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ST. MARK & ST. THOMAS COPTIC
Orthodox Association

Gracious and loving Father,

As we enter into the month of April, we humbly come before Your throne, seeking Your guidance and help in this journey of life. We turn to You, knowing that You are our refuge and strength, our ever-present help in times of trouble. Your Word reminds us in Psalm 46:1, "God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble."

Lord, we acknowledge that life can be filled with suffering and challenges. We often find ourselves in situations where we feel overwhelmed, lost, and in need of Your guiding hand. We ask You, dear Lord, to be our guide and light in this darkness. Give us the strength and wisdom to navigate through the trials and tribulations of this world, knowing that You are always with us. Your Word assures us in Proverbs 3:5-6, "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight."

Heavenly Father,

We come before You, recognizing that You are the ultimate source of wisdom and guidance. We acknowledge that in our own understanding, we are limited and prone to error. Therefore, we humbly ask for Your divine guidance in every aspect of our lives. Your Word assures us in Proverbs 3:5-6, "Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths." Lord, we confess that we often find ourselves at crossroads, facing decisions that impact our lives, relationships, and futures. We seek Your direction and clarity, knowing that You have a perfect plan for each of us. Help us to align our desires and decisions with Your will. Open our hearts to hear Your voice and grant us the courage to obey Your leading. Your Word promises in Psalm 32:8, "I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my eye upon you."

We pray for guidance in our personal lives. Guide us in our relationships, that we may love one another as You have loved us. Direct our steps in our careers, that we may use our talents and skills for Your glory. Lead us in our daily decisions, big and small, that we may honor You in all that we do. Your

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Word instructs us in Proverbs 16:9, "The heart of man plans his way, but the LORD establishes his steps."

Lord, we also seek Your guidance for our families. Grant us wisdom in raising our children, that we may teach them Your ways and lead them in righteousness. Strengthen the bonds between spouses, that they may support and encourage one another in their journey of faith. Guide us as parents, that we may be examples of Your love and grace. Your Word reminds us in Proverbs 22:6, "Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it."

Furthermore, we ask for Your guidance in our churches and communities. May Your Holy Spirit lead and empower our pastors, leaders, and servants as they guide and nurture Your people. Grant them discernment and wisdom to shepherd Your flock according to Your Word. Direct us as a body of believers to be salt and light in our communities, proclaiming Your love and truth. Your Word encourages us in Psalm 119:105, "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path." In all areas of our lives, we submit ourselves to Your divine guidance. Help us to trust in You completely, knowing that Your plans for us are good. May we lean on You in times of uncertainty and seek Your counsel above all else. We thank You for Your faithfulness and for the assurance that You will lead us on the right path.

Help us, O Lord, to start anew in our relationship with You. Grant us a deep longing to know You more intimately and to seek Your will in all that we do. We pray for a genuine and fervent desire to grow in wisdom and understanding of Your Word. As we study and meditate upon the Scriptures, open our hearts and minds to receive Your truth and apply it to our lives. Help us to discern right from wrong, and grant us the strength to resist the lusts and temptations of this world. Your Word reminds us in James 1:5, "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him."

Precious Father, we lift up our Church before You. We ask for Your protection and preservation. May Your divine hand be upon our church, safeguarding it from the attacks of the enemy. Grant wisdom, discernment,

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and courage to our Pope, bishops, priests, and all those who serve in leadership positions. Guide them as they shepherd and care for Your flock. Fill them with Your Holy Spirit, that they may proclaim Your Word boldly and lead the congregation in prayer and worship. Your Word reminds us in Jeremiah 3:15, "And I will give you shepherds after my own heart, who will feed you with knowledge and understanding."

Furthermore, O Lord, we pray for those who are in need, those who are studying, and those who feel lost and without hope. Extend Your loving hand to the brokenhearted, the lonely, and the suffering. Comfort them in their distress and grant them peace. Provide for the needs of the poor, the sick, and the marginalized. Your Word teaches us in Psalm 34:18, "The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit."

