

St. Peter

Seal of Martyr

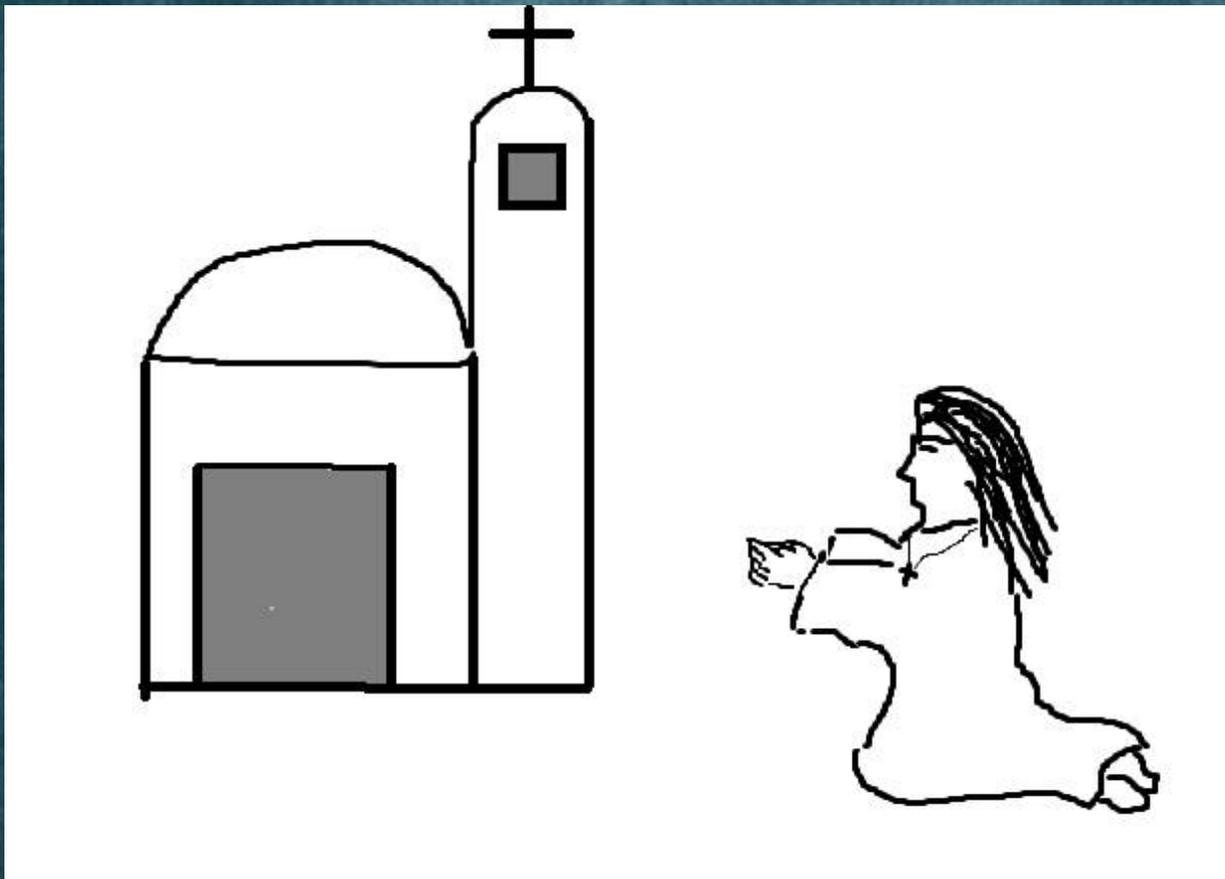
284 AD = 1 AM

AD = Anno Domini = In the year
of the Lord

AM = ?

