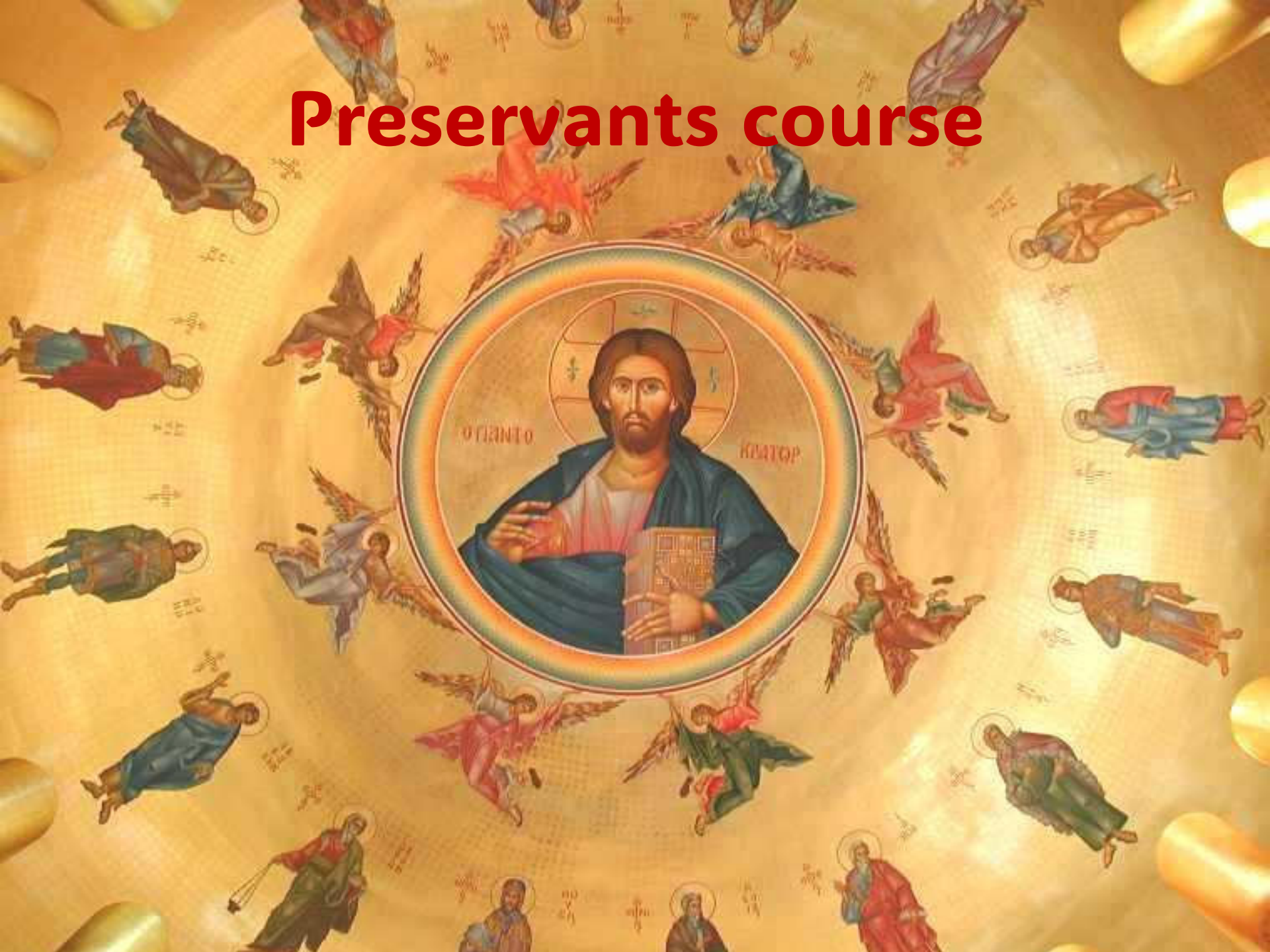


Preservants course



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

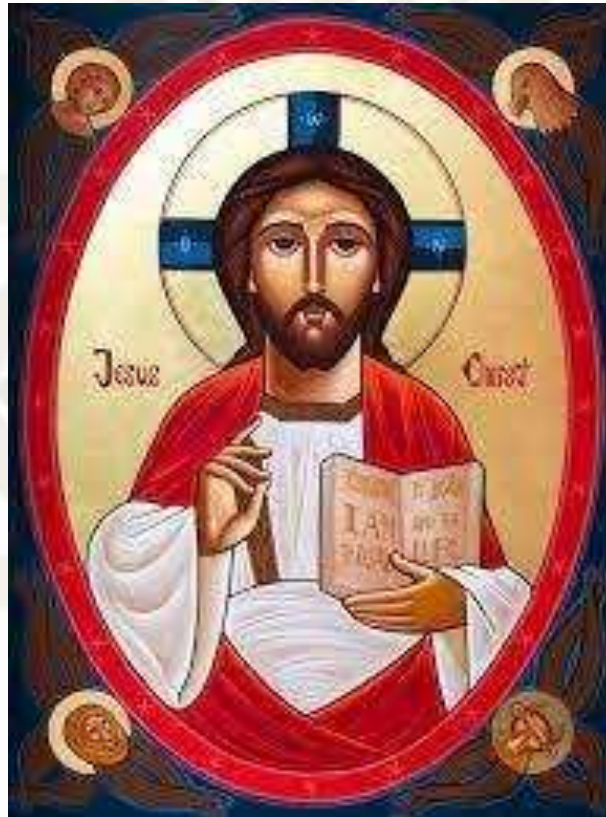
- Characteristics of a servant.
- How to prepare and to give a lesson
- The Servant's life of Prayer and the Word of God
- Let your light so shine before men
- Safeguarding



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



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



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

Service is not what you do:

A Servant is who you are!



Sound Doctrine

"IN YOUR DOCTRINE
SHOW...SOUNDNESS
OF SPEECH THAT
CANNOT BE
CONDEMNED"
TITUS 2:7-8



Preparing a lesson

1. Start early.
2. PRAY
3. Take the topic.
4. Take the Holy Bible.
5. Take all the teaching and tradition from teachers, the fathers and mothers of the church, books you have ever read on the topic and all the sermon
6. Do the research
7. Gather it all together and tailor it to the level of the lesson, if necessary check the lesson with your service elder or father - PRAY
8. Define your format
9. Live the lesson for a few days - PRAY and keep coming back to it



WIDE AWAKE

Not just teaching
but sharing *in love*

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

Psalm 96:3



**As servants we
are leaders in
the Church, and
we are
responsible to
the leaders in
the Church by
discipleship and
sound teaching .**



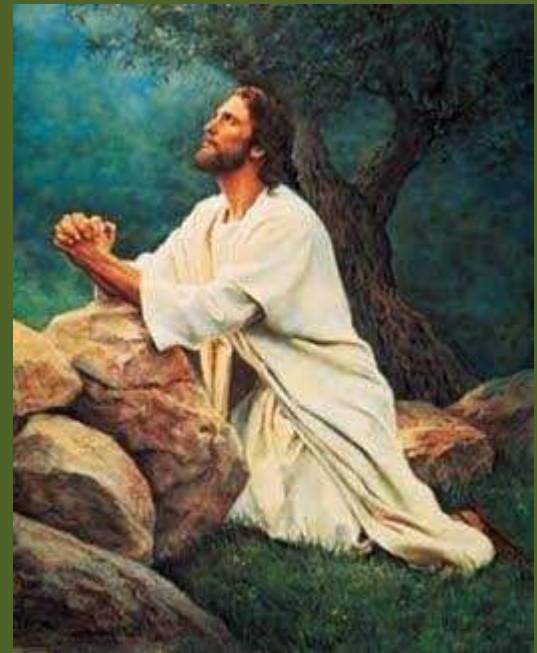
The Servant's life of Prayer and the Word of God



