

# CROSSROADS

***The Sunday of All Saints:  
The Saints and Us***

**by St. John of Kronstadt**

You do not understand how the saints in Heaven can hear us when we pray to them. But how do the rays of the sun bend down from Heaven to us, lighting everything throughout the earth? The saints in the spiritual world are like the rays of the sun in the material world. God is the eternal, life-giving Sun, and the saints are the rays of this wise Sun. As the eyes of the Lord are constantly looking upon the earth and upon terrestrial beings, so also the eyes of the saints cannot but turn towards the same direction as the provident gaze of the Lord of all creatures towards where their treasures (their bodies, their works, the holy places, and the persons devoted to them) are to be found.

You know how quickly, how far, and how clearly the heart can see (especially the objects of the spiritual world); the heart is the eye of the human being. The purer it is, the quicker, farther, and clearer it can see. But with God's saints this spiritual eye is refined, even during their lifetime, to the highest degree of purity possible for humans, and after their death, when they have become united to God, through God's grace it becomes still clearer and wider in the limits of its vision. Therefore the saints see very clearly, widely, and far: they see our spiritual wants; they see and hear all those who call upon them with their whole hearts – that is, those whose mental eyes are fixed straight upon them. In other words, when the eyes of the heart of those who pray, so to say, meet the eyes of those they call upon – this is a mysterious vision.

**Church Dome Project:**  
Iconography – \$50,000.00

Dmitri Shkolnik (Iconographer)

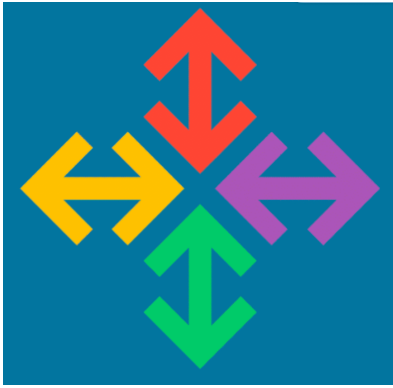
Here are Dmitri's sketches of the five sections within the dome. The areas around the windows will include two of the four evangelists (Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John) and three Prophets.

Each section is similar in size and has a "value" of \$10,000.00. We welcome donations towards any of the sections and they can be donated in memory of individuals or families.

The iconographic work will be prepared on canvases and Dmitri hopes to complete and install them by the end of the year.

However, this will require additional expenses: travel and housing for him and any staff, and the installation of scaffolding. See Fr. John for more information.





**Crossroads Programs Update:**  
***Wish List - Collection Through June***

Young people face many challenges growing up no matter their circumstances. Kids may have two parent households, loving families, great friends, yet still things can go awry. Perhaps they have behavioral issues. Perhaps they have an unexpected pregnancy while still a teenager. A once bright future may now look dim.

Then there are kids who may have never had any of those things and may have been in the child welfare system most of their still young lives. They have only experienced instability long periods of out-of-home placement during childhood and adolescence. The experiences of these youth place them at a higher risk for unemployment, poor educational outcomes, health issues, early parenthood, long-term dependency on public assistance, increased rates of incarceration, and homelessness.

And that's where Crossroads Programs step in, with just one more way they are there to help children who need it. Flexible Solutions provides emotionally disturbed youth, in the child welfare system, immediate placement into short-term residential care, in an emergency situation. With the help of trained caregivers in the community, the program provides family-based residential care that is individualized to the youth's specific needs. Flexible Solutions provides temporary community-based homes to youth with emotional and behavioral challenges, 5- to 21-years-old, who are in the child welfare system and need short-term placement out of their current environment. The specialized foster care settings with "host families" offer daily care and supervision, along with management services and access to medical care and other needed services. The goal is to provide the youth a safe home environment, helping to stabilize the youth's behaviors and their ability to live in a family setting.

We will continue to collect clothing and bedding throughout June. All clothing must be new. Most needed items include sweatshirts and sweatpants, T-shirts – white or colored, underwear (the boys prefer knitted boxers), sleepwear, boys and girls and men's and women's clothing, sizes toddler (2-5) children's (6-18), young adult (S, M, L, XL, XXL, 3X).

New sheet sets are desirable for 52 twins, 4 full size and 5 cribs. However, new or gently used and laundered sheet sets, comforters, pillows, mattress protectors and blankets are also appreciated.

Bins for collection have been placed in the vestibule.

Crossroads Programs is always looking for volunteers. Please see contact information below:

Crossroads Programs  
610 Beverly-Rancocas Rd.  
Willingboro, NJ 08046

As we begin to enter the summer months with vacations and time away from church, we are grateful to everyone who is able to maintain their regular financial commitments to 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 to the left:**
- 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 GIFT CARDS**

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

If you're doing your grocery shopping at Shop Rite, please consider purchasing a Gift card from Holy Cross. We receive a 5% discount for cards we purchase in bulk, which benefits the parish.

Please see **Larry Skvir** on Sundays after liturgy if you're interested.  
You can purchase the cards by check or cash.



