




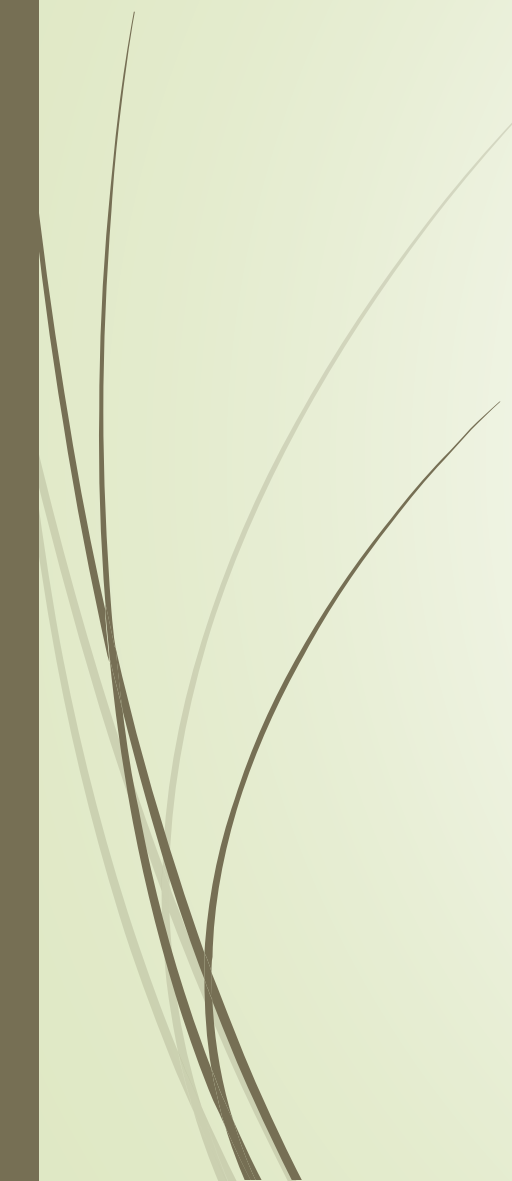
2 Popes : 4th, 6th

The Father of Reform



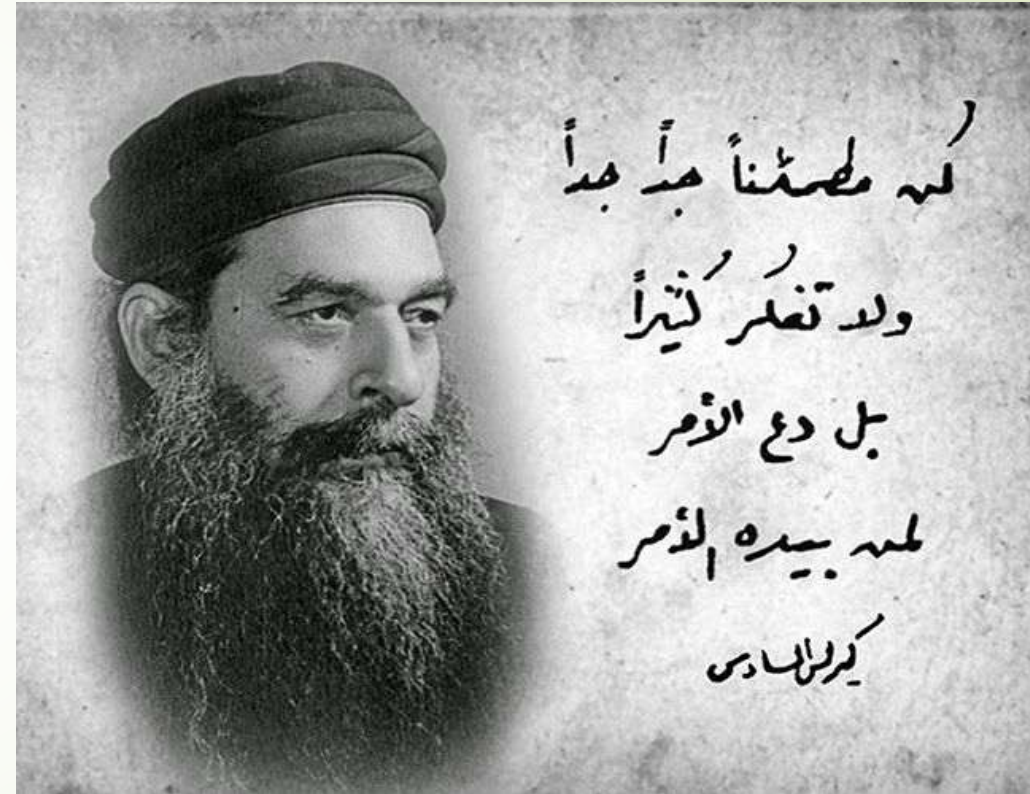
Spiritual renewal goes hand in hand with education