Pray for your service or kids

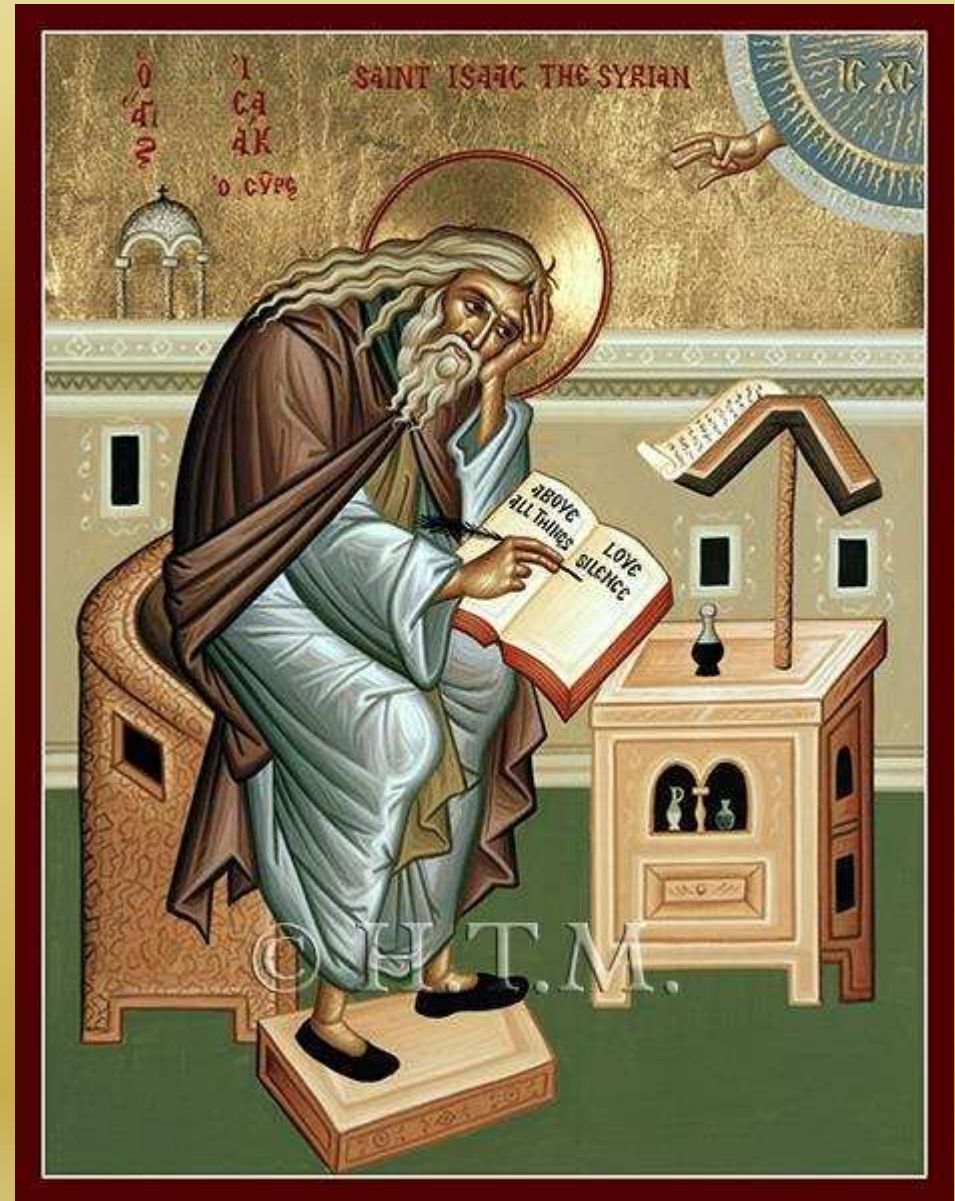
So He Himself *often*
withdrew into the
wilderness and prayed.

Luke 5:16



**“Prayer is
superior to all
other virtues”**

**St Isaac the
Syrian**



Matthew The Poor

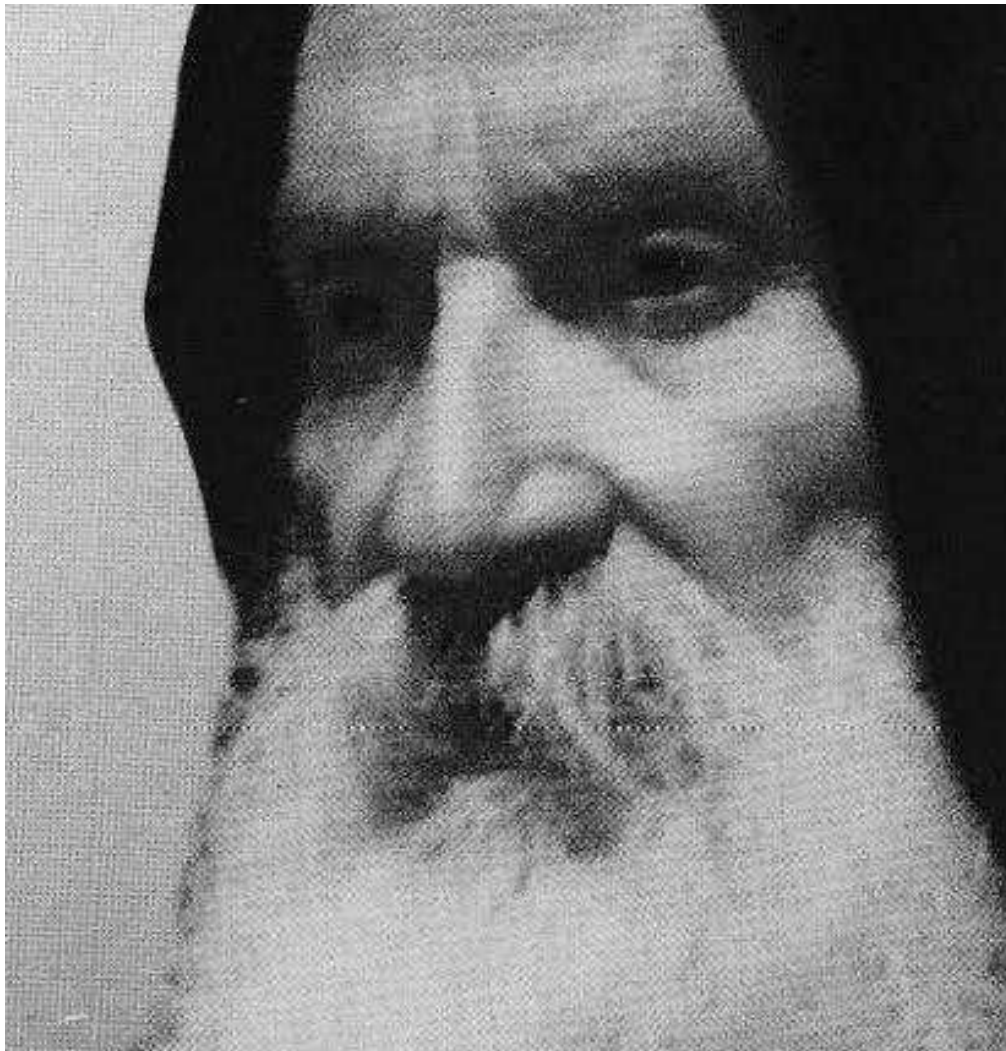


ORTHODOX
PRAYER LIFE

The Interior Way

**Power of prayer for
all especially servants**

**Prayer is the most powerful
effective spiritual work and
has its own spontaneous
reward without the
evidence of feelings. Prayer
could not have an end or
an aim higher than itself. It
is the highest aim of the
highest work.....**



.....Prayer is opening oneself toward the effective, invisible and imperceptible power of God. Man can never leave the presence of God without being transformed and renewed in his being for this is what Christ has promised. However, such transformation will not be in the form of a sudden leap. It will take its time and course as an imperceptible but meticulous build up”

