Leading Guidelines

General Guidelines

The Goal of the Leader

- The goal of the leader is to lead the deacons in chanting as a chorus, and the chorus of the deacons will in turn lead the congregation.
- The goal of the leader is to maintain a reasonable pitch that can be followed by the congregation, and a reasonable pace to finish the service on time.

Leading in General

- Respond in the same language as Abouna prayed
  - If there is a visiting priest on a Friday or Sunday, and they pray in Arabic, response should be in English as these days are dedicated to English liturgies.
- Deacon Responses are never skipped
- Maintain a pitch that is fair to both the men and the women - if you don't find the congregation singing along, the pitch may be too high
- Leaders should pray (and lead) the Vespers Praises, Vespers Raising of Incense, and Midnight Praises on the evening they are scheduled to lead

Leader 1

- Leader 1 should communicate with the fathers the priests about any hymns that will be chanted, what time Abouna wants to start communion, etc.
- Leader 1 should maintain the pace of the liturgy to finish on time
- Leader 1's main role is to lead the deacons in chanting the hymns and responses. He should use the microphone to start hymns (to communicate a baseline pitch and pace), and also when needing to adjust the pace, pitch, language of the liturgy.
- Leader 1 needs to communicate with both sides of deacon's chorus, and any deacons sitting in the men's section of the nave.
  - For example, if he intends to say the "long amen" during the confession, or the "high □□□□□ □□□□□□□ " during the Fraction, this should be communicated to all deacons on both sides of the chorus.
  - Leader 2 can help with this.
- In hymns that are chanted antiphonally (e.g. the ⲥ□□□□ s, doxologies, etc.), Leader 1 should chant with the Southern Chorus and should be responded to by the Northern Chorus

Leader 2

- Leader 2's role is to pray and sing hymns, while facing the East (facing the deacons in the Northern Chorus).
- Leader 2 should keep his eyes on the Northern Chorus and ensure that they are standing appropriately for the liturgy, facing the east, chanting together, following the leader, etc.
- If any Elementary or Middle School deacon has a question (e.g. "can I go to the bathroom" - "I don't feel good" - "Can I get a tissue" - various other things that come up), Leader 2 should be the one to address it
- Leader 2 can also assist with distribution and movement of the iPad, Microphone, Cymbals and Triangle - be wise in your distribution.
- Leader 2's job is NOT to chant antiphonally with Leader 1. That is the job of the Northern Chorus
- Distributing the Deacon Responses of the 5 Short Litanies during Vespers
  - Distribute them all at once, ensure the deacon is ready, standing, holding the microphone
  - Make sure the deacon knows how to say the response - especially for the Litany of the Fathers
- Agpeya Gospels and Troparia during the Midnight Prayers and the Liturgy's 3rd and 6th hours
  - Make every effort to give as many deacons a chance to read as possible
  - Be wise in your distribution... e.g. don't distribute the litany of the fathers "Pray for our archpriest..." to someone who is young or does not know it, or may fumble the names
  - Be accommodating to guests in the Church. Since we have a Readings Schedule, the Agpeya readings are a time when we can involve those visiting from other places.

Reading and Chant Distributions

- Chanted Readings (including Psalms) are handled by _____. If he is not there, Leader 1 or 2 can take care of any needed replacement.
- Liturgy Readings are handled by _____. If he is not there and Morcous is not there, Leader 1 and 2 can take care of any needed replacement.

Occasions

Non-Seasonal Days

- One of the Coptic Readings (□□□□□□ □□□□ , □□□□□□□□□ , □□□□□□)
  should be chanted
  - If □□□□□□□□□ is chanted, it should be preceded by □□□□ x□□ □□□□
  - If □□□□□□ □□□□ is chanted, it should be followed by □□ 2□□□ □□□
- In the period between the Feast of the Cross and the Month of Kiahk, on annual days, chant the Watos Aspasmos "O Lord God of Hosts"
- Vespers Doxologies:
  - St Mary
  - Heavenly Hosts

