

*THE VOICE OF MY LOVER
WOOS ME!*

❶

***YOU ARE MY
DELIGHTFUL
GARDEN!***

FR. TADROS Y. MALATY

2000

Translated by
MARY ROSE HALIM

Coptic Orthodox Patriarchate
**Bishopric of Los Angeles, Southern California and
Hawaii**

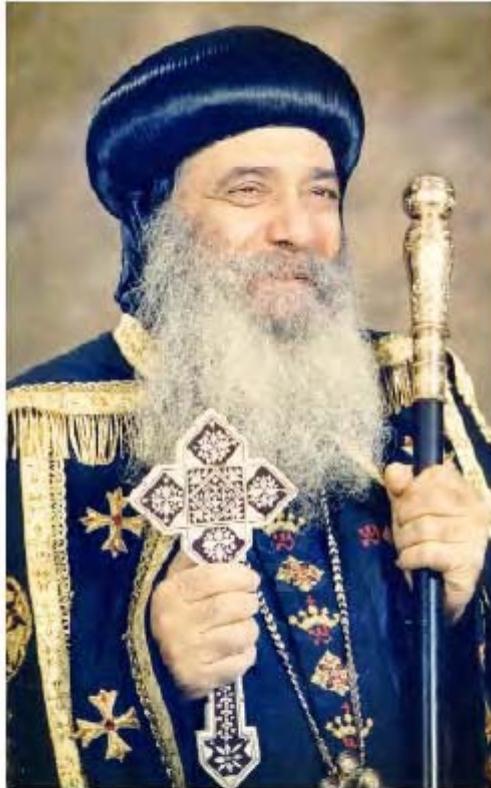
Reverend Father Tadros Y. Malaty has kindly permitted that his books be published in the COeRL. He has requested that we convey that any suggestions or amendments regarding their translation are welcome, and should be forwarded to:
sydneywebmaster@coptic.org.au



Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, King of Kings and
Lord of lords



**THE BEHOLDER OF GOD
MARK THE EVANGELIST
SAINT AND MARTYR**



*H.H. Pope Shenouda III, 117th Pope of
Alexandria and the See of St. Mark*



**His Grace Bishop Daniel
Bishop of Sydney and Affiliated Regions**

THE VOICE OF MY LOVER WOOS ME!

A young girl knocked at the door then rapidly withdrew, as she didn't find a rapid respond. She exclaimed bitterly: "No one is home! No one can hear me knocking, and no one answers to my yearnings!"

This is identical to the condition in which many find themselves as they spend time praying and knocking at the gates of heaven. For just when the Lord would have answered their prayers and spoken with them, they would already have left their prayer spot in the church or at home. They feel that the Lord neither hears nor responds to their shouts.

It is so sad when a child speaks but does not stop to listen to the voice of his God as He woos her/him!

This is exactly what prompted me to sit alone. I wanted to listen to God, my dearly beloved, and hear Him wooing me.

In every circumstance: in celebrations, in sadness, in sickness, in health, in the midst of crowds, or when alone in my bedroom, I hear Him wooing me and saying: "Listen to Me My child, you are the desire of My Heart!"

† † †

**OUR MEETINGS CONSTITUTE
A JOYFUL PARADISE!¹
WHOSE FRUITS I CONSTANTLY DESIRE!**

✠ I am the true Love².

My desire for you is a flame that is never quenched!
Not even the waters of all the oceans can quench that fire!

✠ I come down to you, My child.
And our meeting is a joyful paradise,
Whose fruits I constantly desire!³

✠ I am the Source that fills all creatures, the heavenly as well as the
earthly ones.
I starve and thirst for you, O My dearly beloved child.

✠ Lean your head against My chest⁴.
Entrust your life into My hands.
For then you will experience fellowship in the risen life⁵,
My Love will be the gratifying food for your soul.
And My amazing peace⁶ will invigorate your spirit!
My righteousness will be your righteousness⁷.
And you will be clothed with My perfection.

✠ May you drink from the Source of My Love
So that you might refresh: indeed, endless streams of love will
flow constantly within you⁸!

¹ *A garden enclosed is My sister, My spouse, a spring shut up, a fountain sealed. (Song 4:12)*

² *God is love. (1 Jn 4:8)*

³ *Let my Beloved come to His garden and eat its pleasant fruits. (Song 4:16)*

⁴ *Then Peter, turning about, saw the disciple whom Jesus loved following; which also leaned on His breast at supper. (John 21:20)*

⁵ *That I may know Him, and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being made conformable unto His death. (Phil 3:10)*

⁶ *And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. (Phil 4:7)*

⁷ *The Lord has brought forth our righteousness.... (Jer 51:10)*

⁸ *If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink. He that believes on me, as the scripture has said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water. (John 7:37-38)*

WHY DO YOU REMAIN A DRY DESERT?