**Father Matta Al-Maskeen
Orthodox Prayer life**

**Therefore, as servants it
is essential we have a
spiritual life full of
prayer**

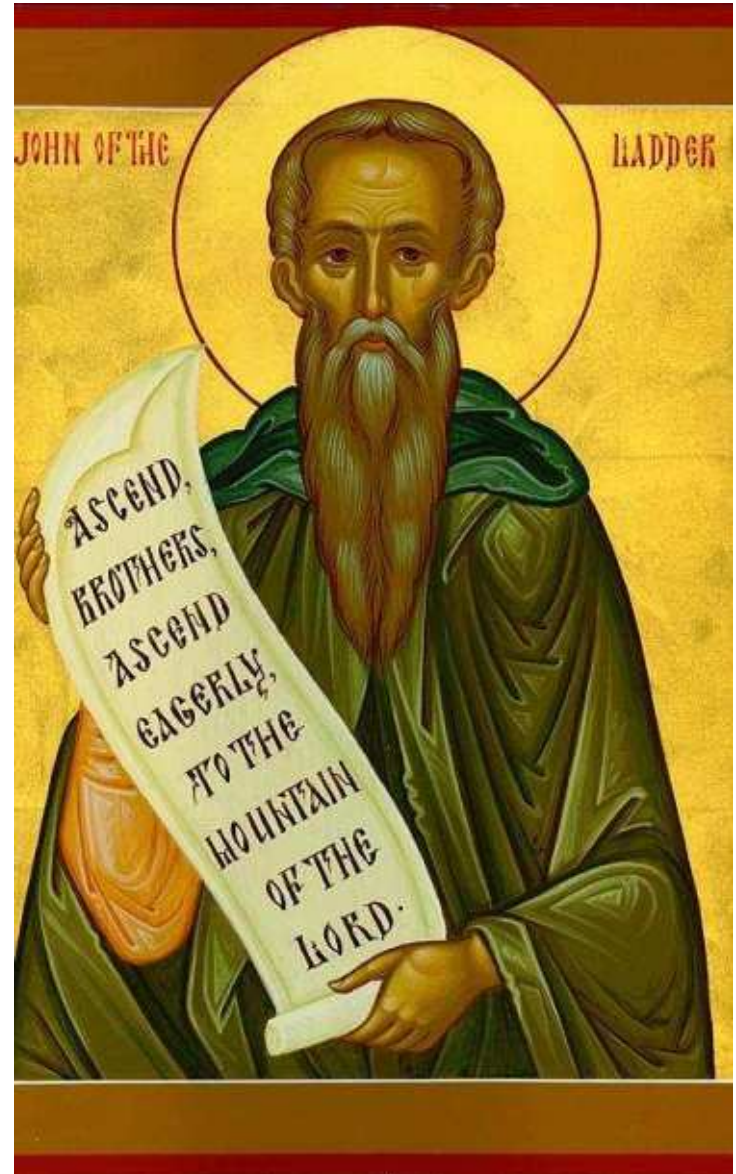
**We pray for those we
serve**

**We teach those we
serve how to pray**



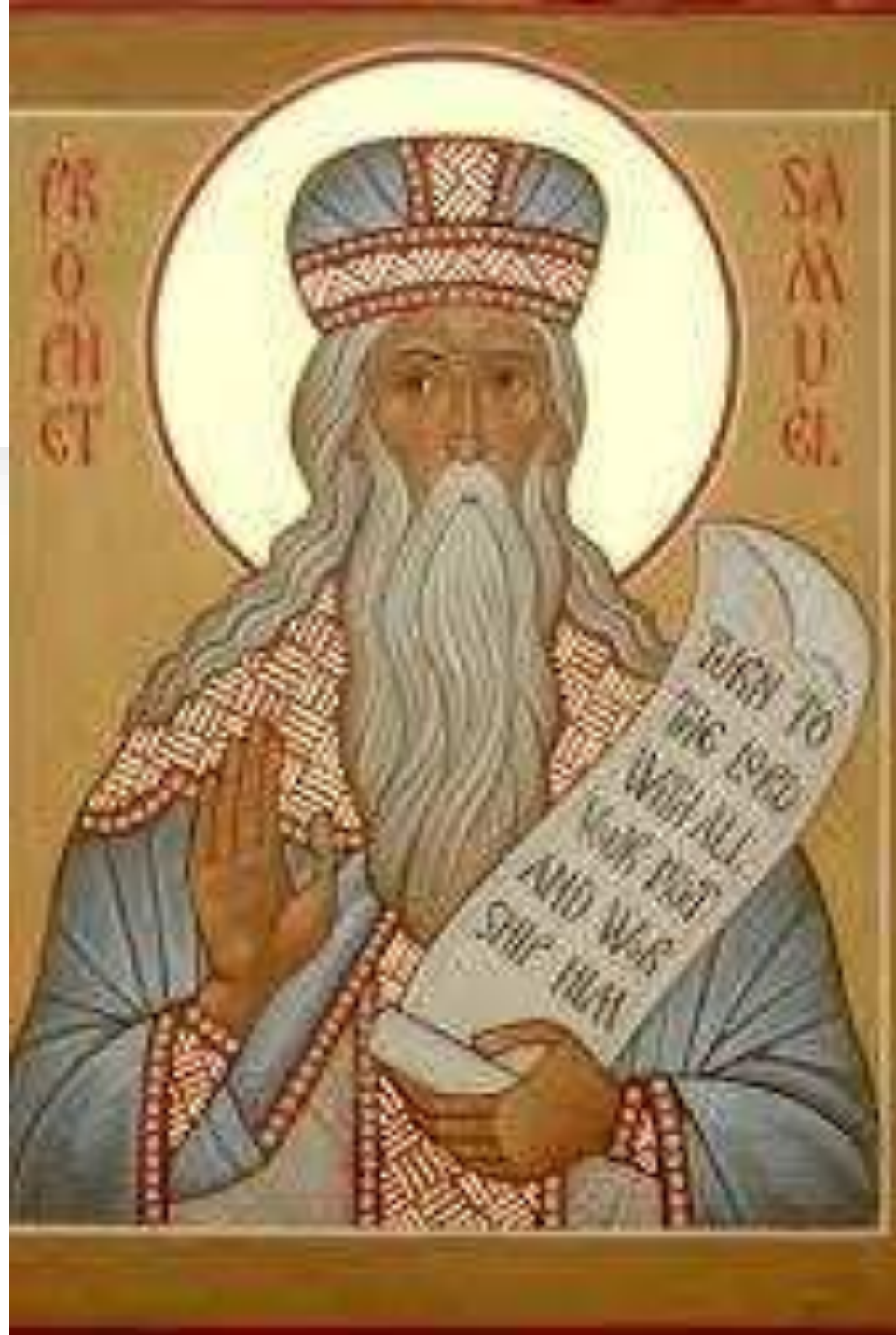
St John Climacus Ladder of Divine Ascent

“Prayer is by nature a dialogue between man and God. It unites the souls with its Creator and reconciles the two. Its effect is to hold the world together.”

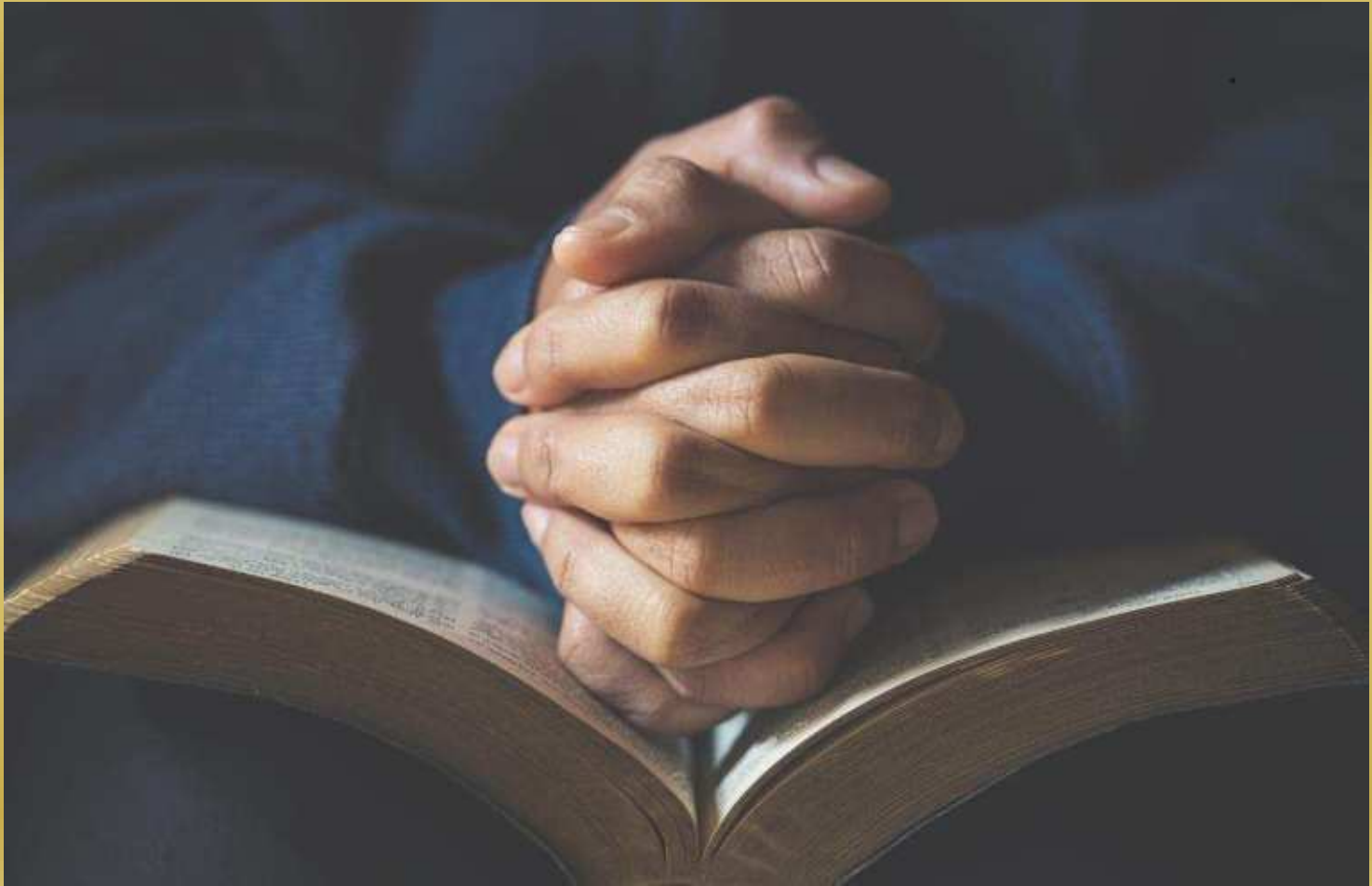


Praying for my service

*"moreover, as for
me, God forbid
that I should sin
against the Lord in
ceasing to pray for
you" (1 Samuel
12:23).*



