



**Coptic Orthodox Patriarchate  
Saint Antony Monastery  
California  
USA**



April 09, 2024

**Notification Regarding Mr. Bahaa Abdelnaeim,  
Previously Known as Father Youhanna Saint Anthony**

It has come to the attention of the Diocese that Bahaa Atta Gad Abdelnaeim, a former monk of the Coptic Orthodox Monastery of Saint Antony in Newberry Springs, has been representing himself as a monk and/or member of the clergy of the Coptic Orthodox Church under the name "Fr. Youhanna Saint Anthony."

On November 12, 2019, Mr. Abdelnaeim was defrocked by the canonical authority of the Coptic Orthodox Church and is no longer a monk affiliated with the Monastery. He is permitted to attend the services of the Coptic Orthodox Church as a layman, but should not be welcomed or recognized as a monk or clergy of the Church.

The faithful of the Diocese are hereby notified not to approach Mr. Abdelnaeim for any ministry or service that would otherwise be offered by a monk or member of the clergy.



**His Eminence Metropolitan Serapion**

*Bishop of Los Angeles and Metropolitan of Southern California and Hawaii  
Abbot of Saint Antony Monastery, Newberry Springs*