***“God’s Amazing Earth:”  
Our Church School Collaboration in Celebration of Creation***



Students of the teen and older group invite everyone to please view the painting display in the vestibule and/or Social Hall. The class was guided in creating a work on “What reminds me of God as our Creator.” This resulted in a varied collection of individual drawings and paintings, which were then constructed into a collage.

The class read and discussed writings from two books about the supreme and supernatural design of our planet. Students discussed, “are we just a part of a cosmic fluke, or are we ingeniously designed not just for this life, but for eternal discovery.”

The painting was then reproduced into a fun poster.

Posters are on sale and sales benefit the Icon project inside the Church.

Please see Sunday school teachers – Michelle or Julia, or someone from Saint Helena’s Guild to buy a poster at \$30 for large and \$20 for small.

Checks are payable to:

**St. Helena’s Guild**



***"What will we do with all these new people?!"***

## **2025 PARISH COUNCIL CONFERENCE**

for the **New** Jersey Deanery (South):

***WELCOMING VISITORS,  
INQUIRERS AND CATECHUMENS  
INTO YOUR PARISH FAMILY***

**Saturday, June 28, 2025, 10 am to 3 pm**

**at THE CHURCH OF THE ANNUNCIATION**

**360 Van Zile Road, Brick, NJ 08724** 

Registration Opens 9:30 AM; Lunch Included

***Conference Leader: Jan Van Duyn,  
Treasurer, Diocese of New York and New Jersey***

**Come learn and discuss ways to help newcomers understand:**

- **Why the Church Building Looks Like It Does**
  - **The Parts of the Liturgy and What They Mean**
  - **Basic Orthodox Teaching on the Bible, and Differences from Protestant Teaching**
  - **How Physical Things, and Our Bodies, Are Used in Orthodox Worship**
  - **The Role of the Theotokos and the Saints in Our Faith**
  - **Orthodoxy As A Way Of Life – In Prayer And Worship**
  - **Being At Home in Church ... And Making Your Home A Little Church**
  - **When to Refer Your Questions To Your Priest**
- And More...**

This annual conference is intended for any and all members of our diocesan parishes, especially those who are serving on parish councils. Speak with your parish priest about attending, and RSVP to New Jersey Dean, Fr. Gary Breton, at (848) 333-7055 or [gjbretton@gmail.com](mailto:gjbretton@gmail.com).

## St Andrew's Camp

<https://saintandrewscamp.org/>

### 2025 SAINT ANDREWS CAMP DATES.

Week 1	June 30 – July 4	Family Week	<a href="#">More info</a>
Week 2	July 5– 12	Adventure Week	<a href="#">More info</a>
Week 3	July 13 – 19	Horse Week (ages 7 – 13)	<a href="#">More info</a>
Week 4	July 20– 26	Sports Week	<a href="#">More Info</a>
Week 5	July 27 – August 2	Arts Fusion Week	<a href="#">More Info</a>
Week 6	August 3 – August 9	Teen Week (ages 13-17)	<a href="#">More Info</a>

## St. Tikhon's Camp

<https://accounts.doepa.org/summercamp>



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ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA

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# ST. TIKHON'S SUMMER CAMP REGISTRATION

## WAITING LIST REGISTRATION OPENED



### Summer Camp: June 29 - July 5, 2025

Saint Tikhon's Summer Camp is a one-week sleep-away or day camp program for Orthodox Christian children between the ages of 7 and 17.

Day Camper: **\$275.00** QTY  ▾ [Add to cart](#)

Day Camper: Applying for Diocesan Waiver: **\$0.00** QTY  ▾ [Add to cart](#)

Overnight Camper: **\$375.00** QTY  ▾ [Add to cart](#)

Overnight Camper: Applying for Diocesan Waiver: **\$0.00** QTY  ▾ [Add to cart](#)

# **“Hanging Together”**

**The Society of New Jersey Artists Annual Members’ Exhibition**

**May 5 - June 27**

**at the Perkins Center for the Arts**

**395 Kings Hwy**

**Moorestown, NJ**

**Artists’ Reception**

**Saturday, May 17**

**5:00-8:00**

**The work of Maureen Sapnar is included in this Exhibition**



**Society of New Jersey Artists**



## Cemetery Plots at Park View Cemetery



Dear Parishioners,

Holy Cross is offering 15 graves for sale at Park View Cemetery at Kirby's Mill in Medford.

- ❖ \$600 per grave, with a limited purchase of two. Each grave allows for one interment right.
- ❖ A second interment right can be acquired within the same grave from Park View directly at a cost determined by Park View and their price list at the time of acquisition.
- ❖ Interment fees – opening and closing at the time of burial – are not included in the purchase and will be the responsibility of the grave buyer.

Please speak with Father John or send an email to [mwash5760@icloud.com](mailto:mwash5760@icloud.com).

Please note that your interest in this opportunity must be confirmed with the submission of your \$600 check.