

# CROSSROADS

## ***Sunday's Scriptures:***

### **Epistle:**

Acts 9:32-42

### **Gospel:**

John 5:1-15

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**Thursday, May 7 – 7 PM on ZOOM – Bible Study: *The Resurrection Account in the Gospel of Luke***

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**Sunday, May 31, Pentecost, the liturgical affirmation of our Inquirers.**

## **St. Ephrem and Jesus as the Physician**

**by Robert Murray**

**(from: *Symbols of Church and Kingdom: A Study in Early Syriac Tradition*)**

“Physician” seems to be Ephrem's favorite title of all for Christ. It is a constant refrain in the Diatessaron commentary. As well as describing Christ in his actual work of physical healing (the cure of the woman with an issue of blood occupies Ephrem for a whole long chapter), it naturally symbolizes him as healer and restorer of human nature. Thus the myrrh of the Magi was “to make known the Physician who was to heal the broken state of Adam.” Likewise “Physician” refers to Christ as conqueror of death. Meditating on Christ's baptism, Ephrem sees death as trying to overcome him throughout his life, but at every stage and in every capacity Christ was unconquerable:

“He died, and it [death] could not keep him in the prison of the tomb. He did not fall sick, because he was the Physician; he did not stray, being the Shepherd: he did not go wrong, being the Teacher; he did not stumble, being the Light.”

In Ephrem's fullest development of this figure he regards the patriarchs and prophets as “physicians” – Abraham, Moses, Joseph and Daniel (stanzas 1-8). But the whole world was sick and could not be perfectly healed of its illness. Christ the Physician saw and took pity, and healed us through his own body and blood, through the “Medicine of Life.” “Jesus is our Physician”; as God, he knows us. He is our Creator, he binds up our wounds; he is our medicine.



**“TARGETING” the Needs of Moms and Babies in May**

**Tomorrow, May 3**, begins our collection of Target gift cards for the moms using the services of *Options for Her*! What better way to celebrate Mother’s Day and the beautiful month of May!

*Options* is a pregnancy crisis center in Cherry Hill which serves our area by providing counseling, clothing, job assistance, ultrasounds, volunteer training, and two roving ultrasound mobile units which serve South Jersey. They do amazing, life-saving work.

So next time you are out shopping, please pick up a **Target** gift card or two (increments of at least \$25 please), place them in the display board located in the vestibule, and you will be helping moms in need.

Your Inreach/Outreach Ministry thanks you!

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Next Woman2Woman Meeting: May 4<sup>th</sup>!

Our next meeting will be at the home of Phyllis Pritchard on Monday evening, May 4<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 p.m. If you are new to our parish, please join us! All women are welcome. Because we are nurturers by nature, we believe that we as women have a very real need to connect with friends on the “soul” level—socially, spiritually, AND with women of our own faith. These meetings provide the perfect forum to do that and to enrich us with conversation about everything from current events to end-of-life care.

Prayer also comprises a good part of our agenda each month.

Come and See! Any questions, see **Genie Skuby**.

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**Next Ladies Luncheon will be on Thursday, May 28.**

## LANDSCAPING PROJECTS: COMPLETED AND ONGOING!

### ROSES

On the occasion of our 40th Anniversary in 2013, we planted 40 rose bushes and for years they provided us great beauty and hope.

But it has become obvious that they have also needed some help. Last year we extended our sprinkler system to provide them with water, and recently they were trimmed and new bushes have been planted.

Thanks to those who worked on this ongoing project:

Diana Pasca

Stacy and Kestrel Curro

Josh Marcano

Julie and Sarah MillekDiana Pasca

Vera Roth



## ***PARKING LOT ISLANDS***

Thanks to **Larry and Connie Skvir and Steve Shimchick** for working on the weeding and mulching of these two areas.



## **RE-PAINTING OF OUR PARKING LOT CONCRETE STOPS**

On **Tuesday, June 30** we'll be celebrating the ordination of **John Carpenter** to the Diaconate with a hierarchical Divine Liturgy led by Archbishop Michael.

We'll be working over the next few weeks on preparing and painting our parking lot stops. Let Fr John know if you would like to be involved in this project.



May 3, 2026



### Meet Me at the Ball Park!



Come see Justin Crawford and the Philadelphia Phillies take on the Pittsburgh Pirates then stay after the game for the fireworks!

