

News from Los Angeles Mission

CROSSROADS

Encouraging hearts . . . celebrating recovery

MARCH 2021

**This Easter Season,
We're Expecting More
Guests Than Ever**



**Breaking
the cycle of
homelessness
begins with
a meal**



Turn to page 2 to see how your gifts change lives

Easter Means Hope for Our Neighbors Experiencing Homelessness



Dear Caring Friend,

After the year we've just had, is it any wonder that many of us — especially our neighbors on Skid Row — can't wait for springtime and its promise of new life?

That, of course, is what the Easter season is all about . . . coming out of the darkness into God's marvelous light, where peace and hope are available to all who put their faith in Christ. For many of our guests, this is what they've been praying for — the chance to embrace a new beginning. As Scripture reminds us, "The old is gone, the new is here" (2 Corinthians 5:17b, NIV), filling hearts with joy and praise to our risen Savior.

I thank God every day for the privilege of being able to serve so many forgotten souls on Skid Row. Just like I thank God for you, for supporting the Mission so faithfully in obedience to Christ's command to serve the least, the last and the lost.

During this season of boundless hope, thank you for helping to restore and renew lives.

Troy Vaughn
President/CEO

P.S. As my gift of appreciation to you, log on to LosAngelesMission.org/EasterMessage for my Easter sermon. I hope it will provide you with renewed strength and optimism during this very special season. God bless you.

Feed a Hungry Neighbor This Easter — for Just \$2.53

Your support gives hope to lost souls on Skid Row

To the homeless on Skid Row, Easter is nothing like what you and I experience. Their Easter is filled with feelings of hopelessness, hunger and despair.

But it doesn't have to be.

Through Los Angeles Mission — and your generosity! — they can experience renewal, even at a time when we're still wearing masks and social distancing.

While the food you provide can fill their stomachs, it's really the warmth, love and compassion they receive from our staff and volunteers that make them *want* to live differently. That's when new life truly begins.

We're expecting thousands this Easter season — hungry for food and hope. They can satisfy both hungers here. Your support is needed now to help feed 129,726 people who are turning to us because they have nowhere else to go.

Time is passing quickly, and we need your help in a hurry!

Please support the Mission with a generous gift today! Thank you!



Your help will give hope to someone who is hurting.



Thank you for your support during this time of renewal.



Feeding a hungry soul is the first step to a changed life.

Every \$2.53 feeds one hungry person, opening the door to hope and new life.

After 12 Tough Years, Gloria Found New Life — Thanks to You!

For 12 agonizing years, Gloria faithfully cared for her sick fiancé, a decorated Marine who suffered from PTSD, Alzheimer’s disease and prostate cancer.

When he finally passed away last year, she was devastated.

“I was really scared,” she remembers. “Money was going fast, and I suddenly needed food and a place to live.”

Faced with the possibility of living on the streets, Gloria turned to Los Angeles Mission, where she found the doors of our Anne Douglas Center open, thanks to you. Gloria was able to find hope again — in the Bible studies she attended, the kitchen work she was assigned, and the encouragement she received from our staff and the other guests.

“It really helped me to forget the bad situation I had been in,” Gloria says.

Recently graduated, Gloria is now considering going back to school while she looks for a job. In the meantime, she says she’ll never forget friends like you for giving her a second chance.

“**You’ve helped me to see the light at the end of the tunnel,**” she says.

Thank you for changing Gloria’s life — and the lives of so many other women in tough situations — by supporting Los Angeles Mission. Only through your ongoing generosity can we continue changing lives this Easter season and throughout the year.



Gloria knows the life-changing power of good meals made possible through the generosity of friends like you.

Oscar Is a Real-Life Easter Miracle

Oscar came to Los Angeles Mission right around this time last year.

Struggling with alcohol, he imagined what his life would be like without immediate help . . . years of loneliness and misery. No job. No family. No purpose. And certainly no future.

Coming to the Mission was his last chance to find not only sobriety, but also hope.