- IN only 7 years, he achieved great reforms
- Encouraged new schools, education, education, education
- Bought Publishing Machines, ordered Deacons to make a procession with Ep Ouro as it arrived to the port of Alexandria
- And schools for girls, in 1850s, ground breaking
- The Coptic schools produced 4 Prime ministers in a span of 50 yrs


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- Pope Tawadros followed the same plan, 8 schools teaching English, and other European languages, in various parts of Egypt.
 - Those who can afford, do pay. And subsidise those who can't
 - The Government is encouraging the expansion of such schools
 - The Copts became educated, and got themselves good jobs
 - The Copts were allowed to serve in the army


Saint Pope Kyrollos the 6th


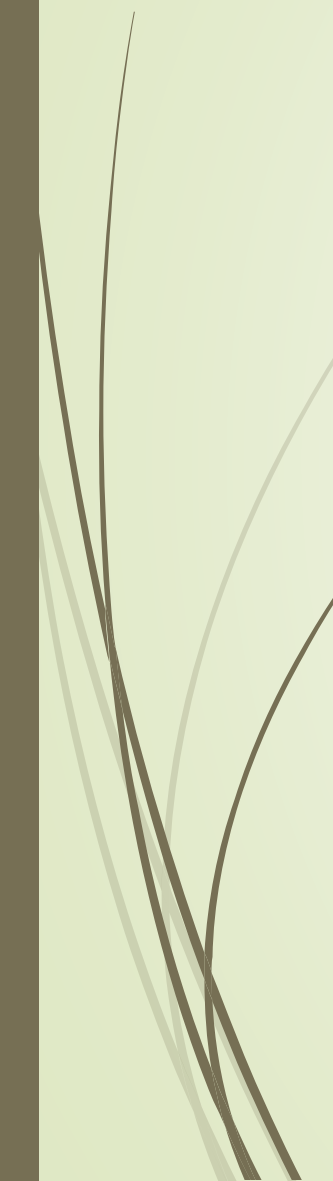
Be at peace
Do not worry too much
about issues
Leave the decision in the
hand of the Almighty






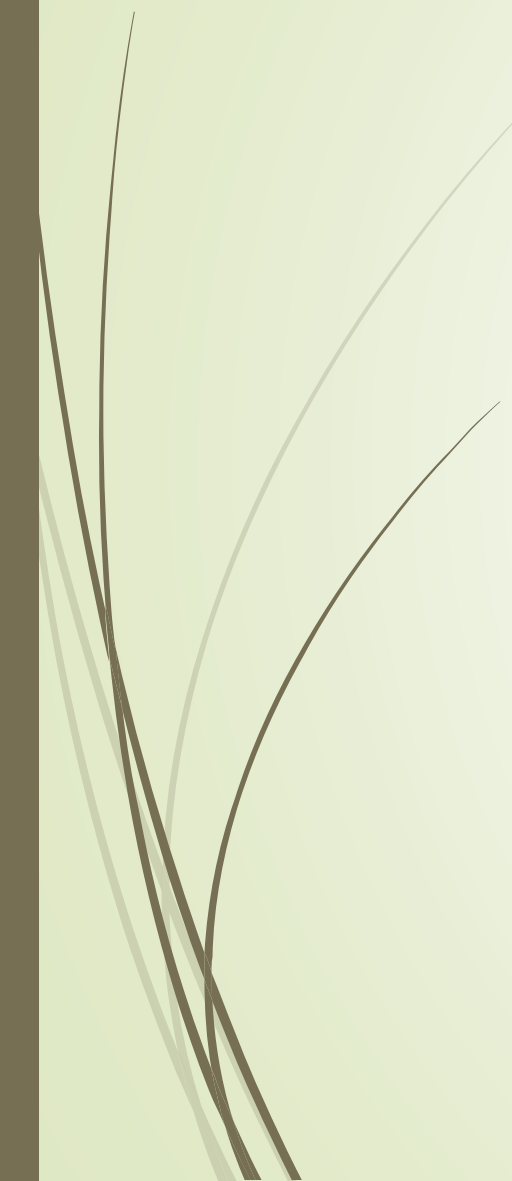
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- **How was young Pope Kyrillos as a layman ?**
 - He worked for a shipping company in Alexandria
 - He spent his evenings reading the bible, praying and fasting
 - He had a strict spiritual **discipline** for 6 years before going to the monastery


