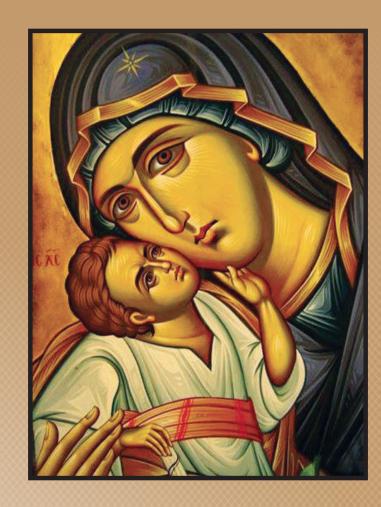


The Third Sunday of Kioahl

The Praises and Sundays of Kiahk Encountering the Baby of the Manger



## Preaching Joy in the Lord

2020

Fr. Tadros Y. Malaty

## U3 Preaching Joy in the Lord



The Lord Christ did not choose Saint Mary to be among the twelve disciples or the seventy apostles, but she was a wonderful and an effective model in her practical evangelical practice.

1 In her silence, she did not inform her fiancée, Saint Joseph, about



the annunciation of archangel Gabriel, nor did she declare to him the incarnation of the Word in her womb. Because of her sacred silence, an angel appeared to Joseph in a dream saying: "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take to you Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit. And she will bring forth

a Son, and you shall call His name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." (Matthew 1: 20-21). What Joseph received was much better than any dialogues he would have had with Saint Mary.

2 Through her sacred dialogue with the angel Gabriel, she also evangelized, providing humanity across generations an understanding of the mystery of the incarnation and the role of the Holy Trinity in it (Luke 1:34).

**3** Just as she evangelized by her holy silence and her holy dialogue, she also evangelized by the holy sacrificial act of love, as it was said: "Now Mary arose in those days and went into the hill country with haste, to a city of Judah, and entered the house of Zachariah and greeted Elizabeth. And it happened, when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, that the baby leaped in her womb; and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit." (Luke 1:39-41).

With this act of love, the house of Zacharias the priest was transformed into a joyful heaven. The baby leaped cheerfully, Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit, and the entire house joyfully praised God. How great is the evangelism of Mary! She did not tell them anything but came to them bearing Christ in her womb!

The world does not need sermons and books as much as it thirsts for Christ to enter the hearts and homes, wherever they may be!

## The Holy Joyful Life and Evangelism

It is good for the church to focus on preaching and evangelizing, organizing evangelism courses for the believers to learn about evangelism, in the spirit of faith and trust in the work of the Holy Spirit of God within them and in those whom they serve. It is also good for the believer to serve non-believers in all aspects of life, that he may experience the practical love that flows out of the preacher of God, the lover of mankind. However, all this could be corrupted by blind fanaticism, murderous literality, or arrogance and pride, for the grace of God exclusively works in the one who lives in the spirit of humility and love!

The Bible did not mention that Saint Mary took gifts for the baby John and his parents, nor did she think about how to serve her pregnant cousin when she had no experience with such things, and probably had no money to offer them.

She felt true richness, as she carried in her womb the Savior of the world, who grants the true heavenly joy. Saint Mary presented to the priest, his wife and her baby, the Lord of glory Himself who dwelt in her, and the house became like a heaven that was not lacking anything.

Lord, grant me the spirit of sincere evangelism. May I go with Saint Mary, bearing You in my heart. Grant me holy silence, that You may speak within me and through me. Lord, grant me a perpetual holy dialogue with You. I pray for the salvation of mankind. Give me a heart full of love, and a mind full of wisdom. Let me abide in You, and You in me, That I may become a source of joy for everyone I meet.



We are always in need for more servants to join our translation team· Even if you don't know Arabic, we still need you· If you are interested in helping out please contact Mina Medhat at minamedhat84@gmail·com **Translated by:** Megan Saad David Hanna Mary F.A. Micheal Stefanos