We pray that those we serve meet
Christ



St Paul intercedes for the Ephesians

Ephesians 1:15-23

¹⁵ Therefore I also, after I heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints, ¹⁶ do not cease to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers: ¹⁷ that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him, ¹⁸ the eyes of your [\[a\]](#) understanding being enlightened; that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, ¹⁹ and what *is* the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power ²⁰ which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated *Him* at His right hand in the heavenly *places*, ²¹ far above all principality [\[b\]](#) and [\[c\]](#) power and [\[d\]](#) might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come.

²² And He put all *things* under His feet, and gave Him *to be* head over all *things* to the church, ²³ which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.



Why Pray?

**Pray fervently
because we
care for those
we serve**



Abraham intercedes for Sodom and Gomorrah

Genesis 18:22-33

²² Then the men turned away from there and went toward Sodom, but Abraham still stood before the LORD. ²³ And Abraham came near and said, "Would You also destroy the righteous with the wicked? ²⁴ Suppose there were fifty righteous within the city; would You also destroy the place and not spare *it* for the fifty righteous that were in it? ²⁵ Far be it from You to do such a thing as this, to slay the righteous with the wicked, so that the righteous should be as the wicked; far be it from You! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do right?"

²⁶ So the LORD said, "If I find in Sodom fifty righteous within the city, then I will spare all the place for their sakes."

²⁷ Then Abraham answered and said, "Indeed now, I who *am but* dust and ashes have taken it upon myself to speak to the Lord: ²⁸ Suppose there were five less than the fifty righteous; would You destroy all of the city for *lack of five*?" So He said, "If I find there forty-five, I will not destroy *it*."





²⁹ And he spoke to Him yet again and said, “Suppose there should be forty found there?”

So He said, “I will not do *it* for the sake of forty.”

³⁰ Then he said, “Let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak: Suppose thirty should be found there?”

So He said, “I will not do *it* if I find thirty there.”

³¹ And he said, “Indeed now, I have taken it upon myself to speak to the Lord: Suppose twenty should be found there?”

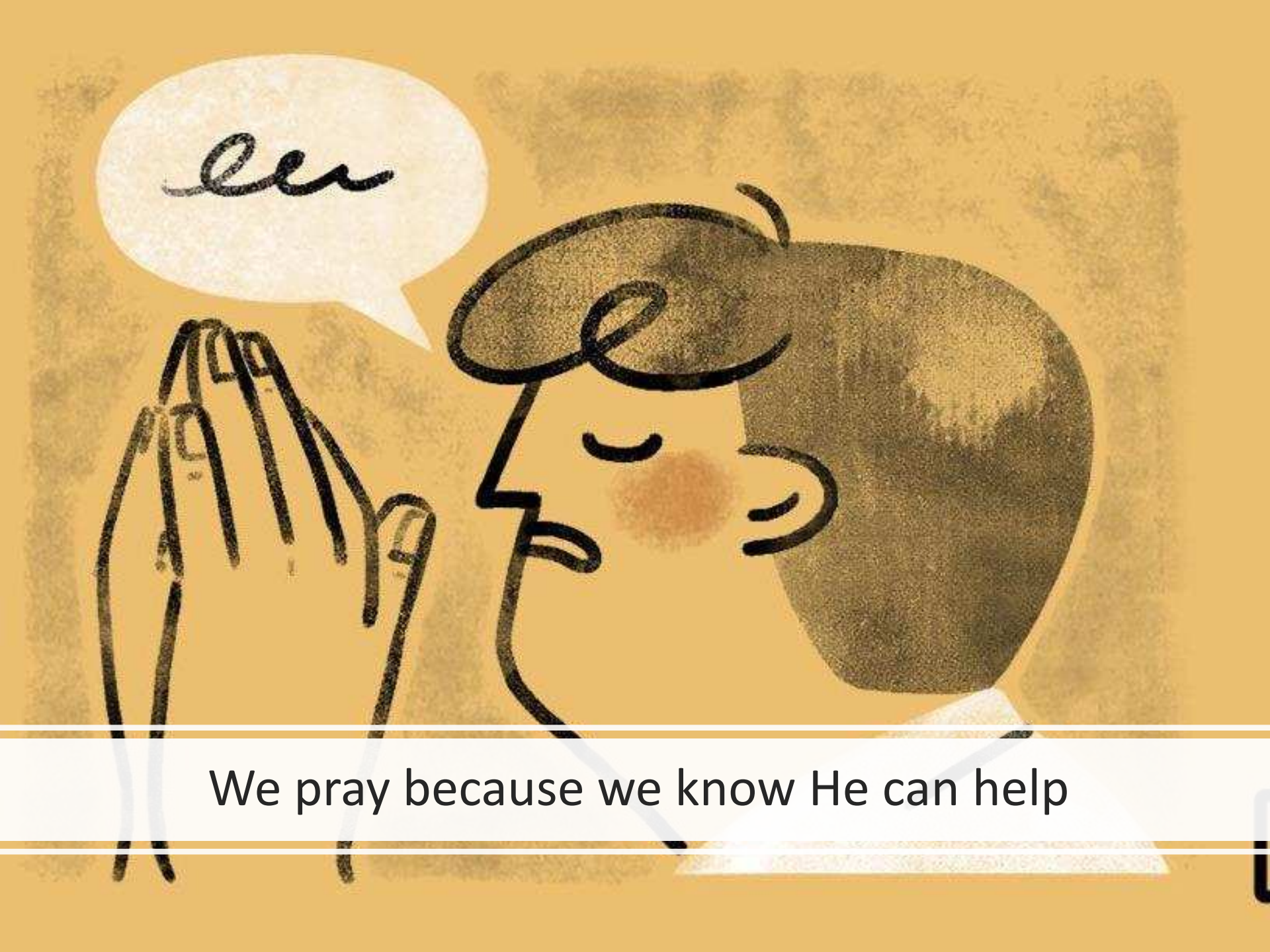
So He said, “I will not destroy *it* for the sake of twenty.”

³² Then he said, “Let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak but once more: Suppose ten should be found there?”

And He said, “I will not destroy *it* for the sake of ten.” ³³ So the LORD went His way as soon as He had finished speaking with Abraham; and Abraham returned to his place.

Abraham
cared greatly





We pray because we know He can help



Matthew 15:

²¹ Then Jesus went out from there and departed to the region of Tyre and Sidon. ²² And behold, a woman of Canaan came from that region and cried out to Him, saying, "Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David! My daughter is severely demon-possessed."

²³ But He answered her not a word.

And His disciples came and urged Him, saying, "Send her away, for she cries out after us."

²⁴ But He answered and said, "I was not sent except to the lost sheep of the house of Israel."

²⁵ Then she came and worshiped Him, saying, "Lord, help me!"

²⁶ But He answered and said, "It is not good to take the children's bread and throw *it* to the little dogs."

²⁷ And she said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the little dogs eat the crumbs which fall from their masters' table."

²⁸ Then Jesus answered and said to her, "O woman, great *is* your faith! Let it be to you as you desire." And her daughter was healed from that very hour.

FOR WHERE TWO OR
THREE GATHER TOGETHER
IN MY NAME, THERE AM I
WITH THEM.”