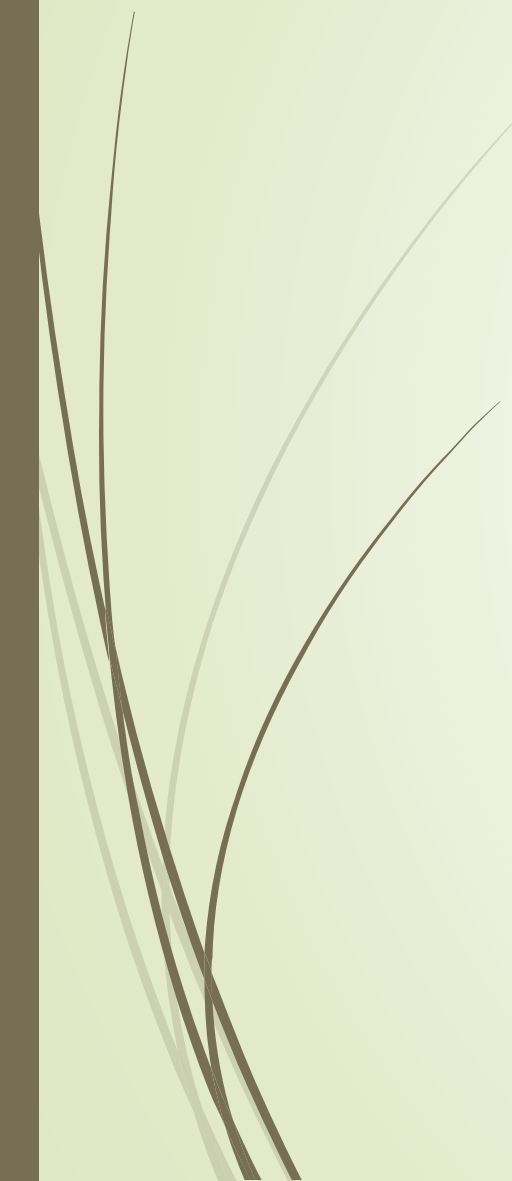
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- He taught : Start the day by **thanking God** for watching over you the night before.
 - **Read the Bible with care for the word of God is sweeter than honey**
 - **He went to his spiritual guide regularly with questions ,**
 - **Kept verses in his diary in alphabetical order, or on your I phone ?**


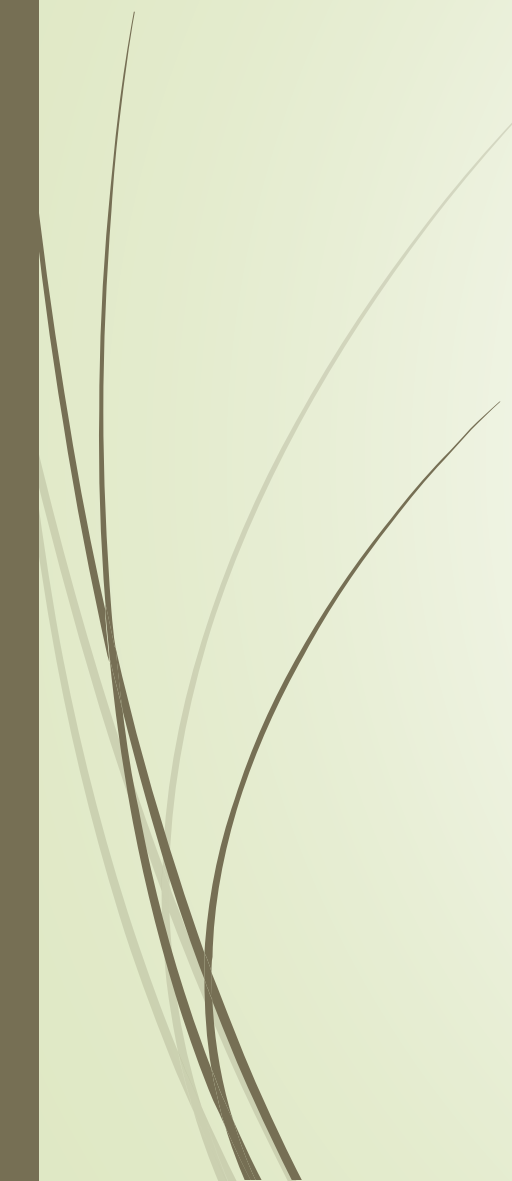
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- **Saints are not born saints**, they develop spiritually
 - He wanted to join the monastery, his dad objected, a problem, how did he solve it ?
 - **Let us attend the Mass, pray** and have communion, then we decide. After the Mass, his Dad agreed
 - **Pope Kyrollos wrote : “Trust in the Lord Jesus. The Lord is good , He will give me strength and success in my life in the monastery “**
 - **I read the stories of the saints, I decided to follow their example**