- ✠ See how I stretch out My hands to place them on you and bless you.
I wish to turn you into a fruitful paradise¹.
I will pour the rain of the Spirit which will strip you of your dryness.
- ✠ Trust in My love for you.
I desire to work within you.
And to embrace you with My right hand².
Hence your troubles will be turned into blessings.
And I will pour within you the supreme wells of love.
- ✠ Why do you remain to be a dry and fruitless desert?
Trust Me for I am a loving, powerful, and wise husbandman!
Remember My promise to you:
The Lord will guide you always
He will satisfy your needs in a sun- scorched land.
And will strengthen your frame.
You will be like a well- watered garden and like a spring whose waters never fail. (Is 58:11)

✠ ✠ ✠

¹ *A fountain of gardens, a well of living waters, and streams from Lebanon. (Song 4:15)*

² *His left hand is under my head, and his right hand embraces me. (Song 2:6)*

***Come, My Friends,
into My Amazing Paradise!***

- ✠ My son. Here I come to enter your heart¹!
I am the Son of David Who carries the keys to your depths.
I open, and no man shuts; I close, and no man opens².
- ✠ I find My joy in My Paradise that I have established within your heart³.
I have sent My Holy Spirit to your heart as rain that comes too early or too late.
Your barren desert has become transformed into an amazing and fruitful paradise⁴.
My Spirit has planted into your heart the trees of love, joy, peace, goodness, gentleness, and self- control⁵.
He has planted within you My divine righteousness,
And has offered you fellowship in My divine nature⁶.
- ✠ My son, the paradise within your heart is due to the action of My Holy Spirit⁷.
This paradise is not a man- made product, it is My handwork!
This fills Me with Joy⁸.
I invite all the angels and heavenly hosts to join Me in the paradise I have within your heart.
There, they will drink and rejoice with Me!

¹ *Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me. (Rev 3:20)*

² *He who is holy, He who is true, He who has the key of David, He who opens and no one shuts, and shuts and no one opens. (Rev 3:7)*

³ *My beloved has gone to His garden, to the beds of spices, to feed His flock in the gardens, and to gather lilies. (Song 6:2)*

⁴ *Until the Spirit is poured upon us from on high, and the wilderness becomes a fruitful field, and the fruitful field is counted as a forest. (Isa 32:15)*

⁵ *But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no Law. (Gal 5:22-23)*

⁶ *By which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust. (2 Pet 1:4)*

⁷ *I will pour My Spirit on your descendants, and My blessing on your offspring. (Isa 44:3)*

⁸ *And He said to me, 'You are My servant, O Israel, in whom I will be glorified.' (Isa 49:3)*

✠ My son, I know that you were thirsty and hungry.
Misery was clearly written over your face.
Now, My Spirit has not only filled and quenched you.
He has made you into a paradise rich with fruitful trees¹ and ever
bountiful springs².
Your friends find their fill and their thirst is quenched when they
meet with you³.
And when they get in touch with My Holy Spirit that dwells
within you.
That is true not only for your friends, but also for Me and My
Father as We rest in you and enjoy this amazing garden⁴.
We invite the heavenly hosts to come with us and enjoy the Fruit
of the Spirit in the joyous paradise we have sown within you.

✠ My son, do not underestimate yourself
For you are no longer a barren desert inhabited by devils
See what a blooming paradise you are⁵ and what joy you provide
to the earthly and heavenly creatures!
Your depths have been transformed from a cesspool into a
heaven where nothing defiling or unclean can enter
Your depths have become My holy dwelling
My Joyful Paradise



¹ *And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus. (Phil 4:19)*

² *A garden enclosed is my sister, my spouse, a spring shut up, a fountain sealed. (Song 4:12)*

³ *Ho! Everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you who have no money, come, buy and eat. Yes, come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. (Isa 55:1)*

⁴ *The Lord will guide you continually, and satisfy your soul in drought, and strengthen your bones; you shall be like a watered garden, and like a spring of water, whose waters do not fail. (Isa 58:11)*

⁵ *My beloved has gone to His garden, to the beds of spices, to feed His flock in the gardens, and to gather lilies. (Song 6:2)*

I SEEK YOUR BEAUTY!

✠ My child, I know that you yearn for beauty and wish to be beautiful!

I am Beauty itself that never fades¹.

I pour My holiness within you so that you carry My Beauty in your depths².

Every moment, your splendor increases and Time cannot erase it.

Your Beauty is an internal one and it will become more evident on the day you meet with Me on the clouds³.

Then you will become a lustrous star in My heavens!⁴

✠ Your beauty arises from the source of My Beauty.

For you are no stranger to Me.

You are the fruit of My love.

You are My child and I have begotten you in the baptismal font.

I have paid for you on the Cross⁵.

You are a special child, and you are very dear to Me.

I know you by your name.

I have your name inscribed on the palms of My hands⁶, you are Mine!

Who can smear your beauty?!