MATTHEW 18:20

**If required,
we pray
with
others**



THE BELIEVERS PRAYED FOR PETER



WHILE HE WAS IN PRISON

⁵ Peter was therefore kept in prison, but ^[a]constant prayer was offered to God for him by the church. ⁶ And when Herod was about to bring him out, that night Peter was sleeping, bound with two chains between two soldiers; and the guards before the door were ^[b]keeping the prison. ⁷ Now behold, an angel of the Lord stood by *him*, and a light shone in the prison; and he struck Peter on the side and raised him up, saying, “Arise quickly!” And his chains fell off *his* hands. ⁸ Then the angel said to him, “Gird yourself and tie on your sandals”; and so he did. And he said to him, “Put on your garment and follow me.” ⁹ So he went out and followed him, and did not know that what was done by the angel was real, but thought he was seeing a vision.

¹⁰ When they were past the first and the second guard posts, they came to the iron gate that leads to the city, which opened to them of its own accord; and they went out and went down one street, and immediately the angel departed from him.

¹¹ And when Peter had come to himself, he said, “Now I know for certain that the Lord has sent His angel, and has delivered me from the hand of Herod and *from* all the expectation of the Jewish people.”

^{5 12} So, when he had considered *this*, he came to the house of Mary, the mother of John whose surname was Mark, where many were gathered together praying. ¹³ And as Peter knocked at the door of the gate, a girl named Rhoda came to answer. ¹⁴ When she recognized Peter's voice, because of *her* gladness she did not open the gate, but ran in and announced that Peter stood before the gate. ¹⁵ But they said to her, "You are beside yourself!" Yet she kept insisting that it was so. So they said, "It is his angel."

¹⁶ Now Peter continued knocking; and when they opened *the door* and saw him, they were astonished. ¹⁷ But motioning to them with his hand to keep silent, he declared to them how the Lord had brought him out of the prison. And he said, "Go, tell these things to James and to the brethren." And he departed and went to another place.



Praying with the full arsenal of prayers

Praising / Tasbeha

Free prayer

Liturgy

Agpeya

Fasting

Arrow prayers

Jesus Prayer

Quiet time/ Meditation



Praising

Standing and praising the LORD.



Not Asking FOR ANYTHING, just
worshipping him in prayer or hymn
silently

Tasbeha

Pray and praise using the Psalmody



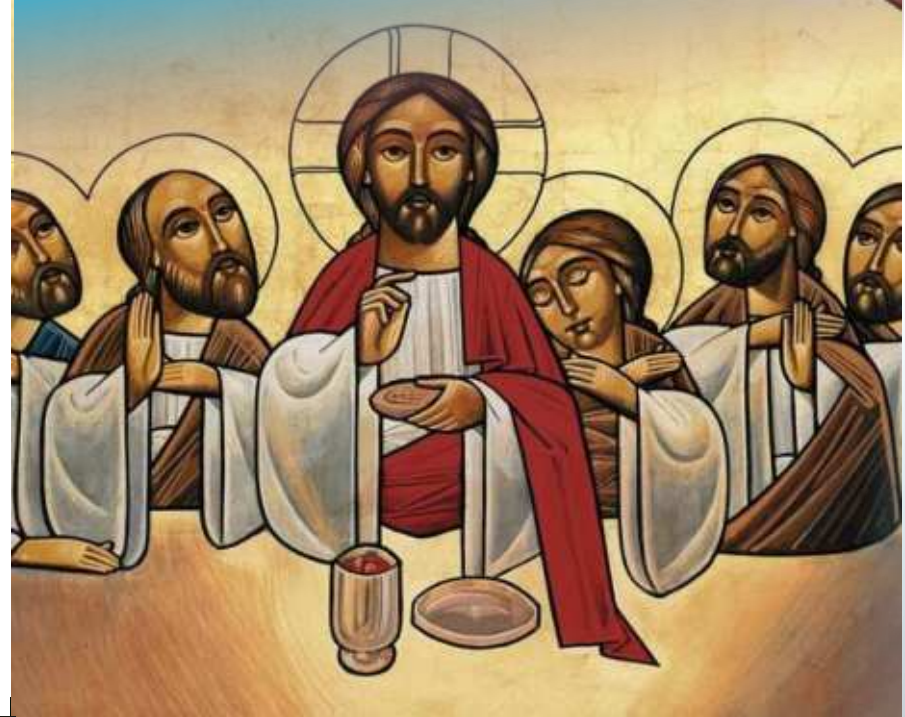
Liturgy



The Liturgy is the individual and communal lifting of the mind and heart to God, the standing in his presence, the constant awareness and remembrance of His name, His existence, His power and His love. Concluding in the salvation from God and Man

Communion

As kids we used to be told and told how important communion, it is our role to show those we serve by preaching it to them and being the example and living it our selves .



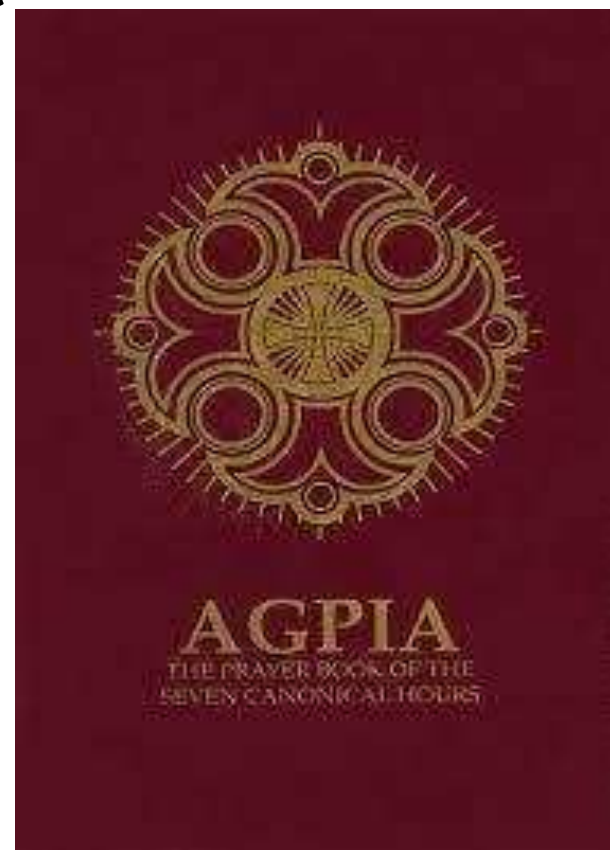
WHOEVER EATS MY FLESH
AND DRINKS MY BLOOD
HAS ETERNAL LIFE,
AND I WILL RAISE HIM UP
AT THE LAST DAY



Agpeya



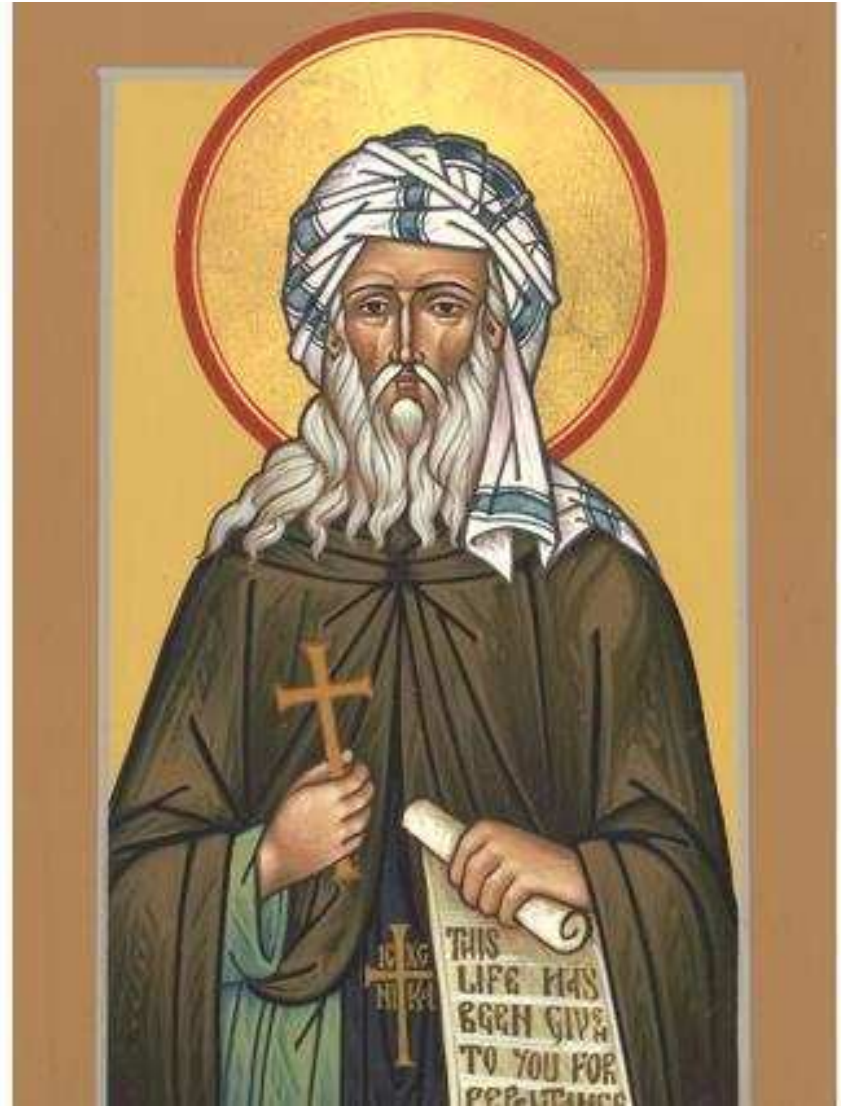
**Pray the hours and enjoy the power of
the Psalms in your prayer life and in
Sunday school**



