

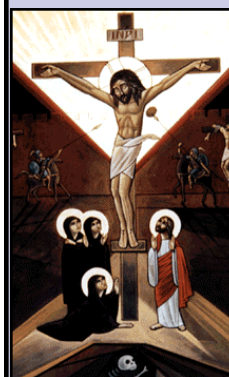


March/April 2008



Entering the Fast, Looking Toward the Resurrection

As we enter the Great Fast, we give up food to express our greater hunger for God. Yet when we fast, the Church Fathers also remind us to set aside money for those in need.



"Is not this the fast that I choose... is it not to share your bread with the hungry and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover him..?"
(Isaiah 58:6-7)

Relationships Make The Difference

Now that it's been twenty years since Coptic Orphans began with our flagship program, *Not Alone*, Let's talk about the a global community that we form together. It's the relationships in our global community that have made the *Not Alone* program so successful during these past twenty years.

Orthodox Church in our *Not Alone* program. Father Antonious, a priest from Middle Egypt who partnered with us in his village, leveraged his own resources by creating space in the local church for a *Not Alone* program library and a club for program participants.

As I said in the last newsletter, we started from a network of people who knew other people: some across the world, some in Egypt. We soon became a community both global and local.

While members of our community leverage their influence on the ground to broaden our impact, Coptic churches, sponsors, volunteers, and business people around the world leverage their resources to make even further impact possible in Egypt.

Locally, bishops catapulted us forward by bringing us to new volunteer Reps and new regions. Meanwhile, Reps and courageous widows worked to change their local villages. A school teacher in Egypt, Afaf was herself widowed. Her bishop nominated her to become a Rep with Coptic Orphans. She volunteers full time. "I had a home and a husband... Now, I dedicate all my time to this service: God has given me the time."

When we work as part of a community, we can get many times more done with less effort than we can alone. That's why a few years ago our Reps voted to name our flagship program *Not Alone*. With our relationships both globally and locally, we impact our community in Egypt with a power beyond what any of us could muster alone. Today, every child who participates in *Not Alone* has a global community standing behind him or her.

And the participation of Afaf's bishop is the rule, not the exception. We have long partnered with the Coptic

With everything that we can do together, it's good to be *Not Alone*.

As you await the joy of the Resurrection, remember to set aside a special donation for a child in Egypt: whether your sponsored child or another vulnerable child in Egypt.

Gifts of love like yours give children in Egypt the security of knowing that they are not alone and the courage to overcome.

To send your sponsored child an Easter gift, call us at 1-800-499-2989 or reply below.

Coptic Orphans

P.O. Box 2881, Merrifield VA 22116
703.641.8910 or 800.499.2989
info@copticorphans.org
www.copticorphans.org
All donations are tax exempt: 54-1637257

A financial statement is available from the Virginia State Division of Consumer Affairs in the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services upon request. Information filed with the attorney general concerning this charitable solicitation may be obtained from the Attorney of the State of New Jersey by calling 973.504.6215. Registration with the attorney general does not imply endorsement.

"So that in this and in all things Your great and holy name may be glorified ..."

03/08

- I would like to set up a monthly contribution of: \$50 \$100 \$200 \$500 Other \$ _____
- Please debit my checking account on the 15th of every month (attach VOID check)
- Please charge to my credit card on the 1st of every month
- credit card number: _____ exp date ____/____

I authorize Coptic Orphans to set up a monthly contribution using the information that I have provided above.
Signature : _____ date: ____ / ____ / ____

- Enclosed is my check for a one time donation Easter contribution of: \$50 \$100 \$200 \$500 Other \$ _____

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