September 11 is
Nairouz

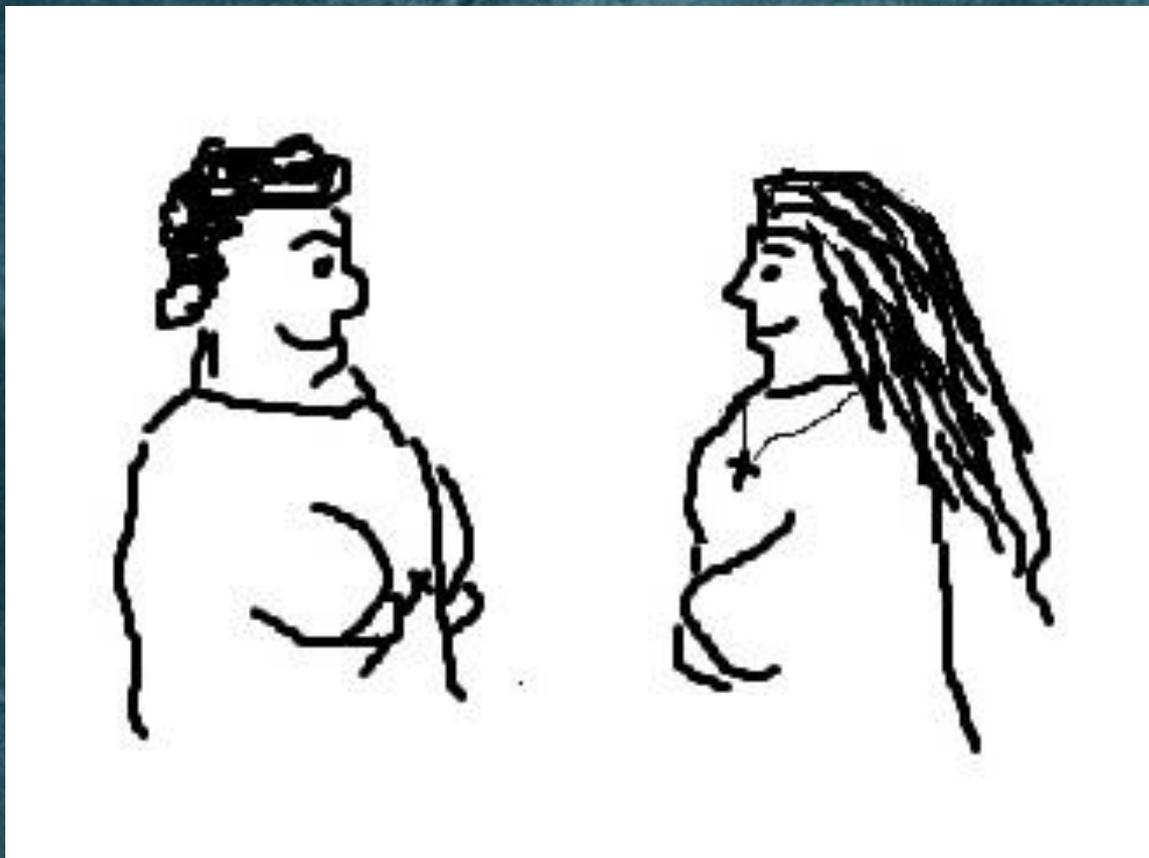
Peter's parents were righteous people.
His father's name was Theodosius. His mother's name was Sophia.
Before Peter's mother had any children, she went to the church to take part
in celebrating the Martyrdom of St. Peter the apostle and St. Paul.
She prayed to God, and she also asked the saints to give her a child...



That same night, she had a dream where she saw two old men in white. They said to her, "Do not be sad. The Lord will give you a son. He will be a father to a great people." She awoke and...