I am with you every morning, every day of your life, and until the New Day.

I face with you all your ordeals, and surround you with my embrace.

Do not put out your hand to work without Me, for I am the mystery behind your power and victory⁷.

¹ *Behold, you are handsome, my beloved! Yes, pleasant! Also our bed is green. (Song 1:16)*

² *For I will pour water on him who is thirsty, and floods on the dry ground; I will pour My Spirit on your descendants, and My blessing on your offspring. (Isa 44:3)*

³ *You are all fair, my love, and there is no spot in you. (Song 4:7)*

⁴ *Arise, shine; for your light has come! And the glory of the LORD is risen upon you. (Isa 60:1)*

⁵ *Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. (Rom 6:4)*

⁶ *See, I have inscribed you on the palms of My hands. (Isa 49:16)*

⁷ *Set me as a seal upon your heart, as a seal upon your arm; for love is as strong as death, jealousy as cruel as the grave; its flames are flames of fire, a most vehement*

✠ My child, do not walk alone.

Do not look backwards lest you fail and smear your image.

Look ahead and you will understand the beautiful things prepared for you!¹

Trust in Me at every step, be it hard or simple.

I will carry you over the waters of the oceans so that you do not drown².

Hold on to My hand and your strength and beauty will be increased³.

✠ ✠ ✠

flame. (Song 8:6)

¹ *I will go before you and make the crooked places straight; I will break in pieces the gates of bronze and cut the bars of iron. (Isa 45:2)*

² *When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow you. When you walk through the fire, you shall not be burned, nor shall the flame scorch you. (Isa 43:2)*

³ *Scarcely had I passed by them, when I found the one I love. I held him and would not let him go, until I had brought him to the house of my mother, and into the chamber of her who conceived me. (Song 3:4)*

***I HAVE LOVED YOU
AND GRANTED YOU ALL I HAVE!***

- ✠ My child, I have loved you with an everlasting love.
And have attached you to Me with the strong ties of love¹.
In moments of distress, I will be your refuge.
And when you get weak, I will be your source of power².
When darkness falls, I will not conceal the splendor of My glory
from you³.
- ✠ I do not anoint the posts of your door with the blood of sheep.
Neither do I sprinkle your floor with the blood of animals.
It is with My Blood that I open the doors of My heavens to you⁴.
And bring you into the presence of the divine throne.
- ✠ I have granted you My Spirit to live within you.
To work on your behalf and shape you into My image.
To renew your potentials⁵ and inspire you with My will.
To awaken your depths in remorse and to console you.
My Spirit intercedes within you when all creation fails to support
you.
- ✠ I have loved you and granted you all I have.
I have granted you My Words and put them in your mouth⁶.
They will never depart from your mouth, or from the mouths of
your children, or from the mouths of their descendants⁷

¹ *Yes, I have loved you with an everlasting love; therefore with loving-kindness I have drawn you. (Jer 31:3)*

² *He gives power to the weak, and to those who have no might He increases strength. (Isa 40:29)*

³ *For behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and deep darkness the people; but the LORD will arise over you, and His glory will be seen upon you. (Isa 60:2)*

⁴ *Being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God set forth as a propitiation by His blood, through faith, to demonstrate His righteousness, because in His forbearance God had passed over the sins that were previously committed. (Rom 3:24-25)*

⁵ *But those who wait on the LORD shall renew their strength. (Isa 40:31)*

⁶ *And I have put My words in your mouth. (Isa 51:16)*

⁷ *As for Me," says the LORD, "this is My covenant with them: My Spirit who is upon you, and My words which I have put in your mouth, shall not depart from your mouth, nor from the mouth of your descendants, nor from the mouth of your descendants' descendants," says the LORD, "from this time and forevermore." Isa 59:21*

I have granted you My thoughts to occupy your mind¹.
So that you possess My thoughts and experience the fellowship
of life with Me².

✠ Arise and be enlightened for My Light has rested within you³.
And My glory shines upon you⁴.
You have become a heaven and not an earth.
All darkness in you has vanished⁵.
For many shall walk in your light and the brightness of your
dawn⁶.

✠ I offer Myself to you.
Here I come together with My Father.
We will make Our abode in you⁷.
We will lift you up to Us through Our Holy Spirit.
So that you will find an abode and resting place in Us.