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- **His spiritual father** : May you invest the talents that the Lord Jesus Christ gave you,
 - May God grant you his Grace. May he fill you with the Holy Spirit
 - **Abouna Mina** wrote “ **I am content with my life. I live peacefully.** I respect all around me. I am depending on God. Have you ever known anyone who trusted God and was disappointed ? – never
 - **The man who recites Psalms is like a man who beholds the King**

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- After years of arguments as to how to choose the Patriarch, the church went back to the tradition of **Choosing by altar lot**
 - A 5 year old child chose the name of Father Mina the Solitary
 - Not unusual to have a monk becoming a Patriarch, **but it is unusual to have a Patriarch living all his Papacy as a monk**
 - **He is embedded in the Coptic Subconscious mind**, his miracles, his gifts and the revival of the church in his time

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- Pope Kyrillos started by choosing the right people in Key positions in the church
 - He was truly “ **Practical and Spiritual** “ at the same time
 - Became a monk at age of 25
 - **Was invited to be a Bishop, declined,** preferring to live in a cave 1 hour from the monastery, coming to the monastery Saturday and Sunday only-for 5 years

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- Of his inner strength, 7 monks objected to the way the Abbot of the monastery was running the monastery , so he ordered that they are expelled . It was lent
 - **Abouna Mina, despite a solitary, took up their case as he felt they should not be harshly treated and that they have a fare case.** He even arranged for the monks to be housed in a house he rented for them in Cairo


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- **He prayed a daily Mass 6-8 every morning. Fasted till 3PM.** Received visitors afterwards. Then prayers and reading
 - **In all 12000 Masses in his lifetime**
 - Was sent to St Samuel the Confessor's monastery to renovate it. **Pope Shenouda was one of his disciples.** Many young people became his disciples, took the monastic vows, and **later on led** the next phase of the church life