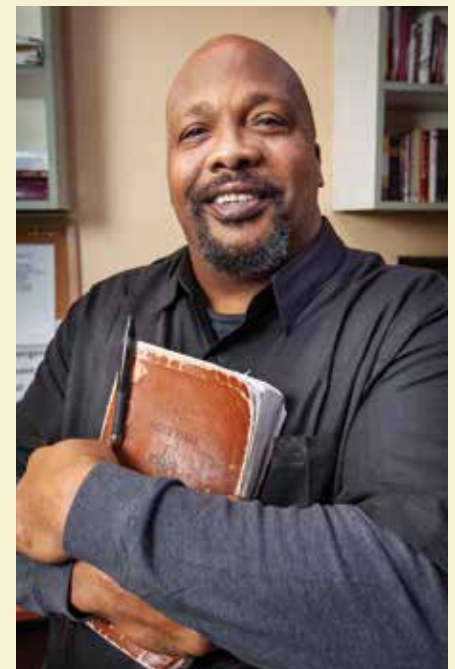
Now he’s found both and is looking forward to reuniting with his wife of 20-plus years, resuming his job as a counselor, and lifting others like him up from the pit of despair.

“**What’s impossible for me is not impossible with God,**” he says humbly.

Troy Vaughn, president and CEO, says this is why the Mission exists.

“Oscar came to us last Easter as down as a person could be,” Vaughn says. “Today, he is a walking, breathing Easter miracle — a compelling testimony to the transforming power of God and the good that’s possible when you support the Mission.”

Thank you for partnering with us and making this life-changing work possible. It is because of your faithful giving that so many people are finding a reason for hope this Easter.



Oscar is living proof of the hope you provide through your gifts and prayers.

UPCOMING EVENTS/ SAVE THE DATES

Volunteer Opportunities

We welcome you to discover the different volunteer opportunities that are currently available. For more information, please visit lamission.volunteerhub.com or call (213) 629-1227 Ext. 337.



Could This Have Been Written by Your Children?

“Dear Mom and Dad,

Throughout my life you have given me so much, but there’s one more thing I need from you. I need you to talk with me about the future.

I know you may be uncomfortable talking about aging or death, but what if something unexpected happens? Losing you will be much more painful if I’m left trying to handle your estate while I’m grieving.

Do you have an up-to-date Will? Can we talk about it? I’d like to know what you have planned and why.

I am a part of your legacy, and I want to live my life in honor of God, our family name and the legacy that has made me who I am.”

Could this letter have been written by your adult child? Estate planning can be a simple and powerful way to communicate love and connect with your loved ones on a deeper level. Talking about the future can create certainty, peace and even inspire them to get involved with the values, passions and causes you care about — like the work of Los Angeles Mission.

For the full version of this article, request a FREE copy of “What Your Adult Children Need from You” by contacting Troy Vaughn at (213) 629-1227 Ext. 305 or ceo@lamission.net — or bless your family today with a God-honoring Will at www.christianwill.org/lamission.

The Simplest Way to Make a Difference!

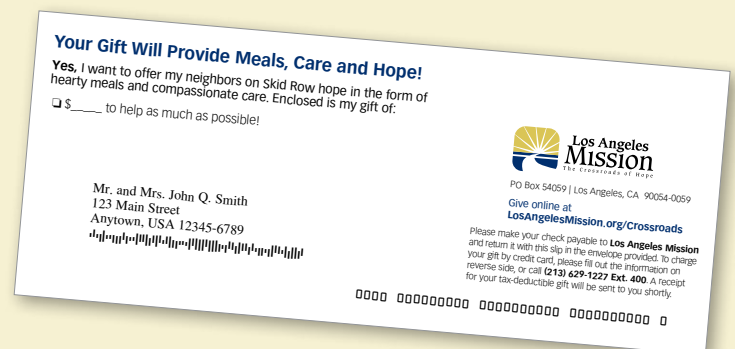


Providing nutritious meals, shelter and care to veterans, children and thousands of individuals experiencing homelessness is an ongoing challenge for Los Angeles Mission. To help us meet that need, please consider becoming a Meals-A-Month partner. This dedicated group of donors provides a steady stream of support that helps us budget and plan more efficiently, stretching every dollar a little further.

To sign up online, visit us at Give.LosAngelesMission.org. Or call (213) 629-1227 Ext. 334 to join by phone.

Give Hope That Leads to New Life This Easter

Send back the enclosed reply form with your special Easter gift to provide meals, care and life-changing services to people who need hope and a second chance. Please give generously during the Easter season and offer encouragement to people who are looking to rebuild their lives. Thank you!



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LosAngelesMission.org



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