Quiet time

“Constant meditation on God with quietude of the mind, enables man to live out all kinds of prayer, to derive sublime knowledge of God himself”

St Isaac the Syrian.





**“Hush your
tongue that
your heart may
speak and hush
your heart that
your Spirit may
speak”**

**John of
Dalyatha.**



'Be still

and know that I am God.'

PSALM 46:10

**Prayer with fasting
should be a core of
the servant's
spiritual life and a
centre of our
teachings**

SO HE SAID TO THEM, "THIS KIND CAN COME OUT
BY NOTHING BUT PRAYER AND FASTING."
MARK 9:29



Do not neglect the
Fast; it constitutes
an imitation of
Christ's way of life

St. Anthony the Great



Just as the most
bitter medicine
drives out poisonous
creatures so prayer
joined to fasting
drives evil thoughts
away.

— St. Amma Syncletic

iCopticOrthodox

Arrow Prayer



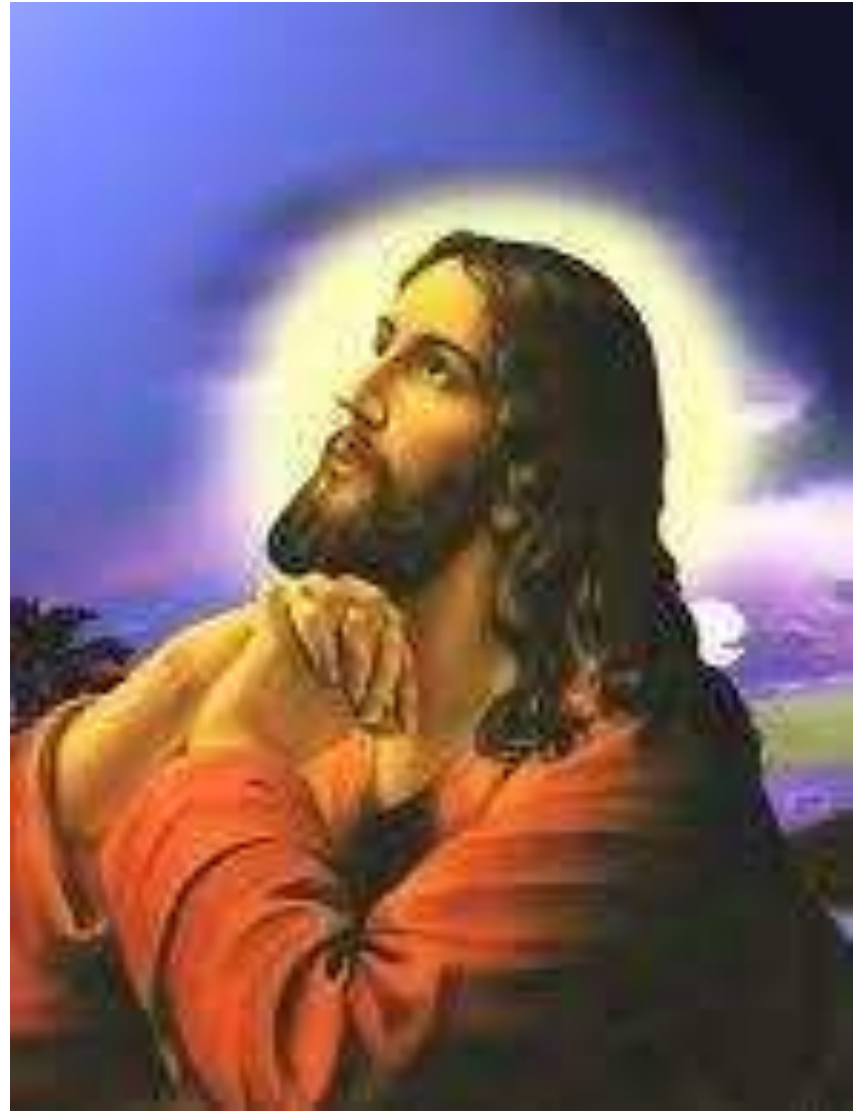
Offering a one line prayer to God !

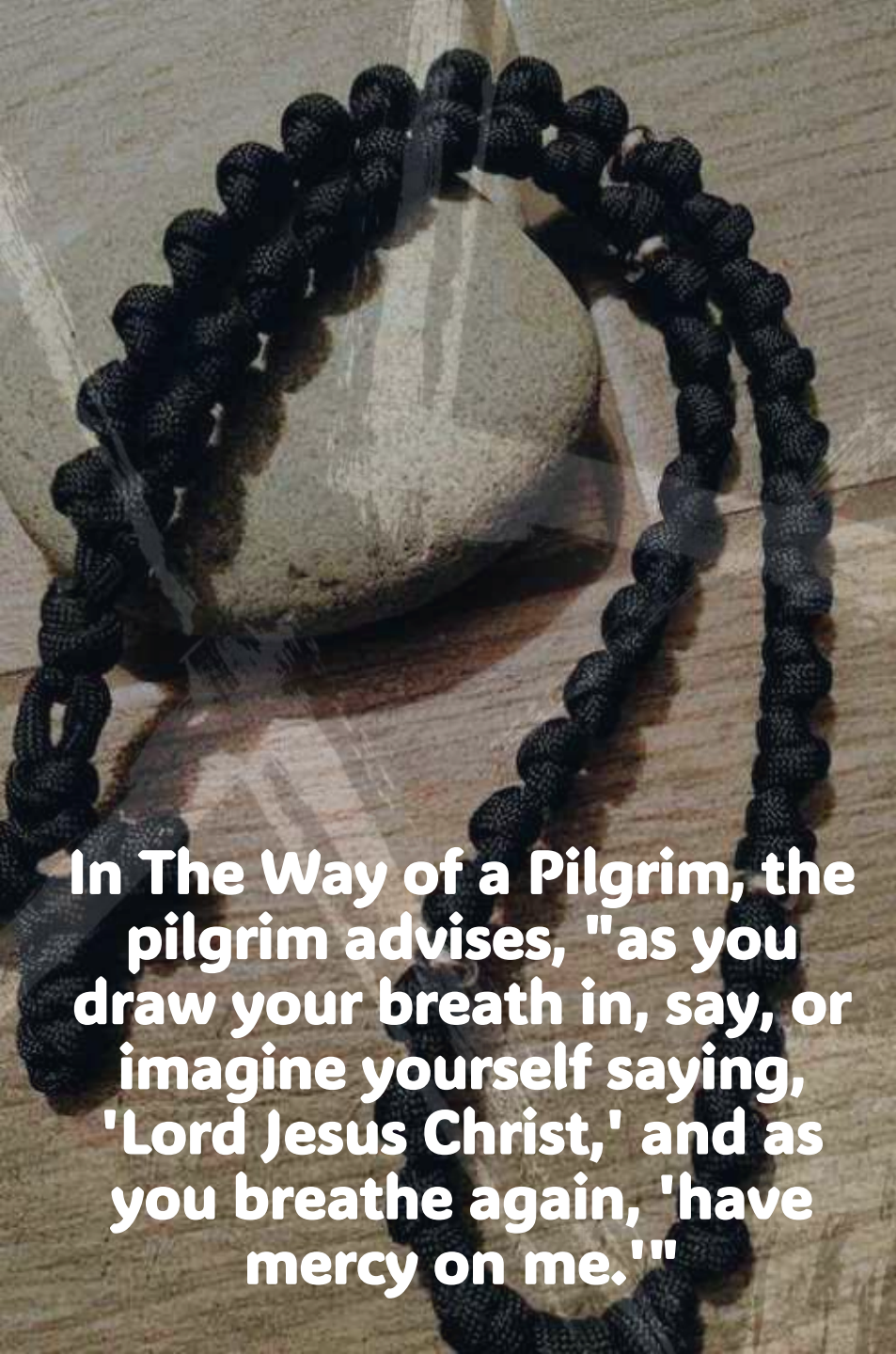
The Jesus Prayer

The prayer: "Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me"

The practice: "The unceasing interior prayer of Jesus is the uninterrupted, continual calling upon the divine Name of Jesus Christ, with the lips, the mind, and the heart"

The benefits: "If one makes a habit of this supplication, they will experience great comfort and a need to repeat this prayer unceasingly"





In The Way of a Pilgrim, the pilgrim advises, "as you draw your breath in, say, or imagine yourself saying, 'Lord Jesus Christ,' and as you breathe again, 'have mercy on me.'"