on good terms with
Nasser, the president
of the country





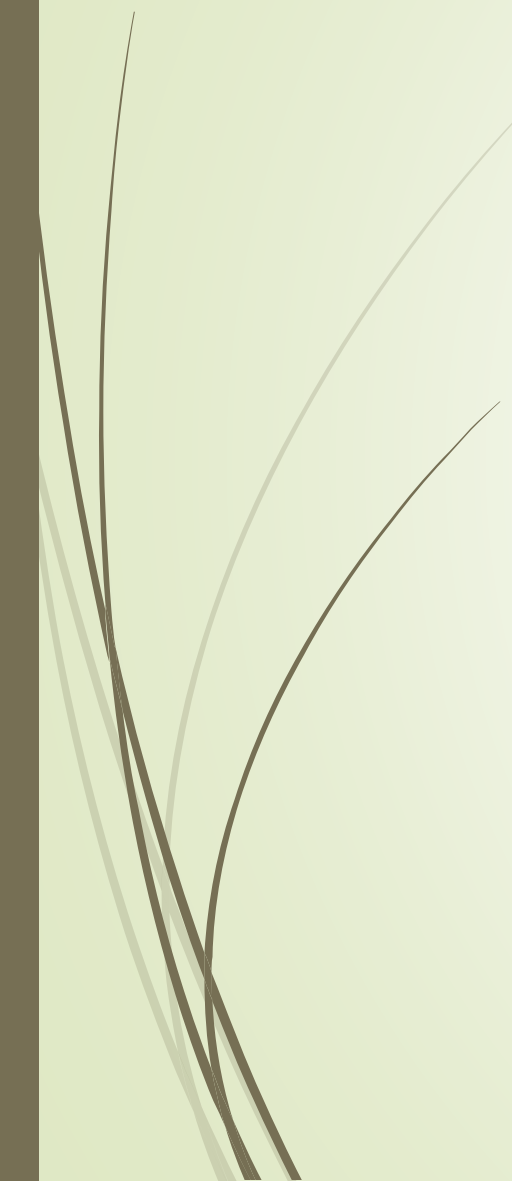


أنا سؤالكم
مرشدكم


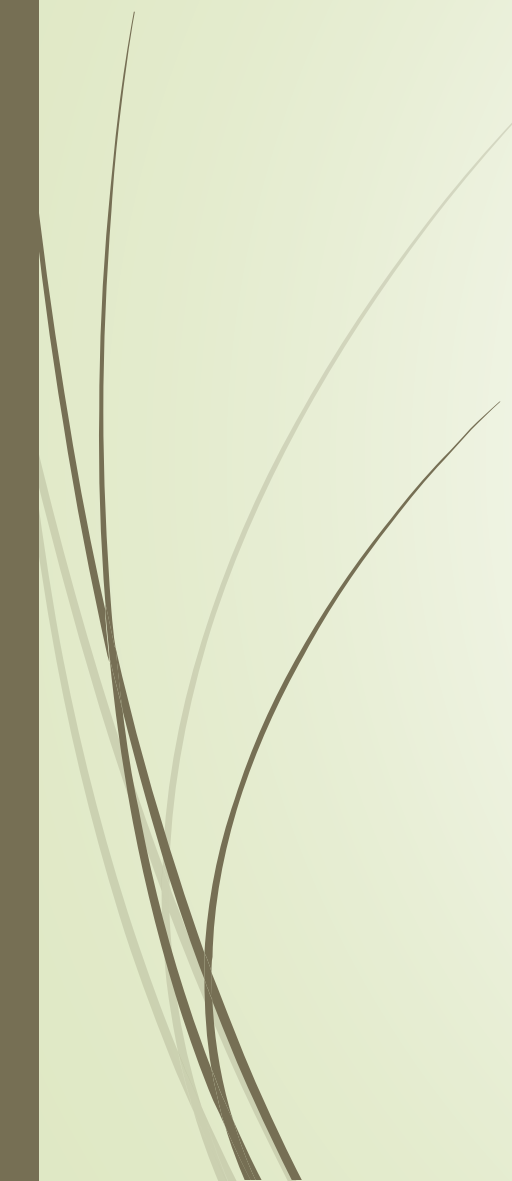
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- Here is one of the impossibles
 - In the early 60,s there was high unemployment amongst Coptic young men and women
 - A priest was upset, he went to Pope Kyrillos, our children are unemployed
 - **Do something, it is not good enough to sit on your St Mark's seat, go and meet Nasser sort it out**
 - **My son, pray--- haven't you got anything else to say ?**
 - He left

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- He sent the priest a message, I am praying about the unemployment problem, and am praying for you
 - **A month later Naser issued a decree, all those who have not got jobs will be given government jobs**
 - **Most of them were Christians**, as non Christians were already employed
 - The Priest came back to Pope Kyrollos and apologised
 - **Pope Kyrollos said : prayers are good, try the discipline of prayers**

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- Pressure was building on the Copts. Difficulties in building new churches. He had a cordial relationship with Nasser and the Lord moved things
 - **But he wasn't rushing complaining to Nasser about the problems of the Copts**
 - **The Copts are my problem not Nasser's problem. God Chose me to take the responsibility of the Copts, not Nasser (so more prayers)- prayed and problems were solved**

