

Saint Mary of Egypt

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Orthodox Mission & Chapel

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Responding 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, since 1992.

Feast Day & Pascha 2018

Remember the needy families of Cleveland this Paschal season. According to the Greater Cleveland Food Bank, our food pantry program served **over 3,700 individuals** last year, up 300 people from the previous year, providing **over 53,000 meals**. In honor of St. Mary of Egypt on her feast day (April 1), help us to provide food and necessities to those less fortunate this Easter holiday, with your contribution in any amount.

May our risen Lord and Savior bless you abundantly! Christ is Risen!

A Meditation on Almsgiving by +Fr. Thomas Hopko

Christ commanded his disciples to give alms. To “give alms” means literally “to do” or “to make merciful deeds” or “acts of mercy.” According to the Scriptures, the Lord is compassionate and merciful, longsuffering, full of mercy, faithful and true. He is the one who does merciful deeds (see Psalm 103). Acts of mercy are an “imitation of God” who ceaselessly executes mercy for all, without exception, condition or qualification. He is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked.

Mercy is a sign of love. God is Love. A deed of merciful love is the most Godlike act a human being can do. “Being perfect” in Matthew’s Gospel corresponds to “being merciful” in Luke’s Gospel. “Perfection” and “being merciful” are the same thing.

To love as Christ loves, with the love of God who is Love, is the chief commandment for human beings according to Christianity. It can only be accomplished by God’s grace, by faith. It is not humanly possible. It is done by the indwelling of the Holy Spirit.



Volunteer Spotlight:

Ann has been a long-time supporter of the Mission. She frequently volunteers in our food program, assists in fundraising activities, and has served as a board member for many years.