**When:** Tuesday, June 30, 2026 @ 6:40 PM

**Where:** Citizens Bank Park  
1 Citizens Bank Way  
Philadelphia, PA 19148

**Price:** <sup>50.00</sup> ~~\$5~~.00 (Section 329 – Between third base and left field)

\*\* Make checks payable to The Phillies

**Payment deadline:** Sunday, May 3, 2026

**Give or mail to:** Judy Clyde  
9 Bon Air Drive  
Marlton, NJ 08053

Please cut out and send the form below with your payment!



Names		Ticket Price	
1)		\$	
2)		\$	
3)		\$	
4)		\$	
<b>Total number of tickets:</b>		<b>Total Price: \$</b>	

***Service for the Blessing of Animals***

**Saturday, May 9, 2025**

at our church

Starting at **10:00 AM**

Refreshments will be provided for ALL Attendees (animals and humans!)



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# Spaghetti and Meatball Dinner



(includes salad and dessert)

**Date:** May 30 (Saturday)

**Time:** 5:00 - 8:00 PM (final seating at 7:30 PM)

**Place:** Orthodox Church of the Holy Cross  
11 Wilkins Station Rd, Medford NJ 08055

**Prices:** Adults - \$20.00

Children 10 years and under - \$10.00

Children under 5 years - no charge

Takeout is available ❖❖ Walk-ins Welcome

Please see Barbara Mosser or Carol Ann Curry for reservations, or  
RSVP via email to [ochctickets@gmail.com](mailto:ochctickets@gmail.com) or  
text/call Phyllis at (609) 315-1258

**RSVP by May 27**

*If you are unable to attend, donations are welcomed and appreciated!*

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**Also happening 5:00 - 8:00 PM our**

**❖❖ 50/50 Raffle! ❖❖**

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**❖❖ Church Boutique selling Icons and Jewelry ❖❖**

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## Parent Page Newsletter

For the parents of children in the CGS Atrium, April 2026

### Christ is Risen! Indeed He is Risen!

Happy Pascha! During this beautiful season, the children in the atrium are immersed in the wonder, mystery, and joy of the Resurrection. April invites us to slow down, notice signs of new life all around us, and let the truth of the Resurrection take root in our hearts and homes.

The Light of the Risen Christ. In the atrium, the children have been spending time with the Paschal announcement—the proclamation that Jesus, who died, is now alive. Even our youngest children respond with awe and great joy as they hear the words proclamation: “Christ is Risen! Indeed He is risen!” We ponder how the light of the risen Christ continues to shine in the world today. You may see your child quietly contemplating this mystery, wanting to relight candles, or noticing the beauty of the white cloth on the prayer table. Their joy often shows up in simple, beautiful ways.

#### **At home:**

- Light a candle during prayer time and say together, “Jesus is the Light of the World.”
- Invite your child to notice where they see signs of “new life” in nature or daily life.
- Create a prayer card with the word: **Alleluia**. We sing or say “Alleluia” when we want to praise the Lord.
- Place fresh flowers in your prayer corner each week.

#### **The Season of Pascha:**

Pascha isn’t just one day—it’s a whole season of joyful celebration! The Pascha Season lasts until the feast of Pentecost. In the atrium, we continue: Singing and declaring, “**Christ is Risen! Indeed, He is Risen!**”

### ***Some Ways to Support our Parish***

Here are some ways that this can be done:

- 1) **Cash** (If an annual record of this donation is desired then it should be put in an envelope with your name on it, so that a record can be kept and a receipt eventually will be prepared and available).
- 2) **Monthly Envelopes** can be sent to your home (see Fr. John if you would like to donate this way).
- 3) **A Check** can be made out to the church and given in the donation basket or left in the church office.
- 4) **Having a check sent directly from your bank account to the church** (in the same way that bills can be paid on your computer through your bank).

Address the check to:

Orthodox Church of the Holy Cross  
Box 805  
Medford, NJ 08055

- 5) **Using our online app, tithe.ly** – Please note that there is a 3% processing fee - this can be added to the donation or it will be subtracted from the donation):

- 1) You can use the **QR Code** at our website: <https://holycrossmedford.org/>



- 2) Go to: [https://tithe.ly/give\\_new/www/#/tithely/give-one-time/1197928](https://tithe.ly/give_new/www/#/tithely/give-one-time/1197928)

- 3) TEXT the word, **“Give” to: 1-833-854-9049**

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### **SHOP RITE COUPONS**

**Cards are available in denominations of \$100, \$50, \$25, and \$20.**

Shop-Rite sells the cards in bulk to us at a 5% discount. The gift cards are available from **Larry Skvir** every Sunday at coffee hour. If you regularly shop at Shop-Rite and don't use the gift cards, please consider purchasing them in 2026.