

Church Holy Books

- How many books does the Church use?
- What are they for and when are they used?



1. Holy Bible: Old Testament

- 39 Books:
- Books of the LAW (5):
 - Genesis
 - Exodus
 - Leviticus
 - Numbers
 - Deuteronomy



1. Holy Bible: Old Testament

■ Historical Books (12):

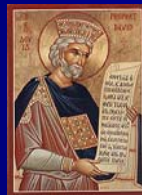
- Joshua
- Judges
- Ruth
- 1 & 2 Samuel
- 1 & 2 Kings
- 1 & 2 Chronicles
- Ezra
- Nehemiah
- Esther



1. Holy Bible: Old Testament

■ Poetic Books (5):

- Job
- Psalms
- Proverbs
- Ecclesiastes
- Song of Songs



1. Holy Bible: Old Testament

- Major Prophets (5):
 - Isaiah
 - Jeremiah
 - Lamentations of Jeremiah
 - Ezekiel
 - Daniel



1. Holy Bible: Old Testament

- Minor Prophets (12):

- Hosea
- Joel
- Amos
- Obadiah
- Jonah
- Micah



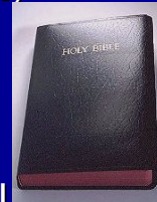
- Nahum
- Habakkuk
- Zephaniah
- Haggai
- Zechariah
- Malachi



1. Holy Bible

"All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness" (2 Timothy 3:16)

- Most important of all books
- All the other books are based upon It and inspired by It
- Our Church is an entirely Biblical Church relying on God's inspired Word for our spiritual nourishment



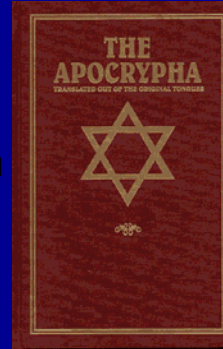
1. Holy Bible: Old Testament

- Easy way to remember:
 - 5 – 12 – 5 – 5 – 12
 - Law (5)
 - Historical (12)
 - Poetic (5)
 - Major Prophets (5)
 - Minor Prophets (12)



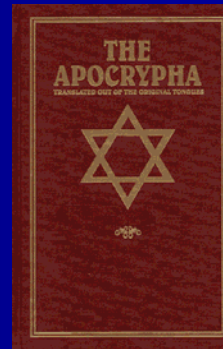
1. Holy Bible: Old Testament

- More Old Testament Books
- Deuterocanonical Books
- 10 additional books or parts of books were removed from the Protestant translation of the Bible, but exist in the Hebrew, Septuagint (Greek) and Vulgate (Latin)



1. Holy Bible: Old Testament

- According to the Coptic tradition, they are:
 - Tobit
 - Judith
 - 1 and 2 Maccabees
 - Wisdom
 - Sirach
 - Baruch
 - Rest of Esther
 - Additions to Daniel
 - Psalm 151



1. Holy Bible: New Testament

- 27 Books
- Gospels (4):
 - Matthew
 - Mark
 - Luke
 - John
- Acts



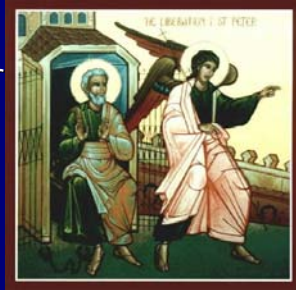
1. Holy Bible: New Testament

- Epistles of St. Paul (14):
 - Romans
 - 1 and 2 Corinthians
 - Galatians
 - Ephesians
 - Philippians
 - Colossians
 - 1 and 2 Thessalonians
 - 1 and 2 Timothy
 - Titus
 - Philemon
 - Hebrews



1. Holy Bible: New Testament

- **Catholic (Universal) Epistles (7):**
 - Not addressed to any Church in particular
 - James
 - 1 and 2 Peter
 - 1, 2, 3 John
 - Jude
- **Revelation**



2. Liturgy Book

“And they continued...in the breaking of bread, and in prayers” (Acts 2:42)

- **Raising of Incense**
 - Evening
 - Morning
- **Three Liturgies**
 - St. Basil
 - St. Gregory
 - St. Cyril (originally by St. Mark)
- **Fractions**
 - Different seasons and occasions

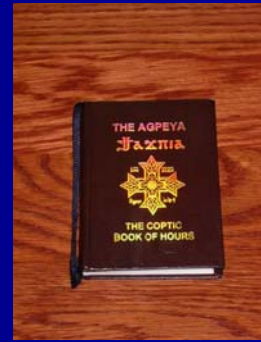


3. Agpeya

"Seven times every day I praise You"
(Psalm 119:164)