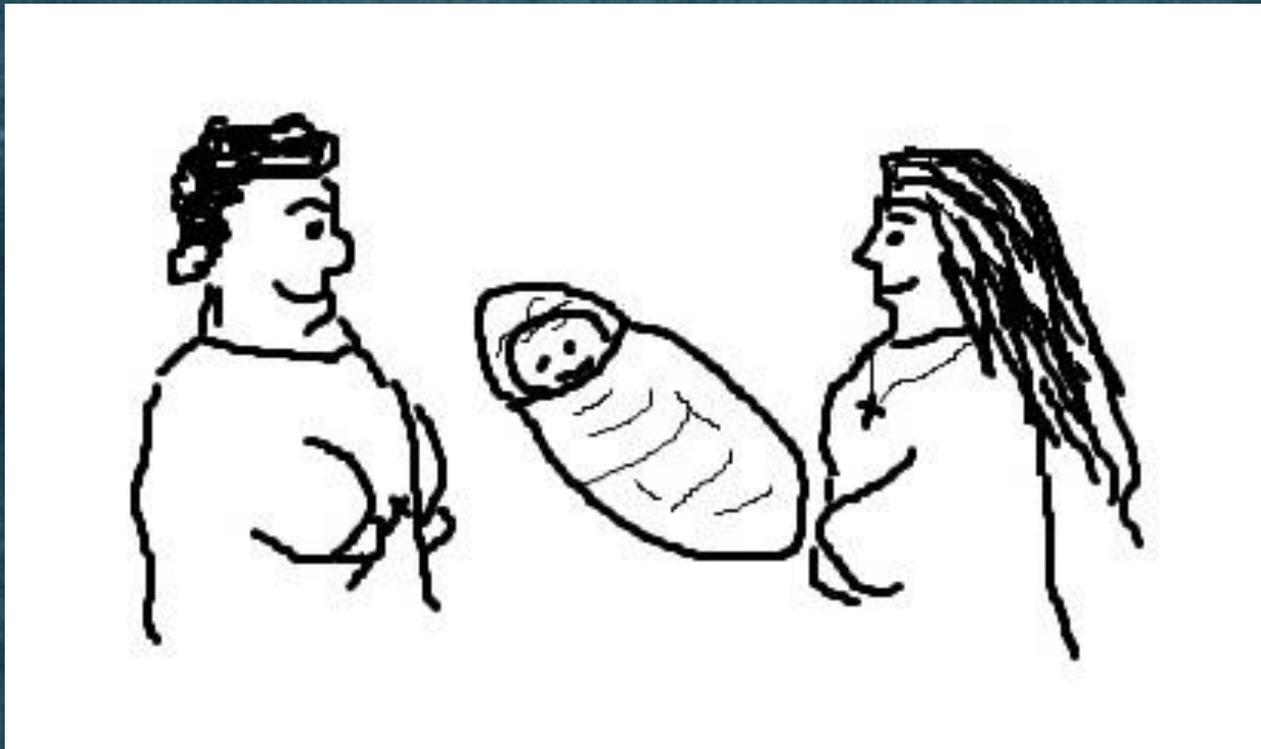
...and told her husband.
He believed, and he said to her...
“Go and tell His Holiness the Pope.”



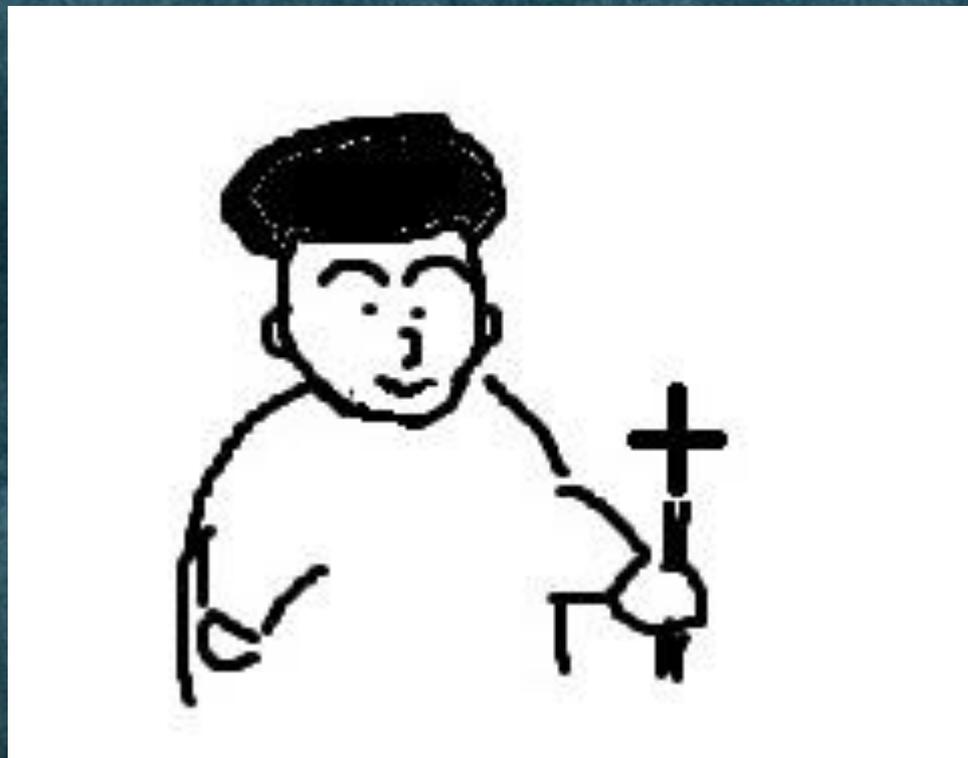
So, she went to the Pope and told him about her dream.
The Pope blessed her and said, “The Lord is true and honest and shows His wonders through the saints.”



In less than a year, Sophia and Theodosius had a son.
She called him Peter
The pope baptized him.



When he was 12 years old,
he was ordained a deacon.



When he was 16 years old, he was ordained a priest.

The Lord granted him the grace of performing wonders and miracles.

