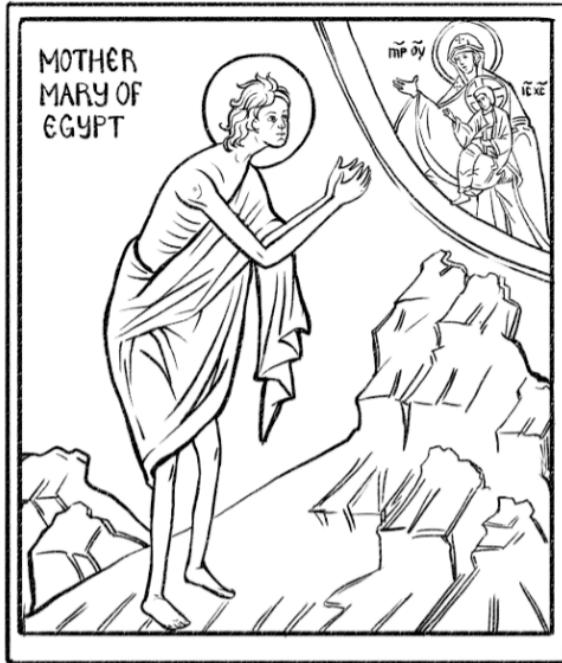


**:: Synaxarion for the Sunday of St. Mary of Egypt ::**



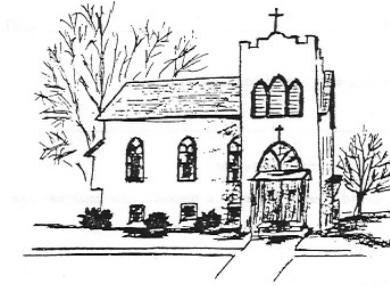
On this day, the Fifth Sunday of Great Lent, it was ordained that we make remembrance of our Godly Mother Mary of Egypt.

Once, during the Honorable Fast, the priest-monk Zosimus withdrew into the wilderness. He caught sight of a withered woman named Mary; her hair was white as snow. Mary then told Zosimus that she was born in Egypt and at the age of 12 began to live a life of debauchery in Alexandria for 17 years. One day, she went to Jerusalem to enter the church to venerate the Honorable Cross. However, some invisible force restrained her. In great fear, she gazed upon the icon of the Theotokos in the vestibule and prayed that she be allowed to enter the church, all the while

confessing her sinfulness. She was then permitted to enter the church. Having venerated the Cross she again entered the vestibule and, before the icon, gave thanks to the Mother of God. At that very moment she heard a voice saying: "If you cross the Jordan, you will find glorious rest!" Mary left for the wilderness and remained there for 47 years in repentance. She bade Zosimus to come back in one year with Holy Communion, which he did. The following year, on Holy Thursday, April 1, 522, Zosimus discovered Mary's lifeless body, and buried her. Thus, the Lord glorifies penitent sinners. The Church exalts and exemplifies Mary to the faithful in Great Lent as an incentive for repentance that brings entry into the Heavenly Kingdom.

Through her intercessions, O Christ God, have mercy upon us. Amen.

*Any announcements for the Sunday bulletin? Please submit by Wednesday each week to Fr. Andrew, by email or phone. If you are not on the church's email list and would like to be, please let Fr. Andrew know.*



**St. George Orthodox Church  
of Spring Valley**

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**March 29, 2015 – Fifth Sunday of Lent  
St. Mary of Egypt**

**Matins (Morning Prayer), 9:00 AM :: Divine Liturgy, 10:00 AM**

**Today's Holy Bread and Coffee Hour:** George and Mona Kaleel

**Epistle:** Brianna Kaleel

**Next Sunday's Holy Bread and Coffee Hour:** OPEN

**Troparion of the Resurrection (Tone 1):** The stone being sealed by the Jews, and the soldiers were guarding Thy most pure body, Thou didst arise on the third day, O Savior, granting life to the world. For which cause the heavenly powers cried aloud unto Thee, O giver of life. Glory to Thy Resurrection O Christ, glory to Thy kingdom, glory to Thy providence, O Thou who alone art the lover of mankind.

**Troparion of St. Mary of Egypt (Tone 8):** Through thee, the divine likeness was securely preserved, O mother Mary; for thou didst carry the cross and follow Christ. By example and precept thou didst teach us to ignore the body, because it is perishable, and to attend to the concerns of the undying soul. Therefore, doth thy soul rejoice with the angels.

