

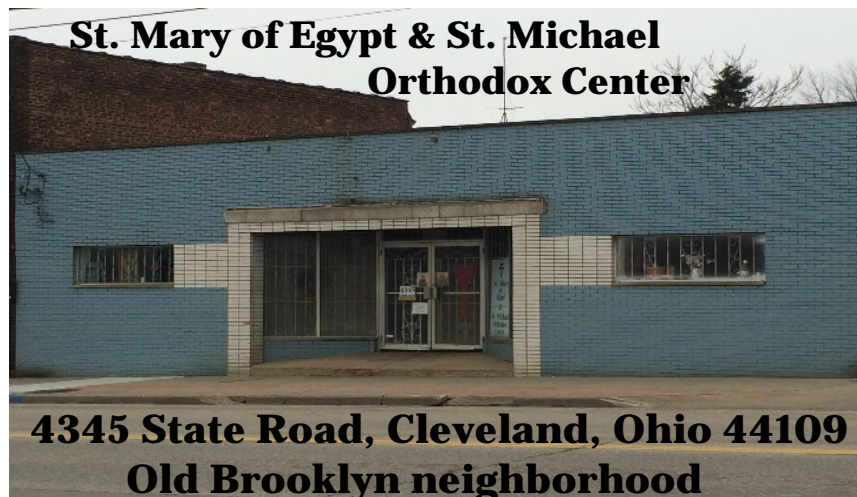
St. Mary of Egypt Orthodox Mission & Chapel



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 June 2024





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 vision first established in 1993: **“To provide charitable and humane assistance to the needy.”** Our organization was initially conceived as a charity directing aid to women and children in need; however, from the beginning, help was also extended to men, elderly and families. In 2000, the St. Mary of Egypt Orthodox Mission acquired the new title **“Mission & Monastery.”**

* * *

2014 was a year of transition for the Mission. Mother Theonymphie, our Abbess and director, was tonsured to the Great Schema in August 2013, and fell asleep in the Lord on September 1, 2013. The Board was then restructured and bylaws rewritten to support our change from a monastery-based mission to a lay Orthodox organization.

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

An anonymous major donor underwrote the purchase of an abandoned warehouse and established a fund for repair and maintenance. **The St. Mary of Egypt and St. Michael Orthodox Center** opened with distribution on January 18, 2014.

The St. Mary of Egypt Chapel Program

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 appointed the St. Mary of Egypt Chapel to be a canonical spiritual dependency of the Annunciation Church in Cleveland.



In October 2014, the St. Mary of Egypt Chapel moved from its original location to the side foyer of Annunciation Church (2187 W. 14th Street). In 2023, with the dedicated labor and full support of Mr. Mark Fourtounis, the Chapel was newly constructed in a lower room of the education building in memory of Mother Theonymphie and in honor of Mark's parents (†Manolis and Marika).

The new Chapel was dedicated on September 2, 2023. Services in the Chapel are sponsored by St. Mary of Egypt and by Annunciation Church.

The St. Mary of Egypt Outreach Program

St. Mary of Egypt has been a member of the **Greater Cleveland Food Bank (GCFB)** since 1997. A variety of canned goods and other shelf-stable food items, fresh produce, frozen meats, and breads are regularly purchased from the Food Bank, supplemented by other local donors, and distributed every month. Interim emergency distribution is arranged as needed. Over the past twenty-seven years, thanks to loyal donors and volunteers, we have distributed over **1,000,000 lbs.** of food.

Since the beginning of the pandemic in early 2020, the number of food-insecure households has increased dramatically.

- We have increased our **emergency availability**
- We have developed an effective **drive-thru method** of distribution
- We have had a marked increase in **young volunteers**

Our Warehouse Consultant, **John Gary Boukis** of **Superior Construction**, has supervised, directed and donated labor to ongoing warehouse repair and upgrade.

The Greater Cleveland Food Bank Report

In 2023, **over 73,000 lbs. of food** were purchased from the GCFB, including over 15,000 lbs. of fresh produce. Many additional pounds were contributed by other donors. This resulted in **over 60,000 meals served** last year.

See the chart below for our service to the community over the past three years (note a 59% increase). See graph below for a six-year history.

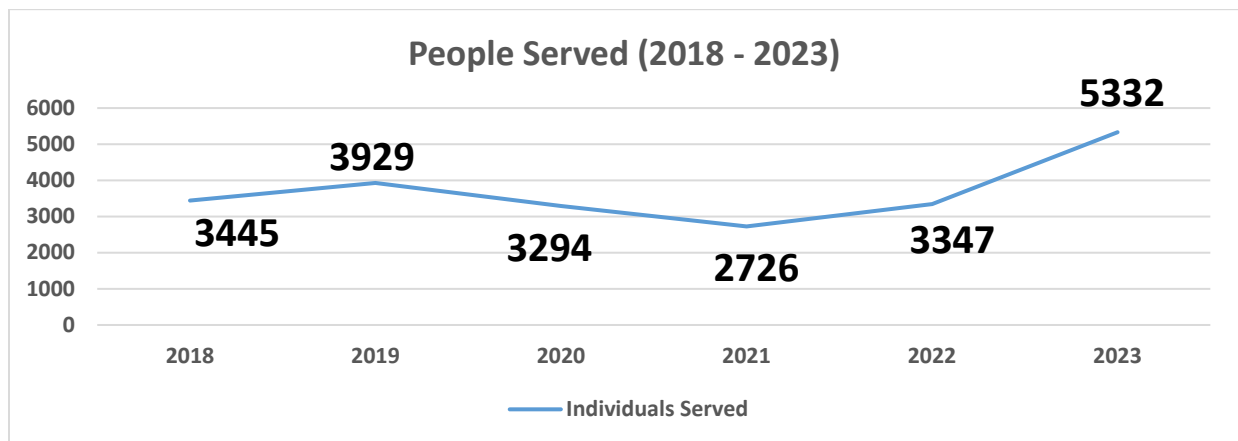
Calendar Year Statistics	<u>2021</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>
Individuals Served	2,726	3,347	5,332
Families Served	868	1,051	1,581

