



A NEW PUBLICATION FROM
ALEXANDER PRESS

Akathist to St. Mary of Egypt

By Bev. Cooke

With The Life of St. Mary of Egypt

Rewritten by Bev. Cooke

It is one of the sad ironies of our time that after fifty or so years of feminism in the West, the plight of women is actually worse than it was before. Our culture no longer recognizes the sanctity of womanhood, and the symbols with which we once expressed our recognition of this sanctity have vanished. It is a dangerous world for women. More than ever before, women need an advocate.

Fortunately, they have such an advocate: St. Mary of Egypt. We Orthodox who know and love her need to make her more well known to a weary world. We chant her praises and hear her story every Great Lent. But she has much to say to us beyond the time of our Lenten asceticism. Her story is one of hope—anyone, sinners of both genders, can find forgiveness and life and peace through the Cross of Christ, as part of His holy Church. Anyone who is tired of sin can come to Him and find all they need, for His yoke is easy and His burden is light. Mary, the prostitute of big city Egypt, found Him, and she can lead us to Him too. We can rely on her intercession not just during the Lenten fast, but throughout the year.

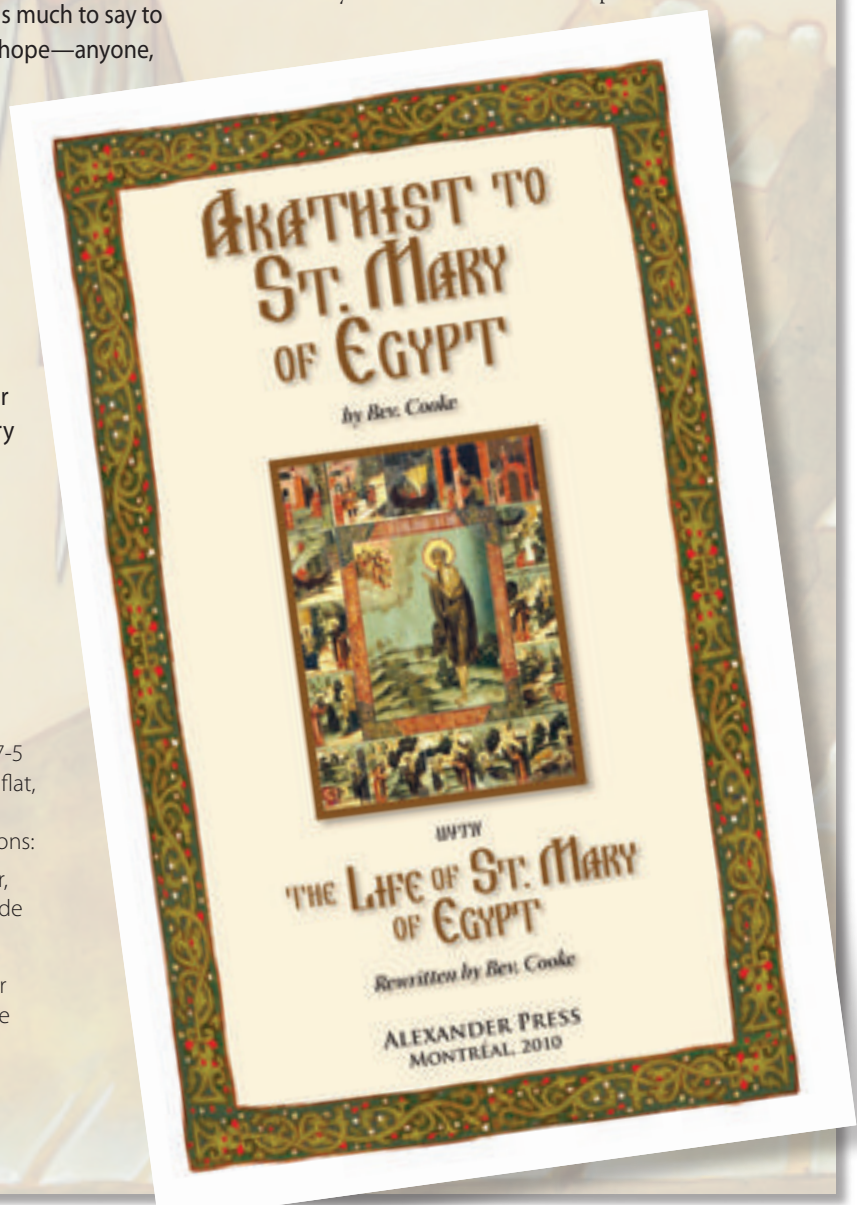
It is just here that Bev. Cooke has done such a great service in creating an Akathist to St. Mary of Egypt. Through these words, we can spend time with the great saint, and ask for her prayers and help. The Mother of God was there to help Mary of Egypt when she needed her. In turn, Mary of Egypt will be there for us as well.

—from the introduction by Archpriest Lawrence R. Farley

The sixth volume in the series *We Praise Thee*

Other titles in this series available from Alexander Press:
Number 1: *Akathist to Jesus, Light to Those in Darkness*, by Archpriest Lawrence R. Farley;
Number 2: *Akathist to the Most Holy Theotokos, Daughter of Zion*, by Archpriest Lawrence R. Farley;
Number 3: *A New Akathist for Saint Herman of Alaska*, by Archpriest Lawrence R. Farley;
Number 4: *Akathist: Glory to the God who works wonder*, by Archpriest Lawrence R. Farley;
Number 5: *Akathist to St. Arseny of Winnipeg*, by Archpriest Lawrence R. Farley.

ABOUT BEV. COOKE: Bev. has been writing for publication since 1989. This is her first venture into liturgical poetry, and her first Akathist. It was written to thank St. Mary for her intercessions, for the families and friends of women on the street, as a response to the seventy women missing from downtown Vancouver's east side and as a plea to St. Mary of Egypt to pray for those women, and the women and men still on the street. Bev. and her husband, Alain Hargreaves, live in Victoria BC. They have two adult children, Arwen and Mark, and the family attends All Saints of Alaska parish.



Order directly from:
ALEXANDER PRESS

2875 Douglas Avenue, Montréal, Québec
H3R 2C7 CANADA

Tel: (514) 738-5517 or (514) 738-4018
Toll free: (866) 303-5517 Fax: (514) 738-4718

E-mail: johnh@megaweb.ca
www.alexanderpress.com

Background icon: St. Mary of Egypt, written by Heather MacKean

ISBN: 1-896800-47-5
Spiral-bound to lie flat,
40 pages
Available in 2 versions:

Full colour cover,
black & white inside
\$10.00

Full colour cover
and colour inside
\$15.00