The **WAY** *of a* **PILGRIM**

AND A PILGRIM CONTINUES HIS WAY



TRANSLATED BY

OLGA SAVIN

Foreword by

FATHER THOMAS HOPKO

SHAMBHALA
CLASSICS

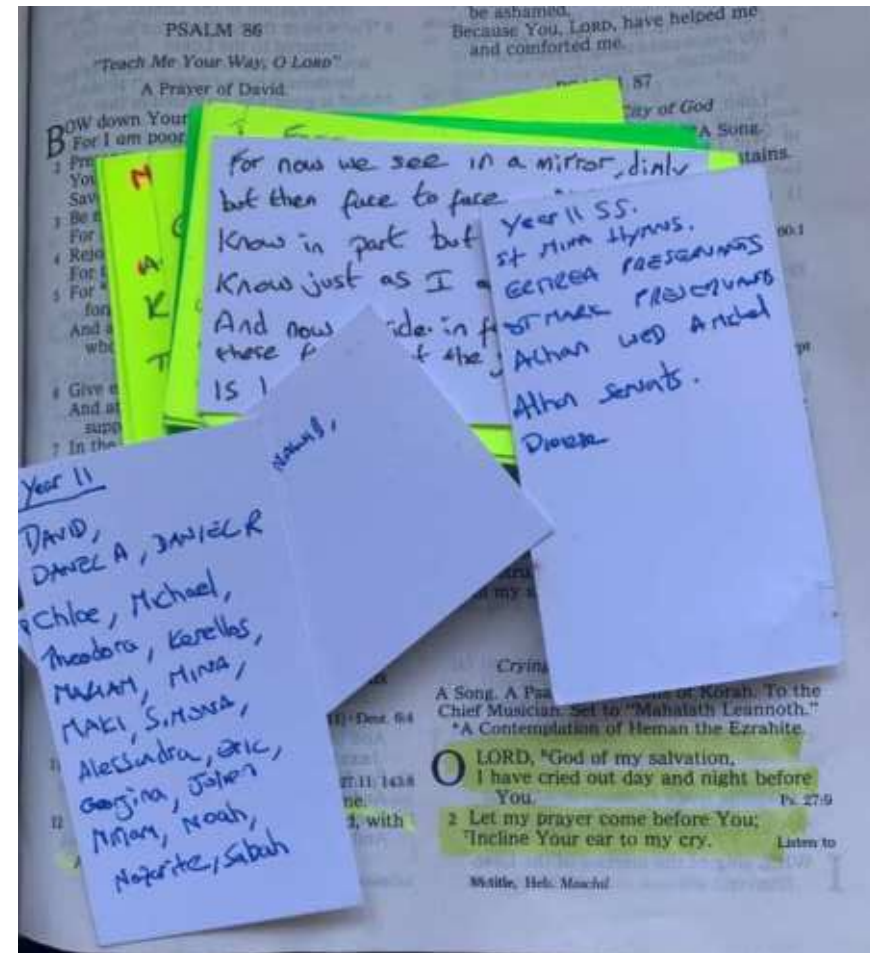
Free Prayer



Maybe use prayer cards or Saint's pictures and write on the back the names of those you serve.

The more you know about them, the detail the prayer

Assign days to each of those served.





Pray asking for the intercessions of the saints

"Just as painters in working from models constantly gaze at their exemplar and thus strive to transfer the expression of the original to their own artistry, so too he who is anxious to make himself perfect in all kinds of virtue must gaze upon the lives of the saints... and must make their excellence his own by imitation."

St. Basil the Great



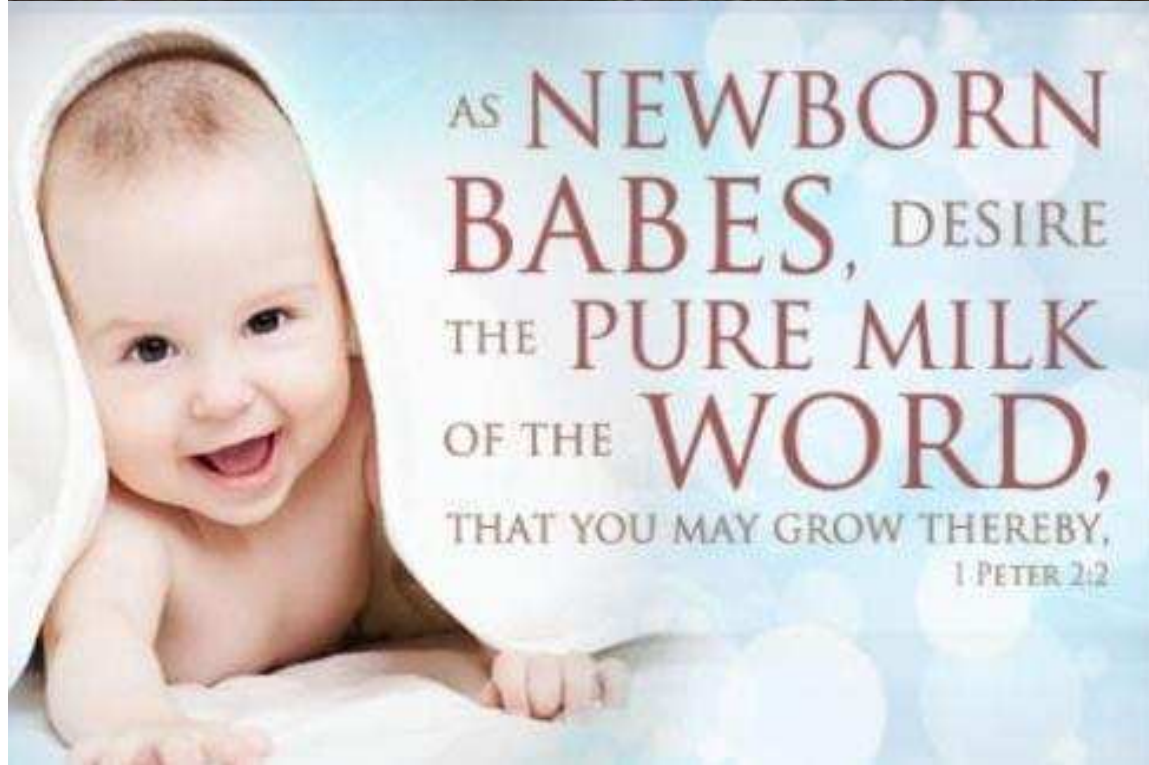
**Be armed with a full
quiver of prayer styles**

Holy Scripture

As well as prayer we should fill our lives with the Holy Scripture

We should fill our lessons with the Holy Scripture

We should teach those we serve to use Holy Scripture



The Divine Scripture

"We must thoroughly quench the darts of the devil and beat them off by continual reading of the divine Scriptures. For it is not possible, not possible for anyone, to be saved without continually taking advantage of spiritual reading. Actually, we must be content, if even with continual use of this therapy, we are barely able to be saved. But when we are struck every day, if we do not use any medical care, what hope do we have of salvation?"