**Troparion of St. George the Great Martyr (Tone 4):** Since thou art a liberator and deliverer of captives, a help and succour of the poor and needy, a healing physician of the sick, a contender and fighter for kings, O great among martyrs, the victory-clad George: Intercede with Christ God for the salvation of our souls.

St. George is a parish of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese  
The Most Reverend Metropolitan JOSEPH  
The Right Reverend Bishop ANTHONY, Diocese of Toledo and the Midwest  
www.antiochian.org

**Kontakion for Lent (Tone 8):** To thee, the Champion Leader, I thy servant ascribe thank-offerings of victory: for thou hast delivered me from terrors, O Theotokos; but as thou hast that power which is invincible, from all dangers set me free that I may cry out unto thee: ‘Hail, O Bride without Bridegroom!’

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Make your vows to the Lord our God, and perform them.

God is known in Judah; His Name is great in Israel.

**The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Hebrews (9:11-14)**

Brethren, when Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things that have come, then through the greater and more perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation), He entered once for all into the Holy Place, taking not the blood of goats and calves but His own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption. For if the sprinkling of defiled persons with the blood of goats and bulls and with the ashes of a heifer sanctifies for the purification of the flesh, how much more shall the blood of Christ, Who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without blemish to God, purify your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

**The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark (10:32-45)**

At that time, Jesus took His twelve Disciples, and began to tell them what was to happen to Him, saying, “Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem. And the Son of man will be delivered to the chief priests and the scribes, and they will condemn Him to death, and deliver Him to the Gentiles. And they will mock Him, and scourge Him, and spit upon Him, and kill Him; and after three days He will rise.”

And James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came forward to Him, and said to Him, “Teacher, we would that thou shouldest do for us whatsoever we shall desire” And Jesus said to them, “What do you want Me to do for you?” And they said to Him, “Grant us to sit, one at Thy right hand and one at Thy left, in Thy glory.” But Jesus said to them, “You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or to be baptized with the baptism with which I am baptized?” And they said to Him, “We are able.” And Jesus said to them, “The cup that I drink you will drink; and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized. But to sit at My right hand or at My left is not Mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared.”

And when the ten heard it, they began to be indignant at James and John. And Jesus called them to Him and said to them, “You know that those who are supposed to rule over the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great men exercise authority over them. But it shall not be so among you; but whoever would be great among you must be your servant, and whoever would be first among you must be servant of all. For the Son of man also came not to be served but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many.”

**Announcements and Upcoming Events**

*For a full calendar of events and services at St. George, see our website, [www.stgeorgeorthodox.org](http://www.stgeorgeorthodox.org) or take a print-out from the table downstairs.*

**Upcoming Events and Services:**

- **Today:** Children’s Sunday School, immediately after communion.
- **Wednesday, April 1:** Presanctified Liturgy at 6pm
- **Saturday, April 4:** Holy Week begins! Lazarus Saturday Liturgy, 10am
- **Next Sunday, April 5: Palm Sunday.** Matins at 9am, Liturgy and Procession at 10am
- See complete Holy Week schedule (insert)
- **Sunday, April 12: Holy Pascha (Easter)**

**St. George Church offers condolences to the Harshman family,** at the passing of Jennifer’s mother Kelley Fullerton. May her memory be eternal!

**Lenten collections.** First, if you have not done so yet, please take one of the “Food for Hungry People” boxes downstairs. This is a coin box for Lenten donations, which will be sent to our Archdiocese. Please turn in your boxes on or after Easter Sunday. Second, Kaitlynn Kelly is collecting canned and other non-perishable food items for a project. Please be generous and donate food items to the box downstairs!

**Next Sunday,** we will take up a collection to send to our Patriarchate in Syria, as we do every Palm Sunday.

*“In one day, you can gain all eternity. And in one day, you can lose it all. You are given thousands of days on earth to determine for yourself whether to pursue eternal salvation or damnation. But blessed a hundredfold be that day when you repent of all your unclean works, your unclean words and thoughts, and turn to God for mercy! That day is worth more to you than a thousand other days.... Take firm hold on yourself the first day that it comes to meet you, and say, ‘You are the blessed day on which I shall purchase life eternal!’*

~ St. Nikolai Velimirovic