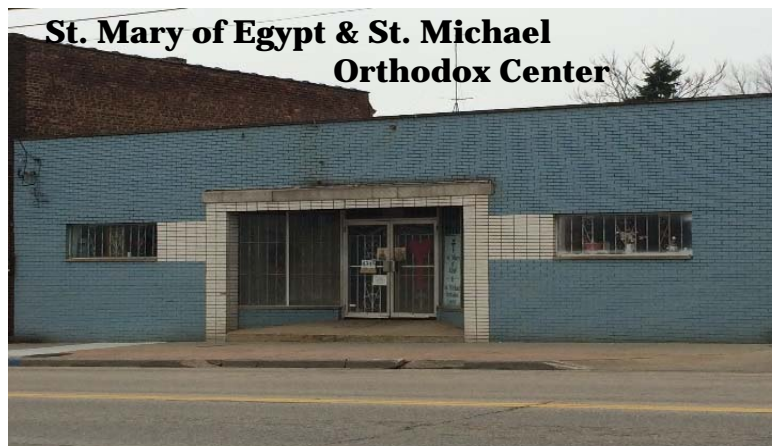


St. Mary of Egypt Orthodox Mission & Chapel



Mission Statement:

*To respond to the call of our Lord Jesus Christ
through prayer and the offering of love and charitable service
to the stranger and those in need*



Mission Report (Revised 2016)

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History



**Rev. Mother Theonymphie
Foundress of St. Mary of Egypt**

† September 1, 2013

St. Mary of Egypt was founded in 1992 as a charitable organization to serve the poor with the blessing of His Eminence Metropolitan Maximos of Pittsburgh and under the direction of Sister Triantaphyllitsa Vasilakis (tonsured to the Small Schema in 2000 as Mother Theonymphie). Since its founding, St. Mary of Egypt has undergone several name changes, while operating under the mission statement established in 1993: **“To provide charitable and humane assistance to the needy.”** Although our organization was initially conceived as a women’s sanctuary directing aid to women and children in need, from the beginning, help was also extended to men, elderly and families. The name was officially changed to “St. Mary of Egypt Orthodox Mission” in 1997 until 2000, when the term “Monastery” was added.

2014 was a year of transition and accomplishment. In February 2014, the newly-restructured St. Mary of Egypt Board met to review and revise the bylaws to support our change from a monastery-based mission to a lay mission.

On March 3, 2014, “St. Mary of Egypt Orthodox Mission and Chapel” became our official name, as registered with the Ohio Secretary of State.

In the early years, food was distributed from the mission home, then later from donated warehouse space through the summer of 2013. **The St. Mary of Egypt and St. Michael Orthodox Distribution Center** (4345 State Road, Cleveland, Ohio 44109) opened in January 2014. Our new building, co-dedicated to the Archangel Michael, was blessed by St. Mary of Egypt’s spiritual advisor, Fr. Dean Dimon, on January 11. The first distribution at this location took place on January 18.

In April 2014, His Eminence Metropolitan Savas of Pittsburgh gave his blessing to and offered annual review of the charitable work of the mission. His Eminence blessed the St. Mary of Egypt Chapel as a canonical spiritual dependency of the Annunciation Church in Cleveland.



In October 2014, the property that had been rented since the inception of St. Mary of Egypt was sold. The Chapel has been relocated for the present to the Annunciation Church in Tremont (2187 W. 14th St.) in an expanded foyer area with a separate entrance on Fairfield Avenue.

Divine Liturgy is held monthly in the St. Mary of Egypt Chapel.

The St. Mary of Egypt Outreach Program

“Around 46 million Americans now regularly depend on food banks and soup kitchens to keep themselves and their families from going hungry. That figure accounts for one-out-of-seven people in the United States” (Daniel Barker, NaturalNews.com, Dec. 18, 2015).

St. Mary of Egypt has been a member of the **Greater Cleveland Food Bank (GCFB)** since 1997. Food is regularly purchased from the GCFB for our food ministry, supplemented by significant contributions from other local donors. Every month, a variety of canned goods and other shelf-stable food items are distributed, along with fresh produce, frozen meats, and bread/pastries. Household items, clothing and baby needs are provided as available. Emergency distribution can be arranged for local families in crisis. In the past eighteen years, thanks to loyal donors and volunteers, we have distributed over 800,000 lbs. of food.

The Greater Cleveland Food Bank Report:

64,661 lbs. of food were purchased from October 2014 through September 2015. **90% of pounds were considered nutritious**, based on the GCFB's "Choose Healthy Options Program." Many additional pounds were distributed from other donors.

Calendar Year Statistics	<u>Jan – Dec 2014</u>	<u>Jan – Dec 2015</u>
Individuals Served	3,122	4,048
Families Served	1,034	1,207

In 2015, the Mission experienced a 30% increase in individuals served over the previous year. Seniors represented 15.2% of our clients, while 33.5% were children.

The Food Bank plays a significant role in supervising our outreach program. They set standards for the quality of food they provide, passing regular governmental inspections of their central facility. In turn, they set standards for their partner agencies. They hold annual site visits to inspect our facility and offer information to guide our improvement.

Our phone lines are open 24 hours a day for emergency food requests and to provide referrals to other agencies for assistance.

