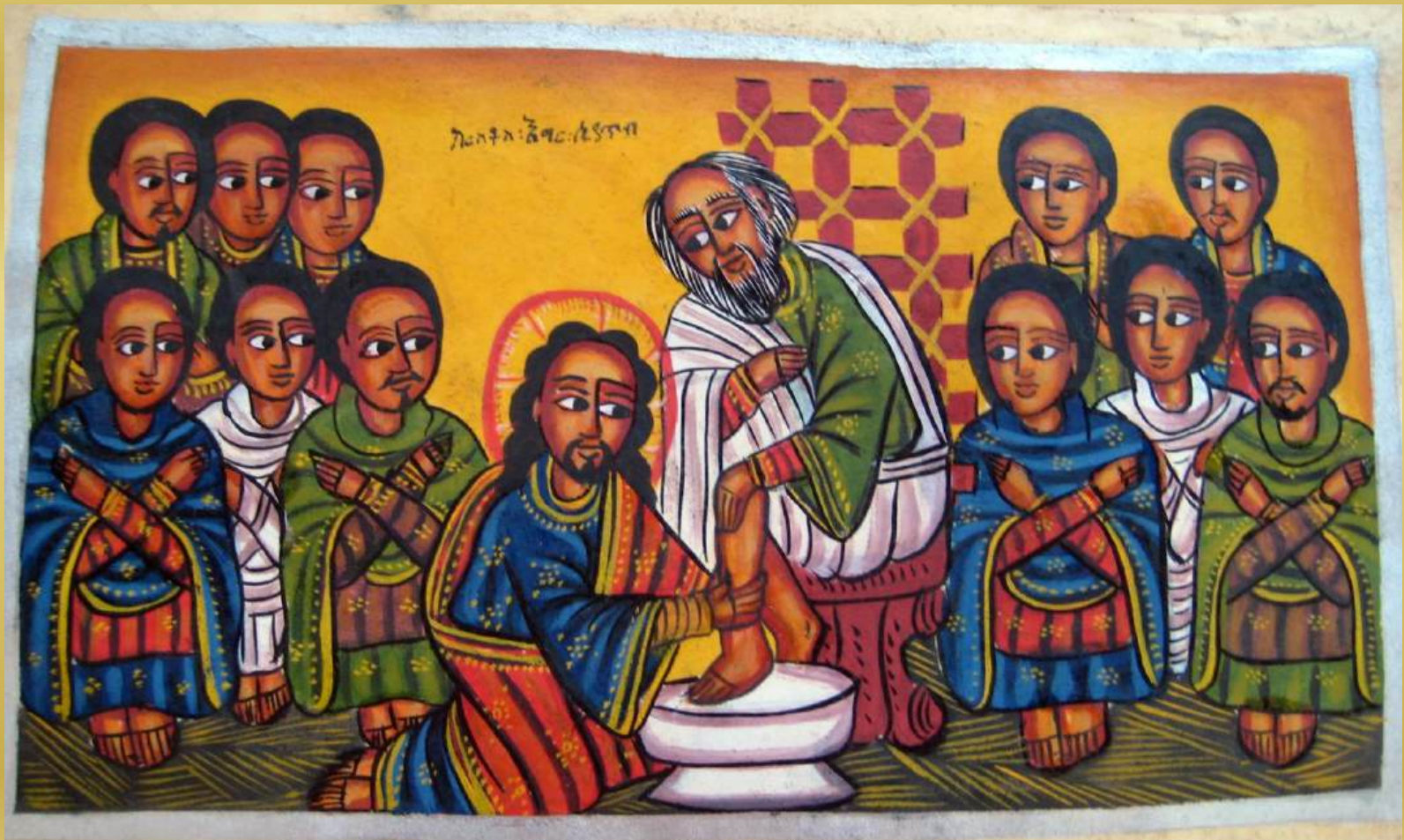


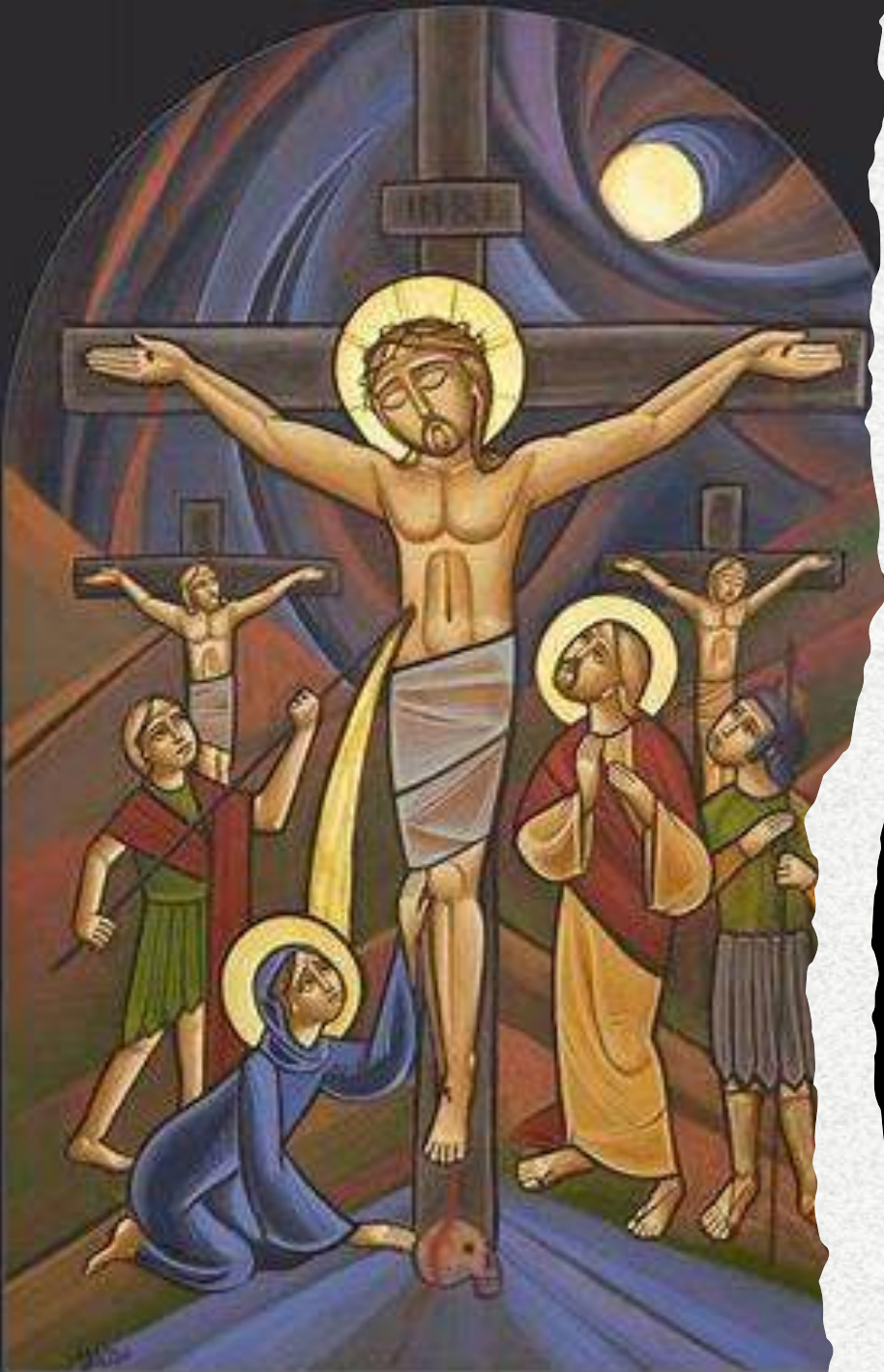
If I am trying to be dedicated from my energies and my efforts I will come short and not be fully committed.



But to be truly committed I need to be filled by His grace and overflowed so that He overflows through me into my service, there will be so much to give, I will never tire or run out enabling me to be truly committed to service.

Characteristics of Service: Humility





Characteristics
of Service:
Sacrifice

Faithfulness

Characteristics of Service

If service involves teaching, then a servant should be committed to SOUND teaching

“But as for you, speak the things which are proper for sound doctrine” Titus 2:1

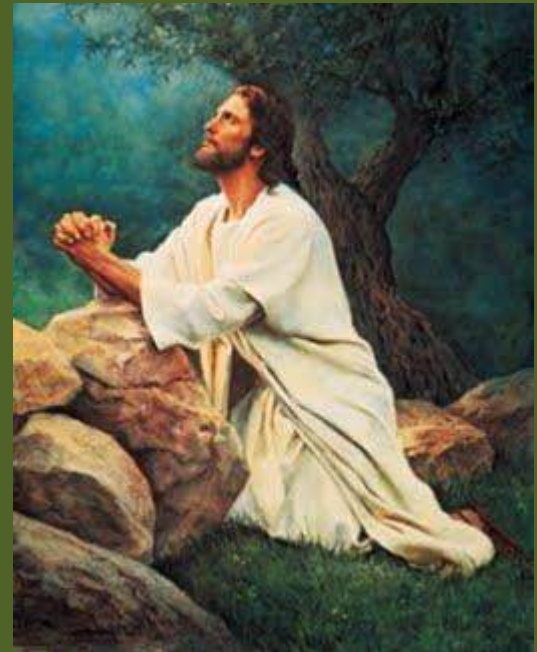
Commitment to discipleship to father of confession, to priest in charge of service and to heads of service, to those we can learn from or mentored from.



Characteristics of Service pray for your service or kids

¹⁶ So He
Himself *often* withdrew
into the wilderness
and prayed.

Luke 5:16



Characteristics of Service: following up

If I love God and love my kids or those I serve and they have not come to Sunday school It is incredible to think I won't ask about them, our goal should be that Every time someone doesn't come they are missed and messaged or called.



Characteristics of Service: walk with those you serve

**Serving with
love and care in
Sunday school
or in any service
is more than
teaching but
walking with
them in their
lives.**



Obstacles

Service will always have problems or politics
these are designed by the adversary to
defeat the benefits of service

ESPECIALLY IN LENT



“Do what you can and then pray that God
will give you the power to do what you
cannot” St. Augustine

Never run away from a service



But instead be called to the next service



With your spiritual Father or Father responsible for service's guidance



Characteristics

of the servant is a DNA that is built & sourced from:

My goal to serve is not sourced in personal glorification but from Our Love to our Lord who fills us with love for others by His Grace which fills our lamps



This grace is shown in the fruits of:

Offering Love,
Consistency, praying, Discipleship and Sound teaching
Following up, walking with those we serve
Overcoming or ignoring obstacles



With a goal for us to serve our beloved brothers and sisters in Christ and to share our beloved Christ with them



Service is not what you do:

A Servant is who you are!

Any questions or comments?



Suggested Further reading

