

FIFTH SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST  
SUNDAY OF MARY OF EGYPT



*Icon of Saint Mary and Father Zozimos*

## *Saint Mary of Egypt*

On a pilgrimage through the desert, a priest-monk named Father Zozimos encountered a most fascinating and inspiring woman whom we know today as Saint Mary of Egypt. Saint Mary, Zozimos recalled, seemed to be “walking upon air.” Upon approaching this woman, she asked for his blessing and told him of her life.

Saint Mary was born in Egypt in the sixth century and by the age of twelve had already dedicated her life to the pursuit of debauchery and excess. By her own admission, she spent the next seventeen years of her life attempting to satisfy every carnal appetite in any way possible. This intention led her to seek passage on a boat bound for Jerusalem where, out of curiosity, she followed the crowds to the threshold of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. As she attempted to follow the crowd into the Church, she was

stopped at the doorway by an invisible force. At this moment, her sinfulness was revealed to her and she made a promise to the Mother of God that if she was permitted to enter the Church she would dedicate the rest of her life to God.

After her dramatic conversion she withdrew to the desert where she spent the remaining years of her life in self-denial and repentance. Towards the end of her life she met the priest-monk Zozimos, whom she petitioned to visit her on regular occasions in order that she might be nourished with Holy Communion before she died.

May the example of Saint Mary draw attention to our own need for repentance so that we, too, nourished by Holy Communion, may rededicate our lives to the service of God.

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Glory to Jesus Christ!  
Slava Isusu Khristoo!

April 2-3, 2022  
Fifth Sunday, Lent

OUR UKRAINIAN FUND DRIVE has reached the milestone of \$50,000 this past week, which amount is being sent to our Philadelphia Chancery for dispatch to Ukraine. This money will be used to aid our suffering refugees and our Churches. We are now collecting another \$10,000 for the same purpose. Donations are best given by check payable to SS. Peter and Paul Church for this most noble and Christian purpose for helping our Brothers and Sisters in Ukraine in their dire need.

OUR LITURGY LIVESTREAMING SCHEDULE is as following: Saturday, April 2, 6 pm; Saturday, April 9, 6 pm; Good Friday, April 15, 6:30 pm; April 17, Easter Sunday, 10 am. Please share this information with all your friends and relatives, so that we all can pray together this Holy Season of Easter and the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus.

WE STILL NEED more cut pussy willow branches for our celebration of Willow or Palm Sunday next weekend. Simply cut and bundle the cut branches and leave them on the rectory porch for this purpose.

OUR PARISH SCHOOL IS STILL IN SESSION THIS SPRING, as we prepare our students for all the coming holydays. Parents should make sure that their young ones tune in to Google-Meet on Sunday at 11 am, so that they can learn the truths of our Faith and its Founder Jesus Christ.

OUR PARISH WOMEN have worked hard to prepare beautiful Easter baskets for our children and even a few special baskets for our adults. Be sure to check out these items and take them home for the young ones.

WE ARE HOPING-PLANNING to hold our Easter Food Blessing on Holy Saturday in our Parish Hall this year. The wearing of face masks will be optional. The times will be 12 noon, 3 pm and 6 pm. The tables will be widely separated for your convenience and safety. Please tell all your friends and relatives about this new schedule for food blessing.

WE SEND OUT OUR GREAT THANKS to all our neighbors and faithful for their generosity in donating funds for our suffering Brothers and Sisters in Ukraine, even as we pray for a speedy end to the hostilities in our dear democratic country of Ukraine. God bless all of you with rebust health, much joy and lasting peace, AMEN!

DIVINE SERVICES FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, April 2, 6 pm

+Jackie Davis (Maryellen)

Sunday, April 3, 9 am

+Motria Dejneka (Irena, Sophia)

Willow Saturday, Ap. 9, 6 pm

Health of Mark (Luba Somitz)

Willow Sunday, Ap. 10, 9 am

+Fr. Eugene, Paulina Dychdala  
(Dychdala Family)

TODAY'S TROPAR:

You did descend from on high, O Lord Jesus,  
and You did accept a three-day burial, that  
You might free us from suffering, for You are our Life and Resurrection,  
O Lord, Glory be to You.

GLORY TO THE FATHER AND THE SON...

TODAY'S KONTAK:

O St. Mary of Egypt, you were once befouled with various vices, through penance you have now become a disciple of Christ and lead an angelic life by the power of Christ. Thus St. Mary became a candidate for the Kingdom of God.

TODAY'S PROKIMEN:

God is admirable in His Saints, God of Israel.

*PEACE IN UKRAINE!*

*O. P. HAWG*