

ORTHODOX SYRIAN SUNDAY SCHOOL
ASSOCIATION OF THE EAST
DIOCESE OF SOUTH WEST AMERICA
Centralized Examination Grade 12 Diploma
May 2012

Reg. No.:



Examination Rules

1. Total time limit for this examination is two hours.
2. Do not write your name anywhere on exam booklet.
3. Return the entire exam booklet upon completion.
4. Students may answer in Malayalam.
5. Students may not leave exam hall until 60 minutes have expired.
6. Please use only black or blue ink. Pencils are NOT allowed.
7. If needed, please use the separate answer sheets provided, separate answer sheets must have student registration number filled out.
8. No electronics devices (includes cell phones, iPods, etc)
9. Students are allowed to use the Orthodox Study Bible or an NSRV translation of The Holy Bible. Only paper-copies are allowed, and Bibles may only be the OSB or NSRV.

Question 1 –Multiple Choice (20 points)

Circle the MOST appropriate answer as found in the prescribed texts.

1. The birthday of Christian mission is
 - a) Christmas
 - b) Easter
 - c) Pentecost
 - d) Good Friday

2. The complete volume of the Bible began to circulate in the
 - a) 1st century
 - b) 4th century
 - c) 10th century
 - d) 12th century

3. One of the key factors that governed the spread of Christianity in the early centuries is
 - a) Monasticism
 - b) Imperialism
 - c) Newspaper
 - d) Forced conversions

4. We become members of the Church by the Sacrament of
 - a) Confirmation
 - b) Chrismation
 - c) Holy Communion
 - d) Baptism

5. The central doctrine that distinguishes Christianity from other religions is
 - a) Tritheism
 - b) Unitarian Monotheism
 - c) Trinitarian Monotheism
 - d) Autotheism

6. The heresy of Arianism states that
 - a) The Son of God did not always exist
 - b) The Godhead has one divine essence
 - c) Christ has two distinct natures
 - d) Christ had no human soul or spirit

7. In the Nicene Creed, we profess that
 - a) Everyone proceeds from Jesus Christ
 - b) Holy Spirit proceeds from the Father
 - c) Holy Spirit proceeds from the Father and the Son
 - d) Father sends the Holy Spirit who is the Son

8. The term “Jesus Christ” means
 - a) Prophet
 - b) Judge of the world
 - c) Anointed Savior
 - d) King of Kings

9. ‘Mooron’ is a Greek term that has its original connotation to
 - a) Mixture of spices
 - b) Perfumed oil
 - c) Blessed water
 - d) Fire

10. The following all belong to the family of Oriental Orthodox except
 - a) Malankara Orthodox Syrian Church
 - b) Ethiopian Orthodox Church
 - c) Russian Orthodox Church
 - d) Coptic Orthodox Church

11. The first Christian city in the world is
 - a) London
 - b) Edessa
 - c) Constantinople
 - d) Alexandria

12. The first council of Nicaea was called to settle the issue of this heresy
 - a) Arianism
 - b) Sabellianism
 - c) Gnosticism
 - d) Nestorianism

13. How many times can an Orthodox Christian be baptized?
 - a) One
 - b) Two
 - c) Three
 - d) As many times as needed

14. The aim of Christian missionary work is to
- Expand the Church to new territories
 - Save souls to Christ by proclaiming the Gospel
 - Provide humanitarian service to the poor and needy
 - Transform man both spiritually and physically
15. The goal of the World Council of Churches is to
- Establish Churches all over the world
 - Help economically backward countries
 - Deepen the fellowship among Christian Churches
 - Fight the Roman Catholic Church
16. The introduction of monasticism to the east is by
- St. Athanasius
 - St. Basil
 - Bartholomew
 - Mar Augin of Clysma
17. The language the Bible was fist circulated in was
- Greek
 - Hebrew
 - Latin
 - Coptic
18. The Gospel went beyond the boundaries of the Roman empire and reached India in the
- 1st century
 - 4th century
 - 10th century
 - 19th century
19. The first among the evangelism efforts was carried out by
- St. Peter
 - St. Thomas
 - St. Paul
 - St. John
20. The sacrament of Anointing of the sick is for
- Physical healing
 - Spiritual healing
 - Both spiritual and physical healing
 - A patient who is dying