✠ Throw yourself down depending on My mercies⁸.
My love yearns to respond to your love.
I am all yours for you are the desire of My heart!⁹

¹ *I will put My law in their minds, and write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people. Jer 31:33*

² *For we have become partakers of Christ if we hold the beginning of our confidence steadfast to the end. Heb 3:14*

³ *Your fame went out among the nations because of your beauty, for it was perfect through My splendor which I had bestowed on you," says the Lord GOD. Ezek 16:14*

⁴ *Arise, shine; for your light has come! And the glory of the LORD is risen upon you. Isa 60:1*

⁵ *I have come as a light into the world, that whoever believes in Me should not abide in darkness. John 12:46*

⁶ *The Gentiles shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising. Isa 60:3*

⁷ *If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him. John 14:23*

⁸ *How precious is Your loving-kindness, O God! Therefore the children of men put their trust under the shadow of Your wings. Ps 36:7*

⁹ *God is for me. Ps 56:9*

I am my beloved's, and his desire is toward me. (Song 7:10)

***MY CHILD,
I AM PREOCCUPIED WITH YOU!***

- ✠ My child, lift up your eyes and look towards Me.
I have created you as a being empowered to look upwards.
And you will see Me looking towards you.
So your eyes will meet Mine.
- ✠ For your sake, I have created the world.
To serve under your feet.
Why do you fix your eyes upon it ?!
Why are you occupied with its temporary issues?
There is nothing that could let Me withdraw My preoccupation
with you.
Not even the heavenly hosts could distract My focus on you!
- ✠ My child, you have caused Me grief as you turned your back
away rather than turned your face towards Me.
I grieve over you yet My love remains unchanged.
My eyes are focused on you.
My hands are stretched out carrying blessings for you.
My ears yearn to hear your voice¹.
My child, return to Me!
- ✠ You carry on talking with others for ever so long.
So why do you not talk with Me for even a few minutes!
I have so many things to tell you personally!
- ✠ I am not a remote control that you can manipulate at your whim.
I exist, and am the Creator of all creatures.
Do not forget you are in My image and likeness².
I rejoice in you for you are so dear to Me.
No one can satisfy you other than I³.
- ✠ I said to Thomas: Bring your finger and touch Me!⁴

¹ *Let me hear your voice. Song 2:14*

² *Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness. Gen 1:26*

³ *For since the beginning of the world men have not heard nor perceived by the ear, nor has the eye seen any God besides You, who acts for the one who waits for Him. Isa 64:4*

⁴ *Then He said to Thomas, "Reach your finger here, and look at My hands; and reach*

I say to you: Throw yourself completely upon Me!
Pour your love into me.
Then you will know Me and shout with Thomas, My disciple,
and say:
My Lord, And My God!
My child, enter into My depths.
For My pierced side is open to receive you!



your hand here, and put it into My side. Do not be unbelieving, but believing." John 20:27

***MAY YOU KNOW ME!
I WILL SHAPE YOU INTO A WORTHY VESSEL***

✠ I raise nations and degrade kingdoms.
Whereas My throne is stable forever¹.
My plans are ultimately achieved for I am the Almighty One².

✠ May you know Me!
For I will shape you into a vessel of dignity³
I will make you into a wondrous object!
I have raised David from insignificance to sit with the leaders of his nation.
I will make you a king with power to rule thoughts, hearts and all feelings!
One thing prevents Me from acting and that is lack of faith!
Believe and you will possess My capacity and partake of My glory!
In the darkness, I will be your Light.
In your joy, I will add joys from My own Kingdom onto yours!
In grief, I will grant your mind My peace that is all transcendent!⁴



¹ *Your throne, O God, is forever and ever. (Heb 1:8)*

² *Who being the brightness of His glory and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power, when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down at the right (Heb 1:3)*

³ *Therefore if anyone cleanses himself from the latter, he will be a vessel for honor, sanctified and useful for the Master, prepared for every good work. (2 Tim 2:21)*

⁴ *But your sorrow will be turned into joy. (John 16:20)*

In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world. (John 16:33)

PROCURE ME FOR I YEARN TO POSSESS YOU

✠ My child, I have promised to bless you richly with My freely grace.

What is My grace other than the offering of My life to you.
I grant you Myself Who is the Giver of all gifts¹.

✠ Ask Me, and I will grant you My Holy Spirit to dwell within you.
And fill you with streams of living water.

✠ Lift up your eyes towards Me, and you will find My eyes looking at you.
I turn My ear to listen to your voice.
And you will see Me walking towards you.

✠ Obey My commandments as this is a sign of your love for Me.
Then will I come with the Father and make Our dwelling within you!

✠ Procure Me, My child, for I yearn to possess you².
Do say with the Bride: “I am my beloved’s, and my beloved is mine: he feeds among the lilies.” (Song 2:16)
Procure Me, thus you will enjoy My love, peace, and gladness.

✠ Open up your heart to Me, so that I may grant you My Spirit and infinite love.

I will offer you now the pledge of eternal life.
I open up My Heart, so as to enfold you within!
I hide you in My heart. and I hide within yours.
Thus you will experience the sweetness of unity with Me.
And, ultimately, savor the participation in My divine nature.
Hence, you will neither enter nor depart.
Indeed, you will rest in Me and find perfect comfort and fulfillment.
Procure Me, so that you may attain My love, peace and joy.