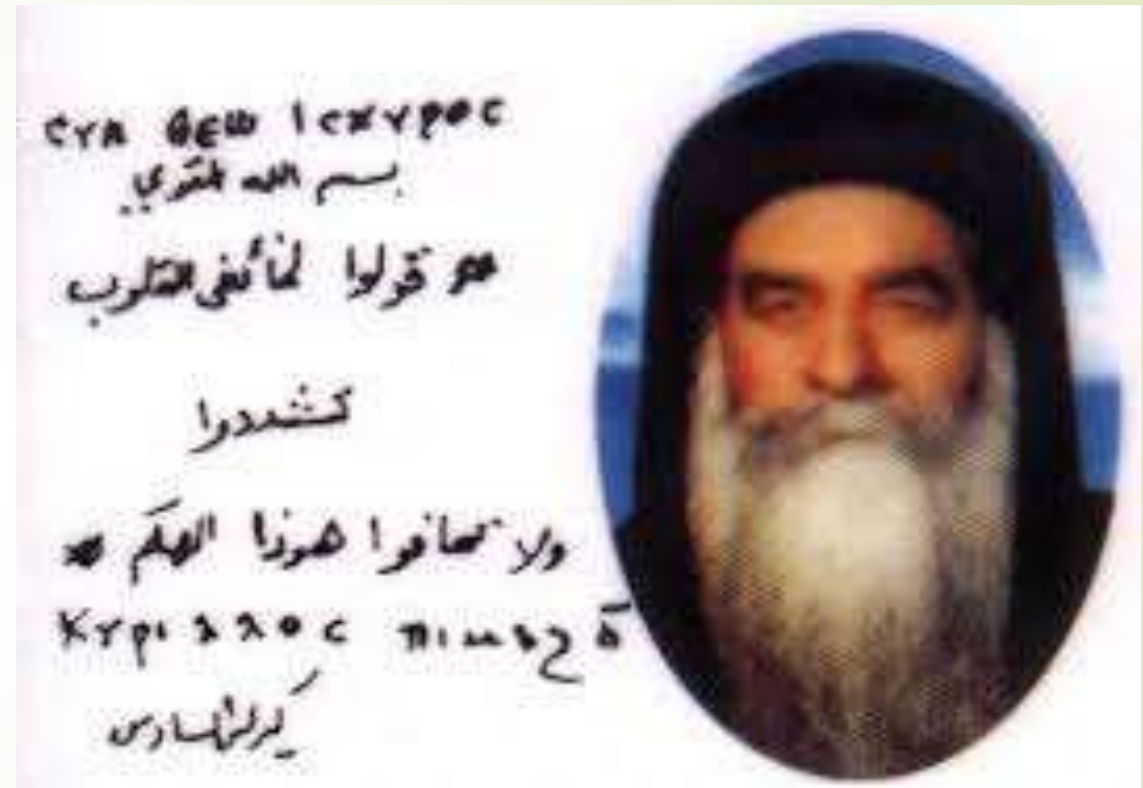
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- He congratulated Nasser on his successes
 - **He ordered churches to pray for National and International Conferences** initiated by the government
 - Al Hamayun decree of the 1856, made it exceedingly difficult to build a new church. Was re enforced in 1934
 - **But Nasser reversed that, contributing ½ a million pounds towards building St Mark's Cathedral**

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- **The largest Cathedral in the Middle East was opened in 1968,** parts of the relics of St Mark were returned from Venice to Cairo- Venice merchants took the relics from Alexandria centuries before
 - The Lord was at work despite difficulties

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- **Anba Antonios Morcos**, a Coptic surgeon went to Ethiopia in mid sixties, became a monk later, then a bishop . Established a thriving service across Africa, later on **Anba Boulos** expanded the service
 - **The Pope :His monastic rules remained throughout : Deprivation, love, prayer, reading, fasting, social interaction, work, self examination, the Liturgy, seclusion, etc**

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- **Started a magazine “ Minaa al Khalas**
 - **Read avidly Mar Ishak**, considered him a lead in spiritual monastic life
 - **He said “ reading is the spring of intelligent prayers “**
 - **Sunday schools flourished; 250 branches, and an estimated 40,000 pupils**

Say to those with
fearful hearts,
Be strong,
do not fear
Your God will come
to save you