Question 2 True or false (10 points)

If a statement is True circle T, if it is False circle F

1. **T** **F** All Christian sects believe in the doctrine of Trinity
2. **T** **F** We become members of the Church through the sacrament of Holy Communion
3. **T** **F** When the Church venerates a saint; it is God who is being glorified
4. **T** **F** Jehovah's witnesses follow the heresy of Arianism
5. **T** **F** If we don't believe in God, we can still have faith in Christianity and be a true believer
6. **T** **F** All religions of the world are of equal value
7. **T** **F** It does not make any difference whether a person believes in a Unitarian God or Trinitarian God
8. **T** **F** As a believer, the goal of our life should be to be in the heavenly Jerusalem
9. **T** **F** Laity has no responsibility in carrying out the mission of the Church
10. **T** **F** Hinduism is often called the oldest of all major living religions in the world.

Question 3 . Word meaning (5 Points)

Fill in the blanks with the most appropriate Syriac or Greek word.

1. _____ Until my return.
2. _____ Let us stand well
3. _____ Praise the Lord
4. _____ My beloved Ones
5. _____ Our Father

Question 4 Fill in the blanks (10 Points)

Fill in each blank space with the most appropriate word as it appears in the prescribed textbooks.

1. We believe in the Three in One and One in Three concept of the _____.
2. St. Paul speaks of the life in this Church as a _____.
3. In the liturgical year of the Church there are different divisions that are called the _____.
4. Each _____ mirrors the life of Christ, receives the light of Christ and reflects it into the world.
5. The _____ are those who have gone before us and are now behind the “veil”
6. The gift of the _____ given to us during the time of Chrismation enables us to successfully face all adversities.
7. The Copts introduced Christianity to Ethiopia in the _____ century.
8. The first person of the Trinity is _____, the second person is _____ and the third person is _____

Question 5 Who said to whom? (5 Points)

Answer any five (5) of the following questions by providing the name of the speaker and the audience.

1. “Master, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.” (St. Luke 9:33)
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2. "My Lord and My God." (St. John 20:28)

3. "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him." (St. John 11:11)

4. "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" (St. Matthew 3:14)

5. "It is written, a man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God. (St. Matthew 4: 4/ St. Luke 4:4)

6. "I have no silver or gold, but I give you what I have; in the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, walk." (Acts.3:6)

Question 6 Bible Verses (5 Points) (Each blank is worth 1 half point)

Fill in the blanks with the appropriate word(s) to complete the Bible Verse.

1. Jesus said to him, 'I am the _____, and the _____, and the _____. No one comes to the Father except through me. (St. John 14:6)

2. Since all have _____ and fall short of the glory of God (Romans 3:23)

3. For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who _____ in him may not perish but may have _____ life. (John 3:16)

4. Because if you _____ with your lips that Jesus is Lord and _____ in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. (Romans 10:9)
5. For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your _____ and not for harm, to give you a _____ with hope. (Jeremiah 29:11)

Question 7 Short Paragraph Answer (15 Points).

Answer any TWO (2) of the following questions, at the end of the booklet.

Please include the Question numbers with your answers.

1. What is the significance of death in Christian thought?
2. What is the aim of Christian mission?
3. How can one God be three persons?

Question 8: Creed (5 points)

At the end of the booklet, write the Nicene Creed

Question 9: Common Prayer / Worship Hymns(5 points)

Choose one of the following common prayers and write at the end of the booklet

1. Psalms 121
2. Thou, whose praise the Church doth sing....
3. Lord's Prayer
4. Paul the Blessed

Question 10: Apologetics Essay (20 points)

Choose any one of the topics, and structure your answer so that the following points are clearly conveyed:

1. Describe views that are held by many outside of our Church that differ from the teachings. Provide your own examples or experiences to communicate the misunderstandings

2. Explain how you would clarify to a person that held that view on the proper Orthodox understanding of the departed. Extra credit will be given to those who support your points with Scripture, Liturgical prayers or hymns, actions at the Holy Qurbana or other sources from the Church.

1. Prayer for the Departed
2. The Holy Eucharist (Qurbana)
3. Making the Sign of the Cross
4. Veneration of St. Mary
5. Salvation and the Crucifixion