¹ *Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends. (John 15:13)*

² *My son, give me your heart, and let your eyes observe my ways. (Prov 23:26)*

GIVE ME WATER TO DRINK!

- ✠ I wander about among My human fellowmen and ask each one:
Give Me water to drink
I ask you to give Me your heart so that I might enjoy your love.
And so that the sources of my love which never dry up¹, might
flow even more richly²
Give Me just one glass of water, for I yearn for you.
And I will give you the infinite sources of My love.
- ✠ Look up to Me, My child.
I weep for you as for Jerusalem.
I grieve for you do not grant Me a cup filled with the waters of
your love.
- ✠ I tell you with My prophet Elijah:
Make me a cake first.
And you will not ever run short of food or oil again. (1 Kings
17:13-16)
- ✠ I ask you: Give Me to drink.
For I need to give you Myself as an ever constant fountain³.
- ✠ Grant Me all your possessions
And I will grant you all what is Mine, indeed, I will grant you all
what I am!
You will possess not only My riches,
You will have Me Who is the All wealthy and the Giver of all
blessings!
- ✠ Offer Me yourself⁴ and I will preserve you in My embrace.
Take Me and keep Me in your depths.

¹ *Ho! Everyone who thirsts, come to the waters. (Isa 55:1)*

² *Ho! Everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you who have no money, come, buy
and eat. Yes, come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. (Isa 55:1)*

³ *If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink. (John 7:37)*

⁴ *My son, give me your heart, and let your eyes observe my ways. (Prov 23:26)*

YOU ARE MY DEARLY BELOVED!¹

‡ How can you doubt my love towards you?

You are a member of My body, you are the chosen Bride².

As a Bridegroom, I offer you all My love.

As a Bridegroom, I grant you all I have.

As a Bridegroom, I open to you the gates of My royal kingdom.

My love for you transcends all human understanding.

For I am not a finite being.

I do not need to split My Spirit among all My loved ones.

Indeed, I grant everyone My whole love, heart, and Spirit.

I kiss you with all the fullness of My embrace!³

My love is unbiased!

‡ Open up your heart to Me, and I will satisfy and enlarge it.

I will give you without measure⁴, gladly and freely.

I love you and ask for no return, and I love you just because I am loving!

I cover you with My love⁵ because I have chosen you to be Mine.



¹ *Yes, I have loved you with an everlasting love; therefore with loving-kindness I have drawn you. (Jer 31:3)*

² *For I am jealous for you with godly jealousy. For I have betrothed you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ. (2 Cor 11:2)*

³ *Let him kiss me with the kisses of his mouth, for your love is better than wine. (Song 1:2)*

⁴ *If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him. (James 1:5)*

⁵ *"I have loved you," says the Lord. (Mal 1:2)*

***MY CHILD,
DO NOT IGNORE MY VOICE!¹***

- ✠ My child, I know that the sounds of the world are attractive and tempting.
Yet it is a noise that robs you of your peace.
My voice is gentle and meek.
Ignore all sounds but do not ignore the voice of your Father.
I invite you to take the royal road².
Do not veer to the left towards the temptations of sin.
And do not veer to the right towards the beat of self righteousness.
- ✠ My child, may you listen to My voice³.
And rejoice therein, for I rejoice in those that find joy in Me.
My child, you are My joy.
Receive Me in order to be blessed by My pleasure.
- ✠ My child, listen to My voice.
So that you might drink of the sources of My love.
Then will I thirst for the source of your love!
I always am the One who starts loving.
Yet I wish that you would give Me your love in return for Mine.



¹ *Seek the Lord while He may be found, call upon Him while He is near. (Isa 55:6)*

² *Today, if you will hear His voice do not harden your hearts. (Heb 3:7)*

³ *Incline your ear, and come to Me. (Isa 55:3)*

***I Will Play
the Symphony of My Love
on You!***

✠ Let Me play with My Fingers on the strings of your heart.
I will play on you the symphony of My love.
My Holy Spirit grants you Joy.
This makes your mouth speak a new song.
And your spirit gets refreshed with gladdening melodies.
Your feelings will all join in.
As will your heart and mind.
So you will wholly become an orchestra offering unique praise.

✠ I will carry you here and there.
Your friends will hear you, and their souls will dance in response.
The heavenly ones will hear you, and they will yearn that you join them.
I will present you to the Father, and He will be glad with the sacrifices of praise and thanksgiving.
He will call you into His Embrace.
Thus you will celebrate an eternal feast..



I Need You!

