



THE COPTIC ORTHODOX DIOCESE OF  
NEW YORK AND NEW ENGLAND  
**MAHRAGAN EL-KERAZA**  
2018

**Regional Level**  
**Albany Region**  
**Grades 1-2**

**(1) I Will Always be Ready and Alert**  
**[Albany]**

# 1. Saint John the Baptist, Forerunner and Martyr (Synaxarium Tout 2nd)

**Direction:** Dear Servants, please ask each child the following questions. Make sure to read each part of the question SEPARATELY. And allow the child to answer after each part.

1) Why do we call Saint John the Forerunner?

### Possible Answers:

❖ Saint John started his ministry (service) before the Lord Jesus started His ministry. He did this to prepare the way for the Lord. That is why we call him the Forerunner (the one who comes before another). [Pg13]

*\*\*Give full credit if the test-taker says the Underlined/Bolded Parts.*

2) Who appeared to Zechariah when he went inside the altar to offer incense? What did he say to Zechariah?

### Possible Answers:

❖ One day, Zechariah went inside the altar to offer incense. Archangel Gabriel appeared to him and told him, “Your prayers have been heard and your wife Elizabeth will have a child and his name will be John.” He also told him that many people will rejoice because of the baby’s birth, and the baby will also be filled with the Holy Spirit, even from his mother’s womb. [pg12]

### Another Possible Answers:

- ❖ Archangel Gabriel
- ❖ Elizabeth will have a baby. His name will be John. Many people will rejoice because of him. He will be filled with the Holy Spirit from his mother’s womb.

*\*\*Give full credit if the test-taker says the Underlined/Bolded Parts.*

## 2. The Rites of our Beautiful Church and their Benefits

**Direction:** Dear Servants, please ask each child the following questions. Make sure to read each part of the question **SEPARATELY**. And allow the child to answer after each part.

1) What are the readings for the Great Lent mainly about?

### Possible Answers:

❖ The readings of the Great Lent are all about the love of Jesus to everyone. It shows how He accepts their repentance and forgives them their sins. [pg19]

*\*\*Give full credit if the test-taker says the Underlined/Bolded Parts.*

2. Describe the appearance of the church during Passion Week. Or How does the Church look like during Passion Week?

### Possible Answers:

❖ During Passion Week the church is decorated in black. Each mangaliah (podium), and each column is covered in black. The icon of the Lord Jesus crucified is placed outside of the altar and in front of the middle altar. The red altar curtains are replaced with the black ones, and the altar itself remains closed during this week (except Covenant Thursday.) The mangaliahs are also moved to the nave with the congregation chorus because our Lord Jesus Christ was crucified outside of Jerusalem on the mountain of Golgotha. (pg19)

### Another Possible Answers:

- ❖ Black Curtains and closed (except Covenant Thursday.)
- ❖ The icon of the Lord Jesus crucified is placed outside the altar.
- ❖ The mangaliahs are moved to the nave

*\*\*Give full credit if the test-taker says the Underlined/Bolded Parts.*

### 3. St. Athanasius the Defender of the Faith

(Synexarium Bashans 7<sup>th</sup>)

**Direction:** Dear Servants, please ask each child the following questions. Make sure to read each part of the question **SEPARATELY**. And allow the child to answer after each part. Give **FULL** credit if it was worded differently.

1. What did Pope Alexandros do after he asked Saint Athanasius to come back from the desert?

**Possible Answers:**

❖ The Pope **anointed him a deacon** and he became the personal secretary of the Pope. [pg30]

(Keywords are **Bolded and Underlined**)

2. What happened at the Council of Nicaea between Saint Athanasius and Arius?

**Possible Answers:**

❖ Saint Athanasius **challenged Arius** in the presence of everyone and he bravely **defended the true faith**. He **supported his answers by verses from the Holy Bible**. [pg31]

(Keywords are **Bolded and Underlined**)

## 4. Ruth and Her Service to Her Mother-In-Law (Ruth 1-4)

**Direction:** Dear Servants, please ask each child the following questions. Make sure to read each part of the question **SEPARATELY**. And allow the child to answer after each part. Give FULL credit if it was worded differently.

1. Where did Elimelech and his family live? Why did they leave their county? Where did they go? *Ask one part at a time and give a chance for the child to answer.*

**Possible Answers:**

- ❖ There lived a man in **Bethlehem** named Elimelech. Then there was a **big famine** in the land. Elimelech and his family couldn't survive there, so Elimelech and his family left Bethlehem and went to live in the pagan land of **Moab**. [Pg37]

**Another Possible Answers:**

- ❖ Bethlehem
- ❖ Big Famine
- ❖ The Land of Moab

*\*\*Give full credit if the test-taker says the Underlined/Bolded Parts.*

2. After Naomi's husband and her sons died, what did she decide to do? And what did she ask her daughters in law to do?

**Possible Answers:**

- ❖ Naomi decided to return **home (Bethlehem)** to live with her people.
- ❖ She asked them to **return to their own families**. [pg38]

*\*\*Give full credit if the test-taker says the Underlined/Bolded Parts.*

## 5. The Story of the Heroes of Our Glorious Church Saint Stephen the Archdeacon and First Martyr (Acts 6-7)

**Direction:** Dear Servants, please ask each child the following questions. Make sure to read each part of the question **SEPARATELY**. And allow the child to answer after each part.

1. What did the disciples begin to tell the people about after the day of Pentecost?

**Possible Answers:**

❖ The disciples began to tell the people about the **Lord Jesus Christ and about His crucifixion and resurrection.**

**Another Possible Answer:**

❖ They **began to preach in many places** about all **the things that the Lord Jesus had done** because of His love for all people. Many people believed in the Lord Jesus and became Christians.” [Pg45]

*\*\*Give full credit if the test-taker says the **Underlined/Bolded Parts**.*

2. How was Saint Stephen put in deep trouble by the nonbelievers?

**Possible Answers:**

❖ **These nonbelievers brought bad people to give false witness about Saint Stephen.** They **said that Saint Stephen taught the wrong teachings about God.** Because of these false witnesses, many people protested against Saint Stephen and came to put him on trial. [Pg47]

*\*\*Give full credit for the **Bolded/ Underline** words.*