# Spirituality of Liturgical Rites



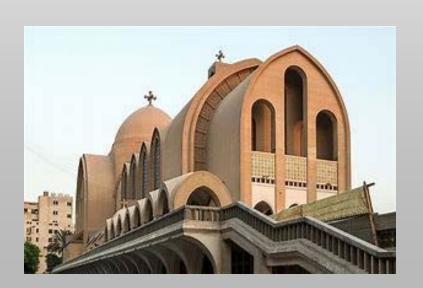
Session 1
INTRODUCTION

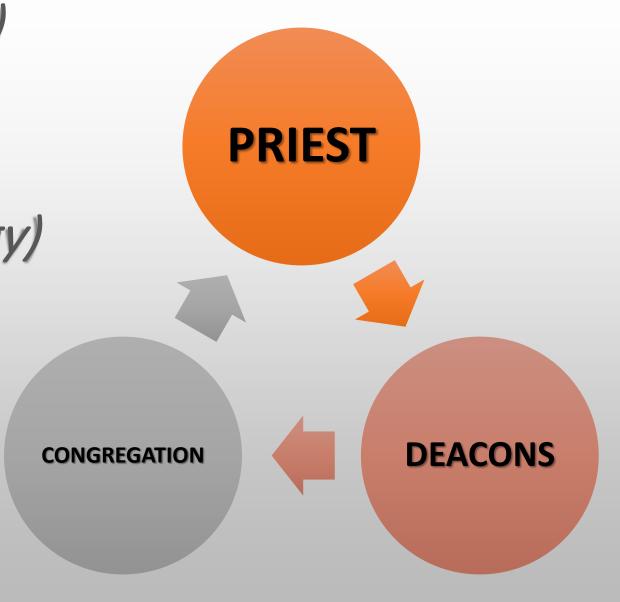
## Liturgy (Public Worship)

Greek: λειτουργία

Eucharist (Divine Liturgy)

Greek: εύχαριστία



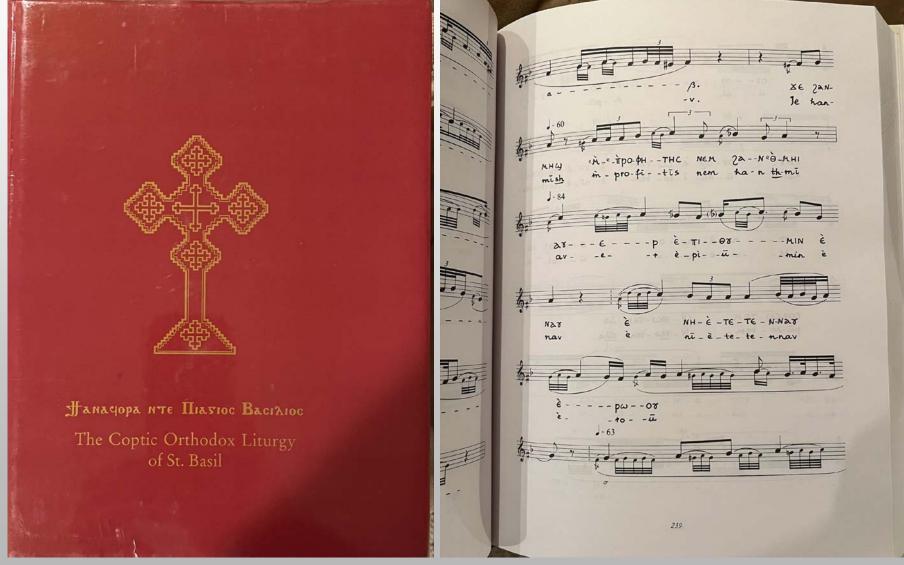


## Symphony

Greek word συμφωνία (symphōnía), means "agreement or concord of sound"

(Harmony)





## **Precautionary Measures**

## (1) Not coming early to church

"Those who seek Me early will find Me" (Proverbs 8:17).



### (2) Not participating in the congregation responses

"May Your servants, the ministers of this day, hegumens, priests, deacons, clergy, all Your people and my weak self be absolved...".

## **Precautionary Measures**

## (3) Losing focus during the liturgy



"I will pray with the spirit and I will also pray with understanding, I will sing with the spirit and I will also sing with understanding" (1 Corinthians 14:15).

### (4) Being preoccupied with irrelevant matters

"Those who lead, with diligence... fervent in spirit, serving the Lord, continuing steadfastly in prayer" (Romans 12:8-12).

## In the House of God

1. As we enter the church



"But as for me, I will come into Your house in the multitude of Your mercy; In fear of You I will worship toward Your holy temple." (Psalm 5:7).