- ✚ From My storehouse, I bestow upon you countless blessings
And I descend to you lovingly, asking: I need to drink
For your sake, I became poor and have no pail
Therefore I wait on you to draw a little for Me out of your deep
well of love
My son, I need your heart
- ✚ I bring fullness to the fill the hungry, and water the thirsty
I let rivers of living water overflow from within you
Do not grudge Me a pail of water, for I will not remain indebted
to anyone
I will pay back your pail of water with the Water of My Holy
Spirit
- ✚ Before you pronounce one word, I pour My blessings upon you
I offer you more than you request or ever need
And I stand at the door and knock since time untold
I am hungry, will you not give Me a morsel of bread?
I am thirsty, will you not give Me a cup of cold water? I am
naked, will you not give clothe Me with unneeded clothing you
have?
I am sick, will you not ask about Me?
I am imprisoned, will you not visit Me?
Here I come as one of My lesser brothers
I am your Creator, I put out my hand begging for charity
Why do you deprive yourself from this honor?
I open My hand so that you may place a donation with yours,
then will our hands get in touch!

✚ ✚ ✚

I Consider You a Precious and Greatly Treasured Pearl!

- ✠ Remember your status, for you have become a member in My Body¹.
A living member in My Church.
I have wed you, along with your fellow men, to be My Bride².
I have granted My Church My Holy Spirit as well as My eternal love and fellowship,
For He does not grudge My union with you.
You have become Mine, and I consider you a very precious and greatly treasured pearl³.
- ✠ I am the King of Kings; heaven and earth lie under My dominion.
You hold a special status in My eyes; you are very dear to Me.
You share My sufferings and you will share My glory⁴.
You carry My Cross⁵ with Me, and thus you become My throne.
Remember that you will judge the angels.
May your soul rejoice, for I have chosen you, and taken you to be my heavenly Bride⁶.
Now, you walk with Me in the path of Golgotha.
And you will find the eternal Gates lifted up before you!

¹ *Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? (1 Cor 6:15)*

Now you are the body of Christ, and members individually. (1 Cor 12:27)

² *I will betroth you to Me in faithfulness, and you shall know the Lord. (Hosea 2:20)*

³ *When I passed by you again and looked upon you, indeed your time was the time of love; so I spread My wing over you and covered your nakedness. Yes, I swore an oath to you and entered into a covenant with you, and you became Mine, says the Lord God. (Ezek 16:8)*

⁴ *who comforts us in all our tribulation. (1 Cor 1:4)*

When Christ who is our life appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory. (Col 3:4)

⁵ *Come, take up the cross, and follow Me. (Mark 10:21)*

⁶ *I will betroth you to Me in faithfulness. (Hosea 2:20)*

My Son, Come Closer to Me

- ✠ I am the Lord, your God; I stoop down to hold you in my embrace.
I constantly watch over you¹.
I am close by your side².
Indeed, I am there within you,
I stand and wait for you to ask, so that I will give³,
Call upon Me, and I will support you⁴!
I know all your needs, and I will never ignore them.
For I am preoccupied with you and desire your happiness.
- ✠ Why do you bend down to lift your burdens?
I am prepared to carry them gladly⁵!
Why do you walk alone? I enjoy your companionship!
- ✠ Do not run away from Me, and say: I am undeserving.
For I offer Myself to all who ask to be redeemed.
It is not for those who deserve Me, or for those who deserve My blessings.
For I grant My blessings freely to My children who ask of Me and who love Me.
I lend them support in their weaknesses.
I cover them with My righteousness⁶.
- ✠ I have no preferences.
I love all My children.
Any one who asks will find Me ready to give.
If you open your heart to Me, I will come to you.

¹ *The Lord will guide you continually, and satisfy your soul in drought, and strengthen your bones; you shall be like a watered garden, and like a spring of water, whose waters do not fail. (Isa 58:11)*

² *Seek the Lord while He may be found, call upon Him while He is near. (Isa 55:6)*

³ *The Lord is with you while you are with Him. If you seek Him, He will be found by you; but if you forsake Him, He will forsake you. (2 Chr 15:2)*

⁴ *Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer; you shall cry, and He will say, 'Here I am.' "If you take away the yoke from your midst, the pointing of the finger, and speaking wickedness. (Isa 58:9)*

⁵ *Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. (Matt 11:28)*

⁶ *You are my hiding place; you shall preserve me from trouble; you shall surround me with songs of deliverance. Selah (Ps 32:7)*

If you woe Me, I will woe you.
If you reveal yourself to Me, I will reveal Myself to you.
This is My law:
I will repay tenfold whoever does anything for Me.
I will not be indebted to anyone.

✠ Welcome Me into your heart.
And I, together with My heavenly hosts will welcome you.
I will open the eternal gates to you.
Tell Me that you love Me.
And I will grant your heart the knowledge of True Love and the
experience of My supreme Presence.
You will never suffer isolation.
I wish you forgot everything but Me.
For I will never forget you¹!



