



---

PODCAST  
GUIDE

---





*"I stood in that church, and I looked up, and the roof had been blown away from the force of the bomb, and I looked up right into the heavens, with hundreds of police, security and people frantically trying to survey the scene. Fathers and mothers holding in deep pain, the dismembered bodies of their children and loved ones. Why this inhuman act, Lord, I asked myself in a moment of despair. But at the end, I knew that our lives were in the hands of a mighty and forgiving God who said that the gates of Hades will not prevail against His people and His Church."*

## A PODCAST FOR THE SOUL

---

### THE PODCAST:



Coffee with Bishop Suriel is a new podcast spreading the message of an ancient Christian Tradition to all members of God's family and beyond. Our mission is to foster spiritual growth and provide knowledge on Christian faith, with an emphasis on Coptic Orthodoxy.

Each Wednesday join Bishop Suriel, a religious leader, writer and innovator, as he presents fresh perspectives on Coptic Christianity, to learn more about Christian faith, or delve deeper into Orthodox tradition and spiritual life.

The podcast's vision is to reach a global audience, not limited to people of Coptic faith, but of all faiths or none at all. We aim to build a framework based on family: one that is full of love, where everyone feels welcome and an important member in our weekly dialogue. This podcast is built upon mutual respect of one another, a stimulating dialogue that benefits the viewers and listeners.

# THE MONK BECOME BISHOP-INNOVATOR

Bishop Anba Suriel has 23 years of experience as an ordained bishop in the Coptic Orthodox Church. In this time, he expanded the Melbourne diocese, during which:

- Since 2001, he has led the first accredited theological college in the Coptic Church.
- Earned a PhD in Religious Education at Fordham University.
- Attained a Senior Executive MBA from Melbourne Business School, during which, he assisted Indonesian telecom company XL Axiata enter into the eSports market, that research showed an enormous market growth, with the potential to become an industry leader in Asia.

Bishop Suriel has successfully led several large projects within his diocese, including purchasing the diocese headquarters in Donvale for \$7m, the accreditation of St Athanasius College, and the construction of Eporo Tower, a 44-storey Melbourne tower where four levels, owned by the diocese, house the college research campus, valued at \$40m. As patristics scholar Fr John Behr put it, "he is the most entrepreneurial bishop I have known in any jurisdiction."



His education in a variety of sacred and secular institutions has greatly broadened his horizons and led to a deeper understanding of matters related to faith, and assisted his success in ministry and project management, not only in building infrastructure, but institutions which were the first of their kind for the Coptic Church.

The vision of the Bishop's newest project, Coffee with Bishop Suriel, is to initiate a fresh, dynamic, inspiring and uplifting conversation, that is both positive and informative, and that all can benefit from. Among its primary goals are:

- To uphold the Orthodox tradition and faith of the church.
- To uphold the forms of the Church's life, namely kerygma (evangelization), didache (training), koinonia (community), diakonia (service), and liturgia (worship).
- To develop the spiritual formation of each podcast listener and viewer.
- To look at an ancient faith with a new and enlightened perspective.
- To create dialogue between Christians and other faiths on common topics of concern.
- To ensure mutual respect and encourage positive criticism for all viewers and listeners.



## MOTIVATION FOR OUTREACH

---

"I have witnessed firsthand the struggles of my people and the injustice served upon them by fanatics and terrorists. I watched the bombing of a church in Cairo in December 2016 and saw horrific scenes. I visited the injured in hospital, learnt from their forgiveness towards their attackers and participated in the funerals of over twenty martyrs. Sometimes, you stand in silence, not understanding why, but then the light of Christ comes rushing in.

"In this volatile world, I want this podcast to reach people's hearts with a word of hope, peace and confidence in a loving and compassionate God. We all face struggles in our lives and never more so than today with Covid-19. This podcast aims to be a place where people can find solace in a loving God who cares for them and their families. A place where people can find dynamic discussion on matters related to faith, and where people can stimulate their minds, learn something new with each episode and find resources to delve deeper into matters of the heart and mind. I hope that this podcast will grant insights into how to live with an enlightened mind in the peace of a loving God."

"If you have nothing to give people, give them a warm smile and a kind word, give them love, give them tenderness, give them a word of encouragement; give them your heart."

POPE SHENOUDA III



**Coffee** with  
**Bishop Suriel**  
*A podcast for all things Coptic*



FIND THIS PODCAST AT:

---

[coffeewithbishopsuriel.org](http://coffeewithbishopsuriel.org)