    - Apostles
    - St Mark
    - St Rebekah
    - Conclusion
    - Saints of the day in their appropriate order
- Matins Doxologies:
    - St Mary
    - St Mark
    - St Rebekah
    - Conclusion
    - Saints of the day in their appropriate order
- Praxis Response
    - St Mary
    - St Rebekah
    - Saints of the day in their appropriate order

Feast of Nayrouz

- Chant the Adam or Watos Aspasmos in every Liturgy
- Joyful Agios should always be chanted

Month of Kiahk

- Vespers Praise
    - Roumi every week
    - Week 1: Psali CE, Bohairic A+B, Cantor Gabriel A
    - Week 2: Psali EC, Moaqab, Cantor Gabriel B, Pope Markos
    - Week 3: Alt Psali, Egyptian, Cantor Gabriel C, El Bardanohee
    - Week 4: I praise the chaste virgin, EC Sahidic, Abo El Saad
- Doxologies
    - Always "For when I speak about you"
    - Week 1: Fifth Doxology "When the lot fell on Zacharias..."
    - Week 2: Third Doxology "Gabriel the angel announced to...", Fourth Doxology “In the Sixth Month…”
    - Week 3: Second Doxology "The adornment of the Virgin"
    - Week 4: Both Doxologies for St John the Baptist
    - Always Doxology for Archangel Gabriel
    - Always Doxology for St John the Baptist
- Rejoice O Mary
- Gospel Responses
    - Week 1: "The Lord sent Gabriel to preach to Zacharias"
    - Week 2: "We send you greetings with Gabriel the angel"
    - Week 3: "We exalt you worthily with Elizabeth..."
    - Week 4: "Elizabeth gave birth to a son..."
    - These responses match the gospel reading of each week, in keeping with the original rite as outlined in "Tarteeb el Bey3a"

    - Chant them in Coptic and then in English

Feast of the Nativity

- Midnight Praises
- Matins
    - Seven Tunes
    - Litany of the Oblations (Twbh Ejen)
- Offertory
    - "Pray that God may have mercy" (□□□ 2 2□□□)
- Liturgy of the Word
    - E Parthenos + Today the Virgin
    - Pijinmisi + The Virginal Birth
    - Apenchois + Our Lord
    - Joyful Agios
    - Long Sengary Psalm in Coptic - end with Alleluia and the Psalm in English
- Liturgy of the Faithful
    - Aspasmos Adam
    - Aspasmos Watos

Feast of the Theophany

- Veneration for St John the Baptist
- Midnight Praises
- Lakkan
- Matins
    - Seven Tunes
    - Litany of the Oblations (Twbh Ejen)
- Offertory
    - "One is the Holy Father" (□□ □□□□□)
- Liturgy of the Word
    - Ouran en shosho (first verse in Coptic and English)
- Liturgy of the Faithful
- Distribution

Great Lent

- No Coptic Readings should be chanted
- □□□□□□□ should be chanted every Sunday
- Chant the Aspasmos Adam and Aspasmos Watos (alternate each week)
    - Treasures Sunday, Prodigal Son, Paralytic: Aspasmos Adam
    - Temptation, Samaritan Woman, Man Born Blind: Aspasmos Watos

Annunciation Feast

- Chant the Festive Pauline

Palm Sunday

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Feast of the Resurrection

- "Greet one another" (□□□□□□□□□)

Holy Fifty Days

- No Coptic Readings should be chanted since there is a procession and many hymns in the Liturgy of the Word
- https://service.strebekahorlando.org/books/deaconate/page/holy-fifty-days-procession

Ascension Feast

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Pentecost

- □□□□□□□□ should be chanted during the Liturgy of the Word, Distribution and the Kneeling Prayer

Apostles Fast and Feast

- On the Apostles Feast, chant the verses for Peter and Paul during □□□□□

Fast of St Mary

- Veneration during Vespers
- Chant the long Praxis Response □□□□ □□ □□□□□ followed by the verse □□□□ □□□□□□
- Chant Rejoice O Mary
- Chant □□□□ □□□□□□□□ during Distribution
- Chant the Psalm Χ□ □□□□ x□ during Vespers of the Feast of St Mary

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