

ST. MARY'S COPTIC ORTHODOX COLLEGE



COLLEGE BULLETIN 2008



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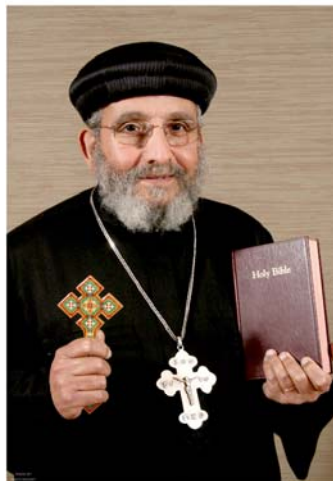
DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents and Students

As soon as the days of his service were completed, that he departed to his own house. Luke 1:23
Departure of Fr Victor Rophael

Parish Priest of St Mark's Coptic Church and Vicar General of the Parish of Melbourne

Last Tuesday 14th October 2008 10:39 pm our beloved Father Victor Rophael has concluded his days of strife and labor in this world and his soul departed flying to the Heavenly Paradise to rejoice among the Heavenly Hosts. Fr Victor departed after he was taken to the hospital suffering from internal bleeding which was a complication of the liver cancer he was suffering from for the last nine years. Our beloved father served the church and the congregation for the last 38 years with so much zeal and energy since his ordination in March 1971.



FR. VICTOR ROPHAEL
PRIEST OF ST. MARK'S CHURCH

He was the first Coptic priest to serve in Melbourne and the second in Australia and also one of few priest used to serve outside Egypt at that time. He started the church service in Melbourne with almost nil resources. He has to start every activity and service in time when the congregation was mostly new arrivals struggling to start a new life in a strange country. It was a very difficult task which Abouna has taken with courage and strong will supported by his deep faith and love to service aiming as he always used to say towards the salvation of every soul.

He was instrumental in witnessing for Christ and to introduce the Coptic Church to this part of the world where no one knew much about the Coptic Church. He gave so much attention to the service of children, youth and deacons. He was the reliable source of information and help for many. You would get an answer about anything you want whether it was about Bible, tradition, church hymns even about politics, employment and normal social or other issues. He was always available when you need him. His frequent visits to every member of the congregation were a normal habit. He would know everyone by name and all about family members. He would look after everyone even when he was sick or tired. You would always feel his presence as he possessed this easy going loving attitudes. He would create a nice happy atmosphere where ever he is present. He was always there to represent the clergy and the congregation in any occasion. His departure is really creating a huge vacuum which will be very hard to fill. His great example of love and unceasing activity will be very hard to match. Abouna may have left us in body but his active energetic spirit we can always feel and these great treasures of teaching and very well organized activities will be always there to follow and learn from. It is very hard my father to talk about you as you left us in body. You have meant so much for all of us as a father, teacher and a friend. May the Lord who supported you and helped you to conclude your hard and fruitful works help us also to continue or struggle and support your wife Tasoni Fayza who shared with you this long hard journey and also to support your children Mary and Mina and their families and all your relatives. We also pray for our Beloved father and Bishop Anba Suriel in this occasion that the Lord support him to continue his great services and activities. His Grace spent more than 24 hours continuously with Abouna in his last hours to support and pray for him. May the Lord also grant support and comfort for members of congregation and clergy.

Fr. Tadros Sharobeam

NEW BUS POLICY AND FEES FOR 2009

We have introduced a NEW Bus Policy for next year, in summary these are the key points:

- The Bus Fee is separate from the school fees.
- There will be NO discount for Bus Fees unless it is for a second or subsequent child (see rates below).
- Unless the Bus Fee is paid **up-front**, *students will not be able to use the Bus*
- Parents wanting their children use the bus service must pre-book before the start of the school year; preferably prior to the end of the previous term.
- Parents can book the use of the bus for a term, half year or whole year.
- There is the option of a daily/weekly ticket under exceptional circumstances – see the office/web site for these costs.

A full copy of the new policy will be on school's web site early next week. You can also get a copy from the school office.

Bus Fees for 2009 – Secondary years 7 - 12:

Time Period	Cost \$'s including GST for the First Child	Cost \$'s (including GST) for each Additional Child
TERM	\$350.00	\$280.00
HALF YEARLY	\$660.00	\$528.00
YEARLY	\$1210.00	\$968.00

Bus Fees for 2009 – Primary years 4 - 6:

Time Period	Cost \$'s including GST for the First Child	Cost \$'s (including GST) for each Additional Child
TERM	\$275.00	\$220.00
HALF YEARLY	\$550.00	\$440.00
YEARLY	\$990.00	\$792.00

Bus Fees for 2009 – Primary years Prep to 3:

Time Period	Cost \$'s including GST for the First Child	Cost \$'s (including GST) for each Additional Child
TERM	\$220.00	\$176.00
HALF YEARLY	\$400.00	\$320.00
YEARLY	\$720.00	\$576.00

Bus Assignment – Key points (Please see full policy for all details):

- Students will ONLY ride on assigned buses.
- Bus swapping is not permitted unless it has been authorised by the Transport Manager, the appropriate Bus Fee paid and it is due to exceptional circumstances.
- The transport manager has the right to refuse any request to change buses for reasons such as lack of space on other buses, safety concerns, behaviour, etc..

Trevor W NYE
Head of Secondary

PREP JOURNAL WRITING

I went swimming and I jumped in the water. I had fun.

Dean Youil - Prep A

On the weekend it was Father's Day. I watched Spiderman with my dad.

Ramsis Slewa - Prep L

On Friday we had Science Day and we had fun.

My favourite was the balloons.

Ina-Rosa El Cheikh - Prep L

On Sunday I went to church. I went to the kitchen and I helped my mum and someone helped me cut.

I went to Sunday school and then I went home.

Mekayla Hannalla

Prep A

On Sunday I went to church and I prayed there.

Every Sunday I go to church.

Jolene Aziz - Prep M

Yesterday I had a day off from school. I went to school with my brother and then I went to the cake shop and then I went shopping.

Amanda Kirolos

Prep M