St. John Chrysostom





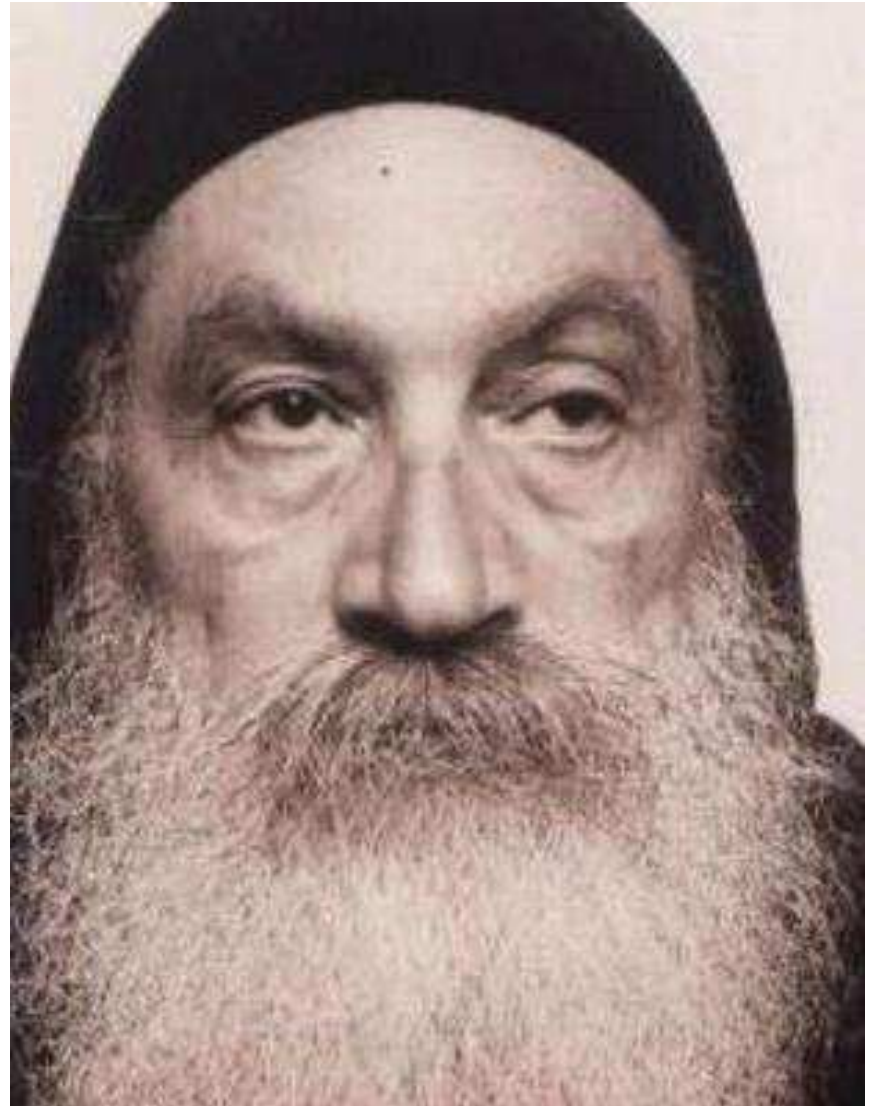
**Without the
perusal of
Holy
Scriptures, the
mind can
never
approach God .**

**ST Isaac the
Syrian .**

Spiritual reading and meditation

“This spiritual action takes place during spiritual reading. It transports man from a state of psychological deadlock and mental preoccupation with visible things to a state of interior depth, fervour and prayer.... It is the first step in the heavenly ladder which connects the soul with its maker”

Orthodox Prayer life
Matthew the Poor



Our lives and service should be filled with prayer, and the Word of God.

Praying for my service

"moreover, as for me, God forbid that I should sin against the Lord in ceasing to pray for you" (1 Samuel 12:23).

We fill our lives and service with the Holy Bible and spiritual reading

We pray that those we serve meet Christ

We pray fervently as we care for those we serve

We pray because we know He can help

We pray individually and together and with the intercessions of the saints



Praying with the full arsenal of prayers

Praising / Tasbeha

Free prayer

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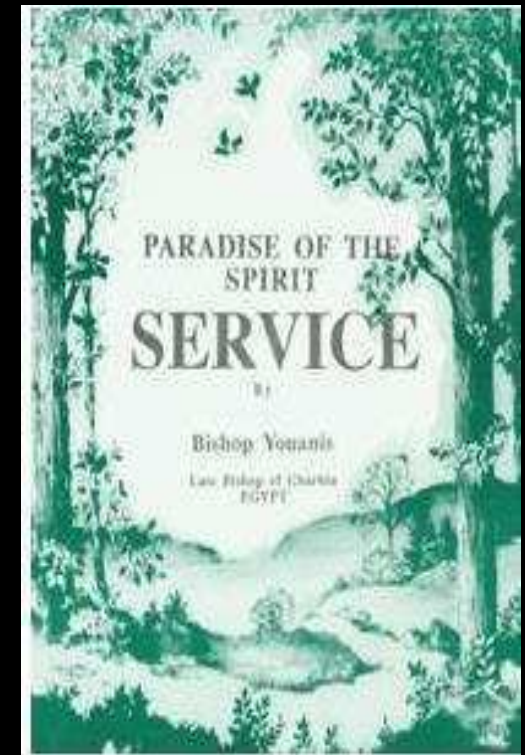
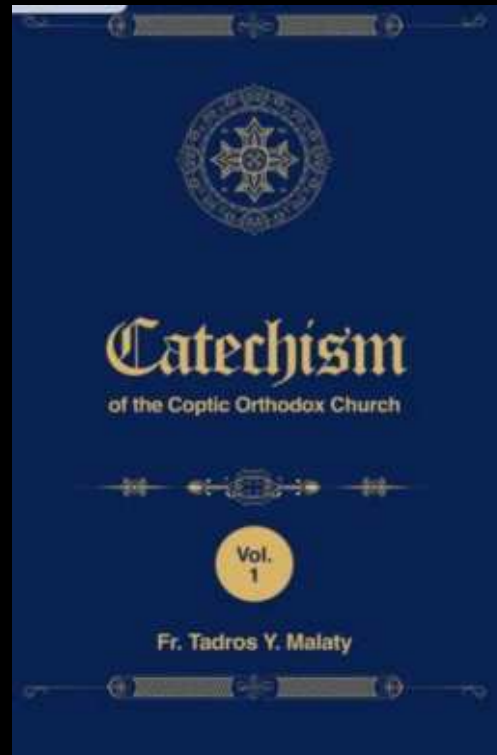
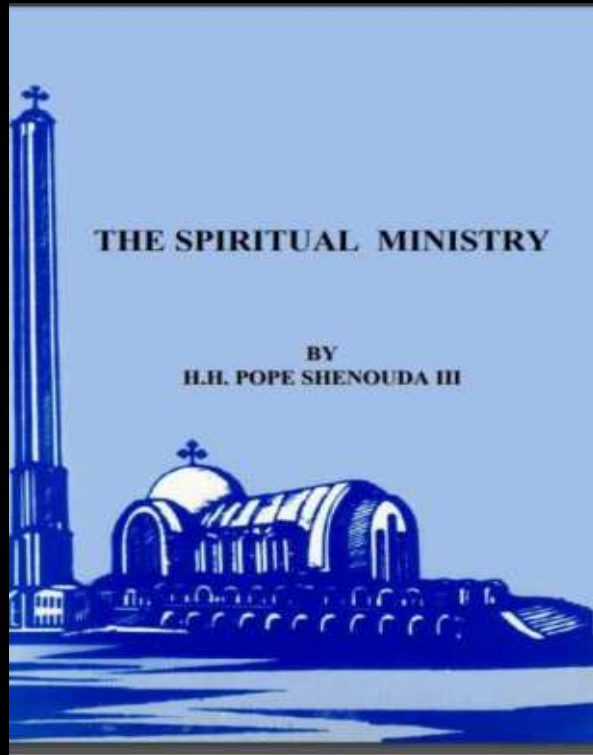


"Therefore, as newborn babes desire the pure milk of the word that you may grow thereby" 1PT 2:2

Any questions or comments?



Suggested Further reading



My sources The Writings of the fathers Spiritual Books



- a. Upperroommedia.org
- b. Copticpope.org
- c. www.suscopts.org
- d. Coptcorthodoxanswers.org
- e. www.voskrese.info/spl/index.html (St Pachomius Library)
- f. www.ccel.org (use with discernment)
- g. Tasbeha.org,

My sources - Sermons

upperrommedia.org



Matthew The Poor



ORTHODOX PRAYER LIFE

The Interior Way

The **WAY** of a PILGRIM

AND A PILGRIM CONTINUES HIS WAY



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OLGA SAVIN
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SHAMBHALA
CLASSICS



AGPIA
THE PRAYER BOOK OF THE
SEVEN CANONICAL HOURS

Suggested Further reading