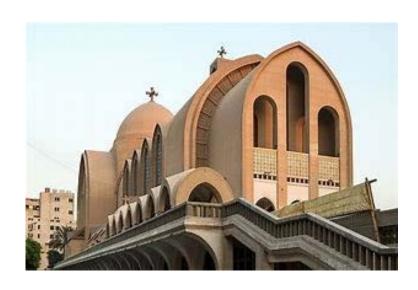
2. Deacons recite psalms:

- 29 (I will exalt You, O Lord)
- 92 (The Lord has reigned)
- 3. Stand in awe and reverence
- 4. Learn the chants and follow the lead deacon



#### **FOUR main Sections:**

- (1) Raising of the incense
- (2) The Offertory
- (3) Liturgy of the Word
- (4) The Anaphora



## 1. Raising of the incense

- (a) Vespers Evening
- (b) Matins Morning



"Then another angel, having a golden censer, came and stood at the altar. He was given much incense, that he should offer it with the prayers of all the saints upon the golden altar which was before the throne."







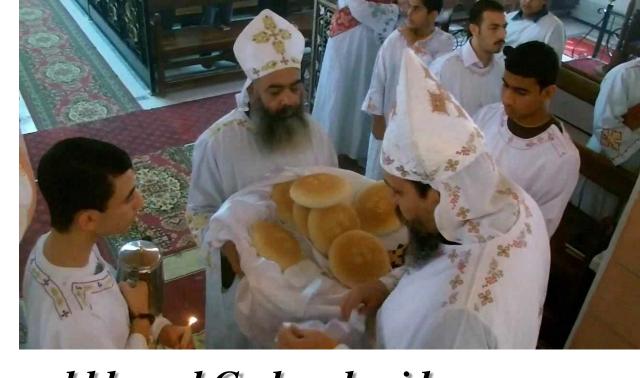
Selection of the **lamb** 



"And He took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "This is My body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of Me."

Luke 22:19

#### Selection of the **lamb**



"he took Him up in his arms and blessed God and said:
'Lord, now You are letting Your servant depart in peace,
According to Your word;
For my eyes have seen Your salvation
Which You have prepared before the face of all peoples"

#### Selection of the lamb







Selection of the **lamb** 



"His left hand is under my head, and His right hand embraces me"

Song of Songs 2:6

## 3. Liturgy of the Word (Catechumen)

- (1) Pauline Epistle
- (2) Catholic Epistle
- (3) Acts of the Apostles
- (4) Synaxarion (summary of the life of a saint)
- (5) Psalm
- (6) Gospel
- (7) Sermon



## 3. Liturgy of the Word (Catechumen)

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(1) Pauline Epistle
                         (Paul = 14)
(2) Catholic Epistle
                         (John = 3, Peter = 2, James = 1, Jude = 1)
(3) Acts of the Apostles
                               (Luke)
(4) Synaxarion
                         (summary of the life of a saint)
(5) Psalm
                          (David)
(6) Gospel
                         (Matthew, Mark, Luke, John)
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(7) Sermon

## 4. Liturgy of the Faithful (Anaphora)

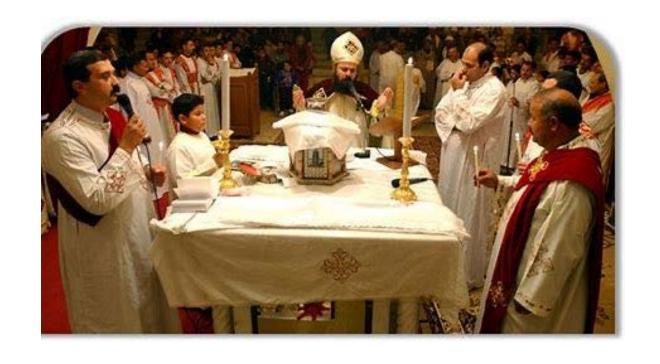


#### Starts with the Creed and ends with Communion



## 4. The Anaphora

Liturgy of the Faithful



"Whoever eats My flesh and drinks My blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day."

## Seven Sections of the Anaphora:

- (1) The Orthodox Creed
  (2) Prayer of Reconciliation
  (3) The Anaphora
  (4) The Institution Narrative

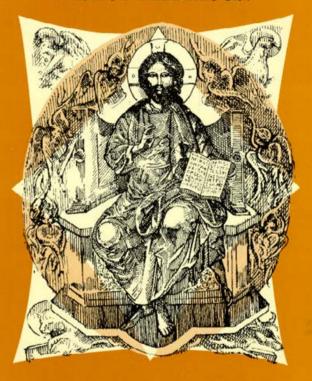
- The 7 Short Litanies
- (6) Commemoration of Saints (7) Fraction, Confession, and Communion

#### Resources

HOW TO BENEFIT FROM THE HOLY LITURGY

By His Grace Bishop Mettaous, Abbot of St. Mary & El Syrian Monastery

#### **BISHOP METTAOUS.**



THE SPIRITUALITY OF THE RITES
OF THE HOLY LITURGY
IN THE COPTIC ORTHODOX CHURCH