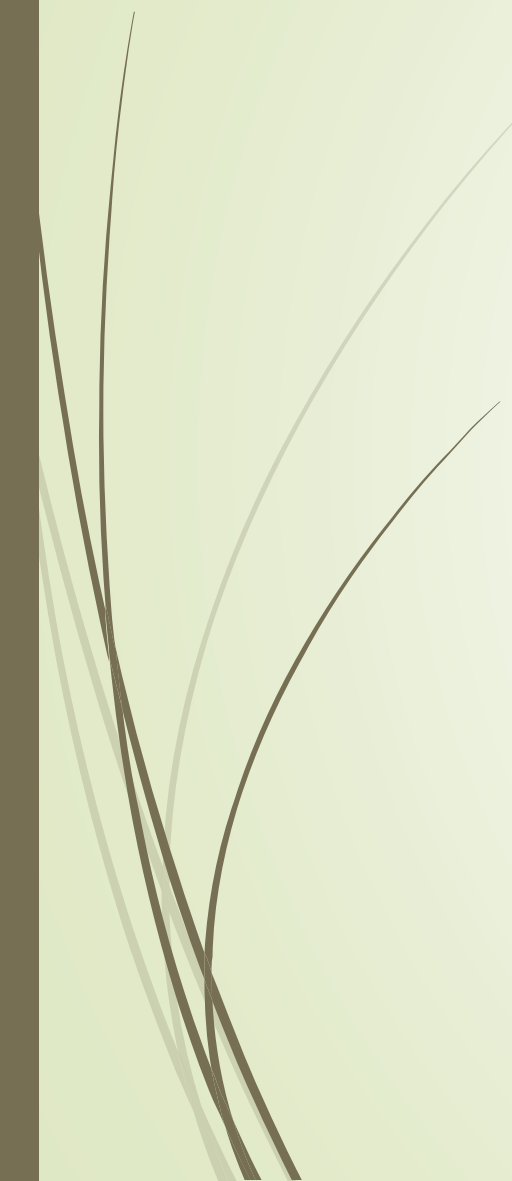



Giants in his time

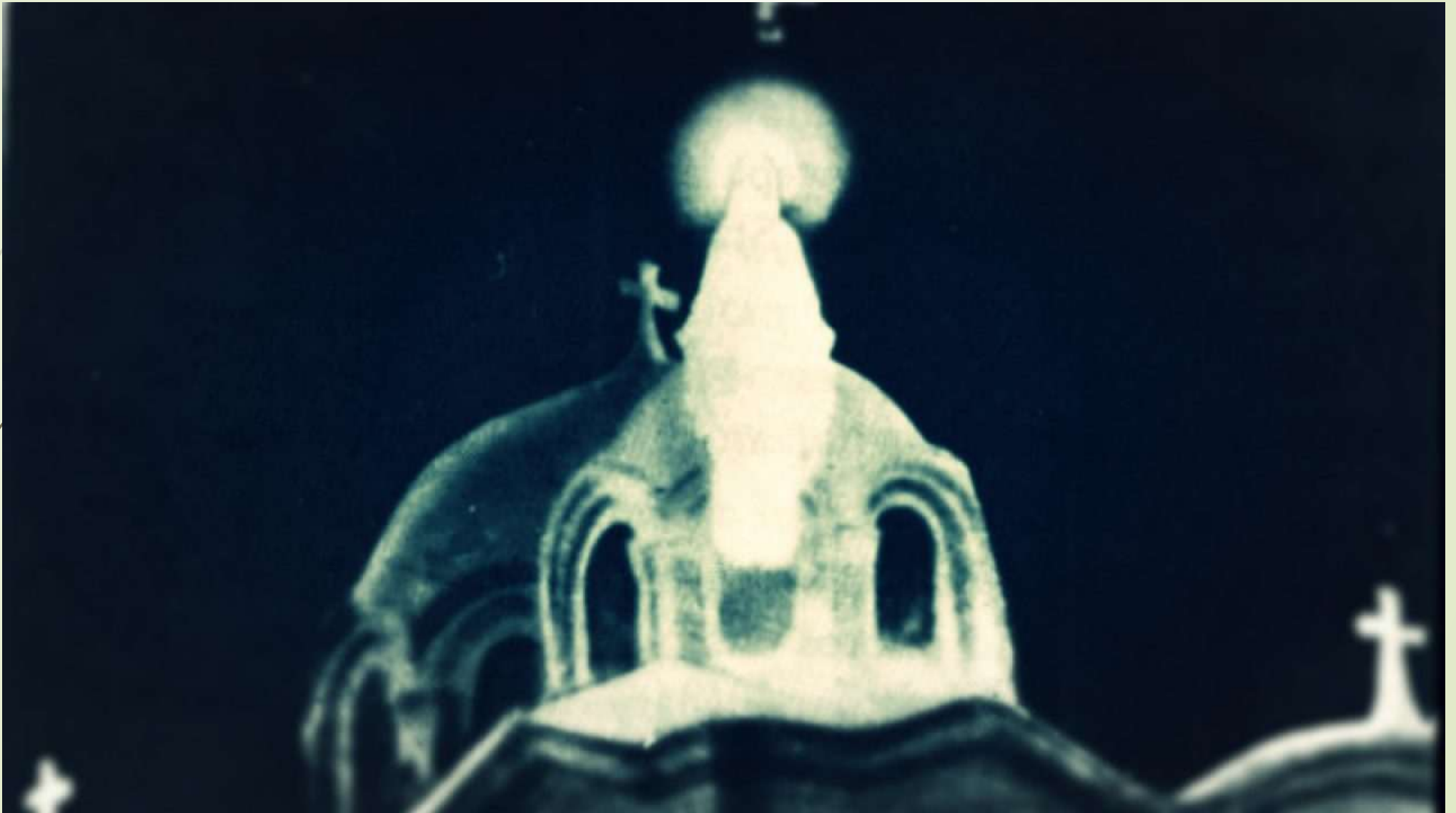
- ➔ **The Lord blessed the church with great spiritual servants. Anba Samuel, social services and ecumenical contacts, Abouna Matta Al Miskin leading a revival in monastic life, Fr Boules Boules starting ministry in villages, which expanded quickly, and Fr Salib Sourial, who taught in seminaries. Those 4 spent many nights praying together and asking the Lord for guidance, and look what they achieved**