Heavenly Father,

We come before You today with heavy hearts, aware that there are those among us who have lost hope and are struggling to find meaning in their lives. We lift up these dear souls to Your loving embrace, knowing that You are the source of all hope and purpose. Your Word reminds us in Jeremiah 29:11, "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope."

Lord, we pray for those who are facing despair and hopelessness. We ask that You would wrap Your arms of comfort around them and remind them of Your unfailing love. Pour out Your peace that surpasses all understanding upon their weary souls. Help them to find solace in Your presence and to trust in Your promises. Your Word assures us in Psalm 34:18, "The LORD is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit."

Father, we lift up those who are searching for meaning and purpose in their lives. We know that true fulfillment can only be found in You. Open their eyes to see that their worth and identity are found in being Your beloved children. Guide them to discover their unique gifts and talents, and show them how to use them for Your glory. Your Word reminds us in Ephesians 2:10, "For we

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are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them."

Lord, we pray that You would reveal Your divine purpose for each person who feels lost and without direction. Help them to understand that their lives have value and significance, even in the midst of their struggles. Renew their hope and ignite a passion within them to live a life that honors You. Your Word tells us in Romans 8:28, "And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose."

Father, we ask that You would surround those who have lost hope with a community of believers who will come alongside them with love, support, and encouragement. Help us to be a light in their darkness and a beacon of hope. Teach us to show compassion and kindness, offering a helping hand and a listening ear. Your Word instructs us in Galatians 6:2, "Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ."

Lord, we thank You that even in our darkest moments, Your light shines through. We trust in Your faithfulness to bring restoration and purpose to those who have lost hope. May they experience the transforming power of Your love and find renewed meaning in their lives.

In this new month of April, we surrender ourselves to You, O Lord. We place our trust in Your unfailing love and guidance. May Your will be done in our lives and in our church. Strengthen us to walk in righteousness and to be a light in this dark world. We ask all these things in the precious name of Your Son, Jesus Christ, who taught us to pray, saying:

Heavenly Father,

We come before You today on behalf of those who are struggling with doubt and uncertainty in their faith. We lift them up to You, knowing that You are the God who sees and understands the doubts and questions of our hearts. Your Word reminds us in James 1:5, "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him." We

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ask that You would grant wisdom and understanding to those who are seeking to know You more deeply.

Lord, we acknowledge that doubt is a natural part of the human experience. We live in a world that often challenges our faith and raises questions in our minds. But we know that You are not afraid of our doubts. You invite us to come to You with our questions and concerns. Help those who are struggling to find answers and to find peace in Your presence. Your Word assures us in Isaiah 55:6-7, "Seek the LORD while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the LORD, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon."

Father, we pray that You would touch the hearts of those who are wrestling with doubt. Open their eyes to see the evidence of Your existence and Your work in the world. Strengthen their faith and help them to trust in Your goodness and faithfulness. Your Word tells us in Hebrews 11:1, "Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen." Increase their faith and grant them the assurance and conviction they need to overcome their doubts.

We ask that You would surround them with a community of believers who can offer support, encouragement, and guidance. Help them to find mentors and companions on their journey of faith who can provide wise counsel and share their own experiences of knowing You. Your Word encourages us in Proverbs 27:17, "Iron sharpens iron, and one man sharpens another."

Lord, we pray that You would reveal Yourself to those who are seeking You. Speak to them through Your Word, through the prompting of Your Spirit, and through the testimonies of others. Help them to encounter Your presence in a profound and personal way. Your Word assures us in Jeremiah 29:13, "You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your heart."

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Finally, we ask that You would grant them the peace that surpasses all understanding as they navigate their doubts and questions. Help them to rest in Your sovereignty and to trust that You are in control, even when they cannot fully comprehend Your ways. Your Word reminds us in Philippians 4:6-7, "Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

We thank You, Father, for Your patience and grace towards those who doubt. We trust in Your ability to draw near to them and reveal Yourself in ways that will strengthen their faith. May they experience the truth of Your Word and find a deep and abiding relationship with You.

Make us worthy to pray thankfully .

"Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Jesus Christ our lord For Thine is the Kingdom, the power, and the glory, Forever and ever. Amen.

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