One day, the believers gathered to pray in the church. After the prayer, they went out but at the church gate, they saw a man possessed by a demon throwing stones at them.

They went back quickly into the church to avoid any harm, and told the Pope. The Pope called Fr. Peter.



Fr. Peter brought a vessel filled with water...



Then he asked the Pope...



...to breathe on the water.



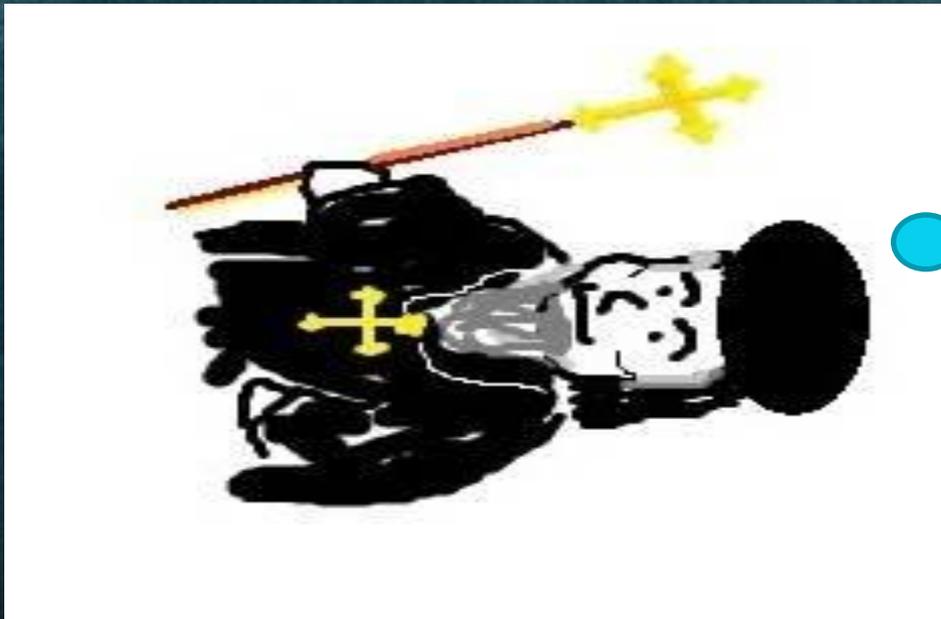
He took the water and sprinkled it over the sick man's face...



...and demon departed at once!!!



When the Patriarch (Pope) was on his death bed, the people wept and said “Will you leave us as orphans?” The Pope smiled... and pointed at Father Peter and said, “This will be your father who will care for you after I depart.”



The prophecy came true and Fr. Peter became the Pope, the 17th successor of St. Mark the apostolic and Evangelist, in 285 A.D. and he became the father of the people of the See of St. Mark

At that time the persecution of Christians was severe....

But the Christians were used to singing hymns of praises as if they were going to a wedding.

Pope Peter encouraged Christians

Fought Heresies,

Preserving the Faith.



Later on he was imprisoned...

And led to the place of martyrdom.

He asked his persecutors to allow him to visit the church where the head of St. Mark was kept. They allowed him to do so.



He knelt and bowed and prayed earnestly and ended his prayer saying...
“O Lord, I ask you to put an end to this persecution which befell your people.
May the shedding of my blood be the end of this persecution against your
flock.”

A voice from heaven was heard saying,

“Amen.”

When the Pope Peter finished his prayer, he delivered himself to the guards.



He was brave and firm and his face was shining like face of an angel. When the guards saw his face, they could not kill him. The officer in charge showed them 25 pieces of gold and said, “This sum is for the one who dares to cut off the head of that old man.” One of them dared to strike the neck of the Pope with his sword. They left him where he was and went their own way. The believers gathered and wept. They took his body to the church of St. Mark. They dressed him in the holy cloak and seated him on the throne of St. Mark on which he never sat during his life as a kind of modesty.



His blood was the last that was shed by
Emperor Diocletian.

That is why he is called the
“Seal of the Martyrs”.

The blessing of his people be with us all,
Amen



**Remember those who rule over you,
who have spoken the word of God to you,
whose faith follow,
considering the outcome of their conduct**



**Matthew
10:28**

**And do not fear
those who kill the body
but cannot kill the soul.
But rather fear...
Him who is able to destroy
both soul and body in hell**

Question?



Question?

Homework

FIRST

Recite Psalm 133 everyday

SECOND

Memorize the Psalm 133



May the Lord bless you
and this Coptic New Year!
(Nairouz)