¹ *Can a woman forget her nursing child, and not have compassion on the son of her womb? Surely they may forget, yet I will not forget you. (Isa 49:15)*

***My Son, You give Me Joy
You are My Son and My Close Friend!***

- ✠ I was not ashamed of becoming a human being¹.
And to descend to your world, and to live with you.
I love you and want your friendship.
Our fellowship is full of sweetness.
For I find your heart sanctified for Me.
I watch as you dedicate your life to serve Me gladly.
And as you despise everything for My sake.
- ✠ I watch you as you take care for My lesser brethren.
For you consider this is done for My sake².
I will not forget your concern for the needs of the poor.
Your visits to the sick, and the imprisoned; your support to those
who are suffering³; and your care for wandering souls⁴.
I do not watch that work in itself.
But I watch your heart that does not cease to flow with practical
and sacrificial love.
- ✠ I rejoice as your heart is enlarged with love for Me, and is no
longer capable of hatred.
You have opened it for Me lovingly; therefore hatred has no
place within it⁵.
- ✠ My friend let us walk together, and let us climb up the mountains

¹ *But made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. (Phil 2:7)*

For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light (Eph 5:8)

² *Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me. (Matt 25:40)*

³ *I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in; (Matt 25:35)*

⁴ *Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and that you bring to your house the poor who are cast out; when you see the naked, that you cover him, and not hide yourself from your own flesh? (Isa 58:7)*

⁵ *In this the children of God and the children of the devil are manifest: Whoever does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor is he who does not love his brother. (1 John 3:10)*

of love.

There, on top of Mount tabor, I will be transfigured before you.
And you will become acquainted with the mystery of My Cross
and My sufferings¹,
And the fellowship with the faithful in the Old and New
Testaments.

✠ Let us go through the path of Golgotha,
To experience My sufferings within you, for you are a living
member of My Body.
I have paid the price in full.
Yet I grant you the honor of fellowship in carrying My Cross.

✠ My son, enter the narrow road².
It is My road, so why are you scared of taking it?
Enter into that road: it is the road of holiness and only through it
can you see Me.
Enter into that way...I am the Way.

✠ My son, draw close to me, for I walk before you.
I handle matters to promote your edification.
I know your needs and I am concerned about your safety and
potentials.
I use your body and all its weakness.
For I can renew all its energy and capacity, physical as well as
spiritual.
I will teach you as I have taught Moses in the wilderness and
Paul on his journey.
I will carry you into the desert where I will meet you in isolation
and train you in the school of silence

✠ Train yourself to withdraw from crowds and to listen to My call
I want you to enjoy My peace as My Spirit dwells in you and as I
grant you comfort

✠ My son, climb up to the harsh mountaintops

¹ *That I may know Him and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death, (Phil 3:10)*

² *Enter by the narrow gate; for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it. (Matt 7:13)*

So that you may speak to Me as Moses the prophet did
And I will be with you, and I will descend with you into My
paradise

✠ My son, do not cease to sing hymns.

May you be like a waterfall, your voice never stopping
Be as a river whose waters flow constantly

✠ There is no set time for prayer

May all the moments of your life be a time for internal prayer

✠ The more your heart overflows with singing hymns, the more it
will attain joy and wisdom

Then will it overflow with even greater praise

✠ The more your depths rejoice with My love, the more you will
receive of the riches of My love

Then will your prayer become more powerful

✠ The more you praise Me, the more the channels of your soul will
achieve greater purity and holiness

Hence you will increasingly overflow with My blessings!

✠ ✠ ✠

***No Darkness
Can Conceal My Light from You!***

✠ Look up, My son, and you will find Me supporting you in times of need.

And when darkness surrounds you, I will become your source of Light¹.

All the darkness of this world cannot conceal My Light from your eyes,

The more the world resists Me, the more you will find in Me a sweetness and beauty that is startling!

In the multitude of anxieties, My divine comforts delight your soul².

In the midst of difficulties, My strength grants you success.

In loneliness, I am your companion; no one can separate Me from you.

My son, hide yourself within Me³, and I will come into your depths.

Hold Me as your own, and I will honor My dominion over you.

✠ I am the Lord, your Almighty God; I deny any limits for power or boundaries for love.

The springs of My love do not dry up, and My wisdom constantly invites you: acquire it.

✠ Rejoice, My son⁴!

Face the world with a happy face and a joyful heart.

Place your hand in Mine, For I am with all along the path⁵.

¹ *You were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light (Eph 5:8)*

For behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and deep darkness the people; but the Lord will arise over you, and His glory will be seen upon you. (Isa 60:2)

² *In the multitude of my anxieties within me, your comforts delight my soul. (Ps 94:19)*

³ *For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. (Col 3:3)*

⁴ *That My joy may remain in you, and that your joy may be full. (John 15:11)*

⁵ *For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. (Col 3:3)*

For you shall not go out with haste, nor go by flight; for the Lord will go before you, and the God of Israel will be your rear guard. (Isa 52:12)

***Look Up To Me:
I Will Satisfy All Your Needs¹***

✠ Why do your eyes roam here and there?
Look up to Me, and I will satisfy all your needs².
Give Me your heart, place it in My hands and it will rest as a bird
in its nest³.
Look up to Me, for no one but I can satisfy your hunger.
Throw away what is in your hand, and hold My hand.
I will walk with you, and you will walk with Me.
I will pour My Strength until it overflows within your depths.
I yearn to grant you My blessings and My perfection.
Just resist the pleasures of this world and its temptations; so that
these do not deprive you from the sweetness of fellowship with
Me.
I know your every need, and I will not leave you in need for
anything.
I know the burdens of life: My invisible Hands carry you⁴!
I pour My love and power in you; I become your continuous song
of praise!
I am work within you and for you constantly⁵.

