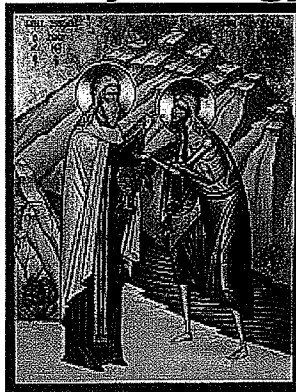


The Olive Shoots
St. Symeon Orthodox Church
April 21, 2013
+ St. Mary of Egypt +



Fasting, Prayer, The sign of the cross, the Jesus prayer,
alms giving, and forgiving are the things that the
demons hate most. ~ The Holy Fathers

Upcoming Events

Wed. April 24, 6:30pm ~ Presanctified Liturgy

Fri. April 26, 6:30pm ~ Presanctified Liturgy

Visit us at www.theoliveshoots.webstarts.com



Troparion Tone 4

The image of God was truly preserved in you, O mother,
For you took up the Cross and followed Christ. By so
doing, you taught us to disregard the flesh, for it passes
away; But to care instead for the soul, since it is immortal.
Therefore your spirit, O holy Mother Mary, rejoices with
the Angels.

Kontakion Tone 8

Having been a sinful woman, You became through
repentance a Bride of Christ. Having attained angelic life,
You defeated demons with the weapon of the Cross;
Therefore, O most glorious Mary you are a Bride of the
Kingdom!

Today's Bible verse is:

*A sacrifice unto God is a broken spirit; a broken and
contrived heart God will not despise.*

~ Psalm 51: 15

What does it mean?

*A sacrifice to God is a spirit that is broken; A good heart is
one that God will not put to shame.*

St. Mary of Egypt

When **Mary** was 12, she ran away from home. She spent 17 years partying. She was **bad**, and although she didn't have much money, when people gave her money, she gave it back. She wasn't trying to be nice; she just wanted to attract as many boys as possible. She was very **sinful**. One time, a group of people were going to see the **cross**. The real cross that Jesus was nailed to. She went to see it with them. As soon as she tried to get in to the church, she was stopped by an invisible **force**. She said it was like a bunch of soldiers were standing there, and blocking her. She then realized why. She had been a very bad person. She went outside, and **prayed** to the Theotokos. When she was done, she went back in the church, and was able to go in. the force was gone. After that, she went, and spent the rest of her **life** in the **desert**. **Zosomas** came and fed her everyday, and he also gave her **communion**. When she died, a **lion** came, and dug a hole to burry her in. Zosomas did bury her, and wrote above her "Bury now the body of humble Mary...Who departed in the month of **Fermooten** of Egypt, called April of the Romans, on the first day of the month." She is now remembered on **April 1st**.

St. Mary of Egypt

Read the story and use the bold words to find in the word search. Write the words in the blank spaces below

C L U F N I S D H N S M W E B
W O A G G I X C E S N A D X F
D W M E F I L G O Y V R U T J
I V Y M W U Z R V F A Y O N D
T V L X U O C M A Y F R G P R
S Q Y I S N D U U F K H P L K
V S I O L L I W E E N X I W D
U Q M I B G D O T R R O I A Z
N A F O R C E A N M N K B Q T
S M W B D Q W C B O X R S A T
A F X U M S J Z X O N M J Y R
Z P L Q R L O C Z T Q X R A E
R L R I L F M F X E Y K L T S
G I N I E D K A J N O H H D E
T O O P L X R H D I J S W L D