- Prayer Book of the Hours
- Seven Hours

- **Introduction**
 - Our Father
 - Thanksgiving Prayer
 - Psalm 50



3. Agpeya

- 1st Hour (Morning; 6:00 am)
 - Resurrection
- 3rd Hour (9:00 am)
 - Coming of the Holy Spirit
- 6th Hour (Noon)
 - Crucifixion



3. Agpeya

- 9th Hour (3:00 pm)
 - Death of the Lord
- 11th Hour (5:00 pm)
 - Removal of the Lord from the Cross
- 12th Hour (6:00 pm)
 - Burial of the Lord



3. Agpeya

- Midnight Prayer
 - 1st Watch
 - 2nd Watch
 - 3rd Watch
 - Remember vigils and watchfulness
 - Remember the Lord in Gesthemane
- Prayer of the Veil
 - Extra prayer done by monks



4. Deacons Service Book

"speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord" (Ephesians 5:19)

- All the Chants and Hymns throughout the year including special occasions



5. Katameros

"Your word is a lamp to my feet And a light to my path" (Psalm 119:105)

- "Kata" = "according"
"meros" = "part"

Book of readings according to part of the year

- 5 Different Katameros:
 1. Regular Sundays
 2. Regular Weekdays



5. Katameros

3. Great Fast
 - All the Great Fast and the Ninevites' Fast
4. Pascha Week
5. Holy Fifty Days (Pentecost)
 - From the Resurrection to the Feast of the Pentecost



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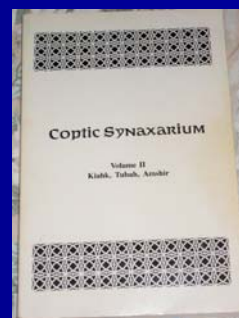
(Ma-engelia)

"Place of the Gospel"

6. Synaxarium

"since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses..." (Hebrews 12:1)

- The Chronology and History of the Church and its saints
- Every day is a **feast** in the Church:
 - "On this day, the Church commemorates the departure of..."



7. Book of Melodies

"Praise God in all His saints..." (Psalm 150:1)

- Contains the Melodies chanted during the Distribution (Communion)



8. Holy Psalmody

"Hear, O kings! Give ear, O princes! I, even I, will sing to the LORD; I will sing praise to the LORD God of Israel"

(Judges 5:3)

- Book of Praises
- 2 Different Psalmodies:
 - Regular Psalmody
 - Kiahk Psalmody



8. Holy Psalmody- Regular

- Four Hoces
 - εὐχος: Greek word for “praise”
- Commemoration of the Saints
 - We ask the saints to pray for us that the Lord may forgive us our sins
- Psali
 - ψαλλι Coptic word for “praise”
 - Different one for each day of the week and each occasion (Resurrection, Ascension, etc.)

8. Holy Psalmody- Regular

- Theotokia
 - Praise to the Theotokos (“Mother of God”)
 - Different one for each day off the week
- Conclusion



9. Holy Psalmody-Kiahk

- Additional praises and hymns focusing on the Incarnation of the Lord



10. Antiphonarium (Difnar)

- Contains a veneration and a brief story of the saint of the day.
- It is used in the Vesper and Midnight Praises.



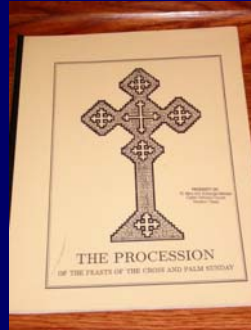
11. Book of the Psalies

- Contains special Psalies for special feasts and the feasts of the saints, not found in the regular Psalmody.

12. Book of the Processions

- Book of Processions of the feasts of the Cross and Palm Sunday, and the expositions of the Great Fast and the Holy Fifty Days.
- Contains all the expositions and Psalies for all these occasions.

Order of Procession



1.



2.



3.



4.



Order of Procession

5.



6.



7.



Order of Procession

8.



9.



10.



Order of Procession

11.



12.



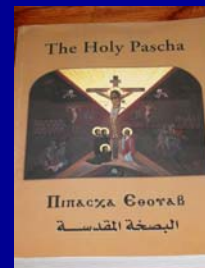
13. Pascha Week Lectionary



*“Therefore let us go forth to Him,
outside the camp, bearing His reproach”*

(Hebrews 13:13)

- Contains all the chants, rites, and readings for the Pascha Week, starting from Palm Sunday until the Feast of the Resurrection.



14. Book of the Laqqan and Prostration Prayers

- Contains the prayers of the three Liturgies of Waters:
 - Theophany (Feast of the Baptism)
 - Covenant Thursday
 - Feast of the Apostles
- Also contains the Prostration Prayers of the Feast of Pentecost

14. Book of the Laqqan and Prostration Prayers



16. Book of Ordinations and Consecrations

- Contains the prayers for ordaining deacons and priests, and the consecration of new churches, icons and vessels.