✠ I repeat and say: Rejoice in Me⁶.
Look up to Me.

¹ *Blessed is the man You choose, and cause to approach You, that he may dwell in Your courts. We shall be satisfied with the goodness of Your house, of Your holy temple. (Ps 65:4)*

As for me, I will see Your face in righteousness; I shall be satisfied when I awake in Your likeness. (Ps 17:15)

Oh, satisfy us early with Your mercy, that we may rejoice and be glad all our days! (Ps 90:14)

You open Your hand and satisfy the desire of every living thing. (Ps 145:16)

² *In Your presence is fullness of joy; at Your right hand are pleasures forevermore. (Ps 16:11)*

³ *Even the sparrow has found a home, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young-- even Your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God. (Ps 84:3)*

⁴ *He will feed His flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs with His arm, and carry them in His bosom, and gently lead those who are with young. (Isa 40:11)*

⁵ *For it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure. (Phil 2:13)*

⁶ *So the ransomed of the Lord shall return, and come to Zion with singing, with everlasting joy on their heads. They shall obtain joy and gladness; sorrow and sighing shall flee away. (Isa 51:11)*

Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I will say, rejoice! (Phil 4:4)

Ask to see Me.
Seek fellowship with Me.
Adhere to Me!
I feel no shame to ask of you.
For I love you and long for you.

† † †

***Why Do You Beg for Love
while the Embrace of Divine Love Awaits you?***

- ✠ Why do I find you thirsty for love,
Begging for a word of love, or sympathy, or temporal praise from
men?
Your heart is My living and vast icon!
It will not be satisfied even if the world were to give all the
attention.
It will not rejoice if everyone offered all sympathy and praise to
you.
My son, lift up your eyes to Me, and you will find the Arms of
the Father, your Father, watching out for your arrival
He is calling and inviting you: Come, My son, and I will satisfy
your whole being.
- ✠ Do not say: I am dust and ashes.
Who will raise me from the earth, and carry me into the embrace
of the divine God?
The Father has send Me to your earth.
He has sent Me to penetrate your heart and to dwell within it
I will transform your dust into a heaven.
And I will carry you to His divine embrace.
He will rejoice to have you, and you will rejoice in Him.
You are the reason of His joy, may He be the reason of your joy!
- ✠ He has sent Me to carry you to Him.
For I am the Only-Begotten Son.
I have granted you My Holy Spirit, and He sanctifies you by My
Blood.
He renews your inner nature.
Do not be disturbed: He is the Spirit who sanctifies your soul,
your body, all your senses, and your talents.
The Spirit transforms you into the Bride that is united to Me.
My Holy Spirit leads you to the Creator of the heavens Himself!
- ✠ We are the object of Your increasing love.
May you visit that object daily, and hold it dearly!
No thief will be able to steal it.

And time will not be able to destroy it!
Hold us and your investment will be secure forever!

✠ Come and you will enjoy not only divine love.
But through My Holy Spirit you will become a source of endless love.
The living waters of love will run out of your very depths.
And the barren deserts will be transformed into a divine and fruitful paradise!

✠ My Holy Spirit will grant you a new birth in the baptismal font.
And will grant you growth each day so that you become a perfect icon for Me.
You will be led to Me who am the Way, the Truth, and the Life.
He will bring you into the embrace of the Divine Father.

✠ You have no right to complain after that.
My heavenly Father has opened the gates of His embrace to you personally.
He has sent Me to be sacrificed on the Cross.
To record with My Blood a new covenant between Him and you.
I have sent you My Holy Spirit to enable you to live and keep that divine testament without breaking it.
And to be united with the Father as well as with Me, your brothers, and the heavenly hosts: This is the Spirit of Unity and Love!

✠ My son, I have created you to be heavenly one.
No temporal love can ever satisfy you.
Receive Us: the Holy Trinity.
My Father invites you to come and enjoy His loving embrace
I have paid the price on the Cross.
My Holy Spirit forms you, so that love runs throughout your whole being.

THE VOICE OF MY LOVER WOOS ME!

You Are my Beloved!

FR. TADROS Y. MALATY

2000

Translated by
MARY ROSE HALIM

Coptic Orthodox Patriarchate
Bishopric of Los Angeles, Southern California and
Hawaii

St. Mina Coptic Orthodox Church
Holmdel – New Jersey