



The Episcopal Diocese of Egypt with North Africa and the Horn of Africa

ALEXANDRIA SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

NEWSLETTER, SPRING/SUMMER 2018

Launch of AST Program at St. Cyprian Campus in Tunis



At the end of 2012, The Rt. Rev. Bill Musk, then Area Bishop of North Africa, and members of St. George's Anglican Church in Tunis, in the presence of The Most Rev. Dr. Mouneer Anis, the Diocesan Bishop, officially launched the "Legacy Project" for the training and formation of emerging church leaders, community outreach and providing hospitality.

For the theological training of future leaders of the North African Anglican communities, St. George's recognised the need to provide new facilities in its grounds which would include on-site training of local leaders, and bringing students from other countries in North Africa to study in Tunis, so accommodation for teachers and students would be part of this.

The "Legacy Project" was later renamed "St. Cyprian Centre". St. Cyprian was born around the beginning of the third century in North Africa, received a classical education and practiced law in Carthage. He was converted to faith in Christ around AD246, and within a couple of years was elected Bishop of Carthage.

In February 2017, the Most Rev. Dr. Mouneer Anis consecrated AST Principal, The Very Rev. Dr. Samy Fawzy, as the new Area and first Egyptian Bishop of North Africa within the Anglican/Episcopal Diocese of Egypt with the Horn of Africa.

Last March, AST launched the Bachelor in Theology Program, and enrolled sixteen students from Algeria and Tunisia. Bishop Samy, AST Principal, and Engr. Shady Anis, AST Academic Coordinator, taught courses on Ecclesiology and Trinity respectively over five days at the St. Cyprian Campus at St. George's Church in Tunis. Last year, the diocese pledged US \$20 000 to support the costs of this venture.



Outreach Ministry of St. Athanasius Campus in Minya



In Minya branch, we are now nearing completion of our third academic year. We enrolled seventeen new students from various denominations and places in Upper Egypt, and for teaching purposes, amalgamated the second and new third year classes of students. Earlier on, we employed a full time administrator, Emil Fawzy, who is a Bachelor in Theology from AST Cairo branch, and now facilitating the work of AST in Upper Egypt.

In December, a group of students and staff from the Minya branch organised a 3-day outreach ministry with the Episcopal/Anglican Church in Menouf, a city in the delta region of Lower Egypt, to encourage and



pray with staff at the local Episcopal primary school and hospital, as well as lead and teach at the youth meeting and Bible study of the Episcopal/Anglican Church. This summer, they are planning another outreach in Assiut, and later on one in Tunis.

The AST Minya branch teaching weekends are currently held at a retreat and training centre owned and run by an AST BTh graduate couple. The Diocese has now bought land in New Minya on which to establish the new AST campus, as well as an outreach ministry in the region.

Candidates for ordination at St. Frumentius Campus



The Very Rev. Dr. Samy Fawzy, AST Principal, accompanied The Most Rev. Dr. Mouneer Anis, the Diocesan Bishop, on a visit to Ethiopia. In Gambella, Bishop Samy met with faculty members Rev. Jeremiah Maet, an AST BTh graduate, and Chris Wilson, CMS partner, and attended lectures at St. Frumentius.

One student, Chot, who will graduate this June, is a candidate for ordination. He is a teacher by profession. He expressed his priority as being faithful to God, and wants to commit his life to teaching and preaching. He said, "Tribalism is a problem that hinders the church from having a vision."

Appointment of two full-time faculty members



Rev. Osama Fathy and Mr. Mark Takki are graduates of the four year Bachelor in Theology Program of AST. Since then, Rev. Osama has been studying on the Master of Divinity in Pastoral Studies Program of AST, and Mark recently graduated with a Master of Religion from Trinity School of Ministry in Pennsylvania. Rev. Osama has been a coordinator of the AST Mentoring and Ministry Program, and is now overall responsibility. In addition, he is teaching two new elective third and fourth year courses on Oriental Churches, and Church & Social Issues, and Mark is teaching first and second year courses on the Gospels and Paul's letters.

Appointment of new Chairman of AST Board



At the AST Board meeting in February, The Rt. Rev. Dr. Grant LeMarquand announced that he would resign as Chairman of the Board, after three years of serving in this capacity, before the next meeting scheduled for July.

We are delighted that The Rev. Canon Dr. Ashley Null, our keynote speaker at the last graduation, will be the new Chairman of the AST Board. Dr. Ashley is an internationally respected scholar on the grace and gratitude theology of the English Reformation. He is a Canon of St. Mark's Pro Cathedral in Alexandria, an AST Board member and adjunct faculty member. He is also a veteran Olympian chaplain, serving most recently at Rio in 2016.

Egypt Diocesan Association & Church Mission Society Study Visit to Egypt



At the start of an AST Cairo branch teaching weekend in April, we were delighted to welcome a 28 person group from England, during their nine day unique 'Study Tour of Egypt' which was organised by The Church Mission Society (CMS) and The Egypt Diocesan Association (EDA) with McCabe Pilgrimages.

Bishop Samy Shehata, Principal of AST, and a "home-grown" faculty member talked about the vision, mission and history of AST, and then invited students from the Master of Divinity and Bachelor in Theology Programs to share about their experience of studying at AST and the impact this has had on their life and ministry. Later on in the tour, the group visited Alexandria, and Bishop Samy, who is also the Dean of the Pro Cathedral in Alexandria, was pleased to show them around the new AST Alexandria branch facility. We were enthralled by all their questions, and enjoyed the conversations and discussions that ensued.

Praise & Prayer

- Give thanks for the launch of the Bachelor in Theology Program at the St. Cyprian Campus in Tunis. Pray for protection of body, mind and spirit for all those involved.
- Give thanks for the good reputation of St. Athanasius Campus in Minya. Pray for the establishment of the new campus on the land purchased in New Minya, as well as the outreach ministry.
- Give thanks for the first full time students of the three year Diploma course at St. Frumentius Campus in Gambella, Ethiopia, who will graduate in June. Pray for the faculty, staff and students.
- Give thanks for the Master of Divinity in Pastoral Studies Program as it nears its completion. Pray for the students, and the commencement of the Master of Art (Theology) Program planned for September.
- Give thanks for the partnerships with Christian organisations, theological colleges, dioceses, churches and individuals throughout the world. Pray for the ongoing financial support needed to sustain the work of AST.