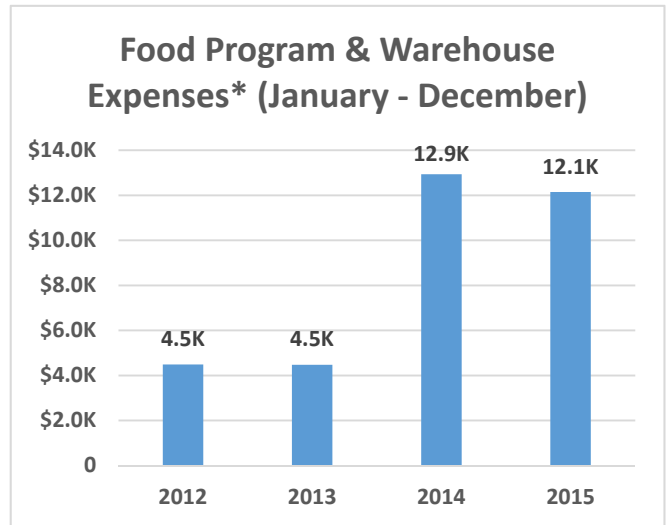
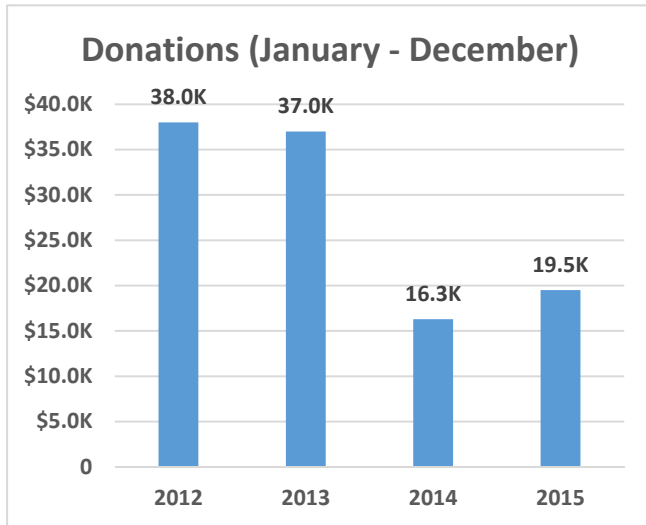
(440) 473-3885

Thanks to Local Donors and Businesses for Their Support:

- **Food: Orlando Bakery** is now our major provider of bread for our monthly distribution. A truck from nearby **All Faiths Pantry** delivers hundreds of pounds of fresh produce each month, as a supplement to produce ordered from the Food Bank (average 2,000 lbs. monthly). **Honey Baked Ham** has faithfully contributed ham bones and pieces for many years.
- **Communications:** [Saturn Press](#) (Tony & Cindy Balamanti) prints and mails our quarterly newsletter. [Website Solutions USA](#) (Mark Sullivan and Leslie Rozman) hosts our website.

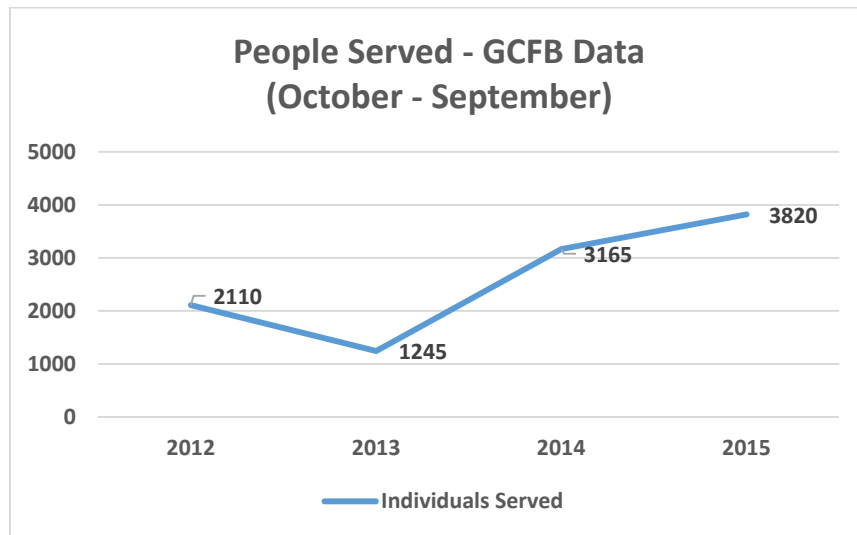
In 2015, we were honored to receive a proclamation from the State of Ohio Governor John Kasich, commemorating our 23rd Anniversary.

2015 Financial Report:



*The higher expenses beginning in 2014 reflect warehouse acquisition and management.

2015 Client Report:



On December 18, 2015, St. Mary of Egypt hosted the Greater Cleveland Council of Orthodox Clergy at our Distribution Center for their December meeting, with a history of the Mission and a tour of our facility.

St. Mary of Egypt Executive Board

Officers:

Tara Reidy, President
Ann Papadelis, V.P. & Treasurer
Presvytera Daisy Dimon, Secretary

Trustees:

Ken Boukis, Esq., Legal Counsel
Mary Pagonakis

St. Mary of Egypt Advisory Board

Bill Bewley	Cheryl Gross	Joe Saliba
Nicholas Bodle	Joanna Kritikos	Irene Scordos
Vaso Boukis	Kathy Markos	John Scordos
Liberty Darakos	Jane Murray	
Emmanuel Ermidis	Virginia Salamalekis	

Spiritual Oversight and Direction

His Eminence Metropolitan Savas of Pittsburgh
Rev. Fr. Dean Dimon, Annunciation Church – Cleveland

Thanks to Consultants:

- **John Gary Boukis** of **Superior Construction** (warehouse repair and upgrade), **Victoria Keegan** (bylaws review), and **Charles Papadelis** (donation receipts).
- Special thanks to **Eugene Welsh and Kathy Busta of Professional Management, Inc.** for eighteen years of support with donated bookkeeping and tax services.

In Memoriam

On October 30, 2015, the Mission's loyal volunteer and Board member, +Charles "Chuck" Karikas passed away. May his memory be eternal!



St. Mary of Egypt is a member of:



Designated Donor #4697

Secure Online Donation