

CROSSROADS

Sunday's Scriptures

Epistle:

I Corinthians 3:9-17

Gospel:

Matthew 14:22-34

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- **The Mother of Life Collection** of \$25.00
Walmart Gift Cards for the **Helpers of God's Precious Infants** continues through August.
- Saturday, August 16,
Great Vespers

The Dormition of the Theotokos

Vesperal Liturgy on Thursday, August 14 at 7 PM



In giving birth you preserved your virginity.
In falling asleep you did not forsake the world, O Theotokos.
You were translated to life O Mother of Life, // and by your
prayers you deliver our souls from death.

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[from Vespers)

O the marvelous wonder!
The source of Life is laid in a grave,
and the tomb becomes a ladder to heaven.
Rejoice, Gethsemane, holy shrine of the Theotokos!
Let us, the faithful, cry out with Gabriel as our captain:
“Rejoice, O full of grace, the Lord is with you, //
He that grants the world great mercy through you!”

Severe Meat Shortages



There is a continuing problem of meat shortages in our area. ***The Food Bank of South Jersey*** was completely out of meat in April, received only 2 lbs. of chicken in May, and only 10 lbs. of chicken in June.

The local organization that we support, ***The Community Luncheon*** in Mt. Holly, has been giving out lunchmeat at their weekly free lunches to those in need and has no real meat products. But because of your generous donations to our ***Inreach/Outreach Ministry***, we just purchased and delivered \$200 of meat to them.

Thanks to all of you who use the Yellow Envelopes (available in the vestibule) to make much-needed donations to help those in need.

“God’s Amazing Earth:” Our Church School Collaboration in the 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 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 Wash or Julia Gotowchikov, 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**

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.



Some Ways to Support our Parish This Summer

As we 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
 - 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.

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.

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