The Food Bank plays a significant role in supervising our outreach program. They monitor 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 suggestions 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

Six-Year Client Report

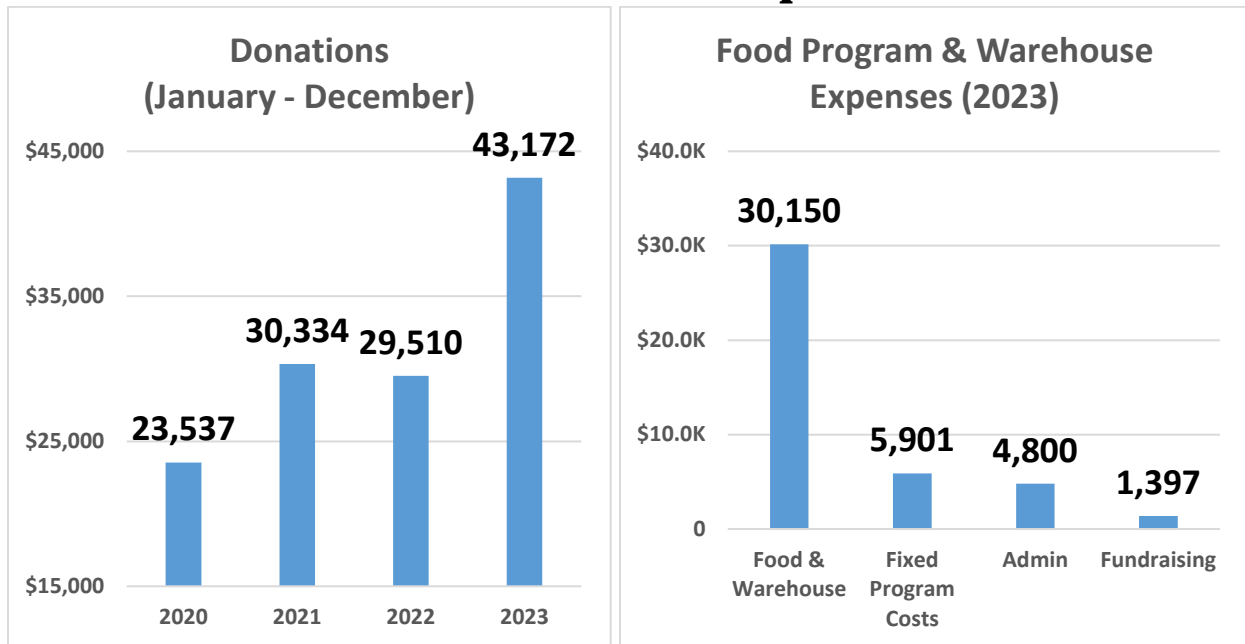


Thanks for Loyal Support:

- **John Gary Boukis** for warehouse repair and upgrade
- **Charles Papadelis** for managing our donation receipts
- The **[Hunger Network](#)** offers financial support and connects us to local sources of produce.
- **[Website Solutions USA](#)** hosts our website.
- **R.A. Tielke Tax & Accounting** for their support with accounting and payroll services

* * *

2023 Financial Report



Fixed program costs include vehicle expenses, our 24-hour emergency hotline service, and taxes & fees.

As reported by Charity Navigator, a typical charity “should spend no more than 25% of their total expenses on administrative...and fundraising costs combined” (CharityNavigator.org). St. Mary of Egypt has met this standard, with **85%** of donations going towards our programs and related operations. Direct donations provided for all our operating expenses in 2023. We rely on your generous financial support to sustain our outreach ministry.

In the Mission's **32nd Anniversary** year of charitable service, we are grateful to all those who make our work possible.

Thank you to over a dozen Orthodox parishes & organizations, and to the volunteers, board members, and donors of St. Mary of Egypt!

St. Mary of Egypt Executive Board

Officers:

Tara Reidy, President

Ann Papadelis, Vice President

Presvytera Daisy Dimon, Secretary

Nicholas Bodle, Treasurer

Trustees:

Ken Boukis, Esq., Legal Counsel

Mary Pagonakis

St. Mary of Egypt Advisory Board

Bill Bewley

Andrew Gadelsayed

Maria Lovejoy

Tessie Lekas

Jane Murray

Irene Scordos

John Scordos

Spiritual Oversight and Direction

His Eminence Savas, Metropolitan of Pittsburgh

Rev. Fr. Dean Dimon, Priest of Annunciation Church in Cleveland

St. Mary of Egypt is a member of:



Designated Donor #4697



Secure Online Donation