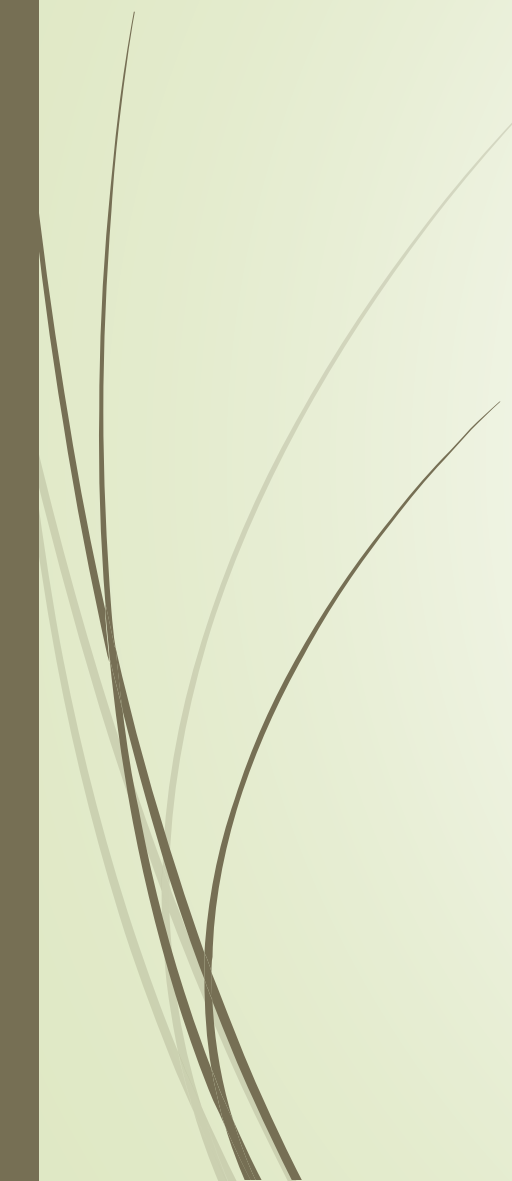



The fruit of the Pope's labour


- Evening Seminary graduates reached 570 under Pope Shenouda, many of them became leaders of the church
 - The higher institute for Coptic studies, under Anba Gregorios, produced the likes of Isaac Fanous and Ragheb Moftah
 - Pope Kyrollos had the foresight of giving responsibilities to able people who revived every aspect of the church life
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- **Mother Ireni was another giant. Pope Kyrollos prophesied that she will lead the nuns . He made her the abbess of the convent at age of 24, was the youngest nun**
 - He loved St Mina, she loved Abu Sefain. They both loved St Mary
 - **And on 2nd April 1968, St Mary appeared in Zeitoun's Church.** Many Moslem and Coptic people saw her, she did many miracles. It was a special blessing for Pope Kyrollos. **Nasser had a private audience in the garage opposite**



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- **May God be with you and attends to your needs,** were the last words the Pope uttered
 - **His critics said :“ too much prayers and no management, wrong..he managed far more in a spiritual way**
 - **50 years on, people can only see a saint, canonised by the Holy Synod as St Kyrollos**

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- Nasser insisted on attending opening the cathedral despite temp of 38.5
 - **Pope had frosty meeting with Nasser, left , no coffee,** Nasser daughter became ill, doctors not able to help, a **middle man came to Pope at 2 AM**, already Pope dressed, ready, prayed for 15 minutes, got better . I will call you **waldi** from now on (unusual)
 - **Pope put his hand on Nasser chest, I now put my hand in the hand of God, it says in the Bible that the heart of the King is in the hand of God, win friends**



➤ A moslem man , problem, went on the desert road to relax in his villa in **Sahel Shamali, very burdened**, never stops to pick anybody in the service station, **old man** waved, stopped, **you are troubled, your problem is..., the answer is...**, the man was stunned, let off here after a while, must take you where you live, never saw a monastery, **metal gate opened spontaneously, perhaps electric, closed, forgot to ask his name, knocked, late now , no visitors, forgot the name, the monk understood**, took him to the tomb, saw the pictures, **yes he is the one**