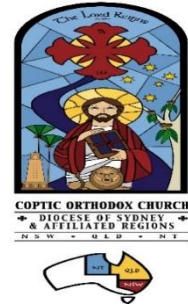


28 Misra,, 1740AM
Tuesday 3rd of September 2024
Our Ref: B.D.02.116.23.24
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Bishop’s Office



The Coptic Orthodox Church- See of Saint Mark- Diocese of Sydney and its Affiliated Regions. Sermon about:” The Spiritual Joy “in Saint Mary and Saint Sydhoun Bishai Church, Dural, Sydney, NSW, Australia, dated 3rd September 2024 on the funeral prayers of the late Ibrahim Messiah, from 10:00 11:00 am.

Dear the priests, deacons, servants, congregation and all, the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with us all. I would like to extend my deepest condolences for the departure of our beloved Mr. Ibrahim Messiah, and I would like to share with you some points about the above topic, as follows:

1= The joy of hearing the Word of God, as what happened in Samaria mentioned in ***Acts: 8:5-8:” 5 Then Philip went down to the city of Samaria and preached Christ to them. 6 And the multitudes with one accord heeded the things spoken by Philip, hearing and seeing the miracles which he did. 7 For unclean spirits, crying with a loud voice, came out of many who were possessed; and many who were paralyzed, and lame were healed. 8 And there was great joy in that city.***

2= The joy of having a holy and blessed children, as we read in ***Luke 1: 14:” 14 And you will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth.”.***

3= The Joy of the master with his honest servant, as it was written in ***Matt. 25: 21:” 21 His lord said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant; you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.’”.***

4= The joy of giving the glory to God in our service, as the Bible says in ***John 3: 29:” 29 He who has the bride is the bridegroom; but the friend of the bridegroom, who stands and hears him, rejoices greatly because of the bridegroom’s voice. Therefore, this joy of mine is fulfilled.”.***

5= The joy of the angels for our repentance, as it was mentioned in ***Luke 15: 10:” 10 Likewise, I say to you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”.***

Glory be to God always.

Please pray for me.

 **Bishop Daniel**
Coptic Orthodox Church
Diocese of Sydney
& Affiliated Regions
23.06.2002

+Bishop Daniel,

Bishop of the Coptic Orthodox Church, Diocese of Sydney & Affiliated Regions, Australia