# CROSSROADS

**Sunday's Scriptures:**

***Epistle:***

***Hebrews 2:2-10***

***Gospel:***

***Luke 10:16-21***

+

***Shop Rite Cards***

Thank you to everyone in the parish who continue to purchase the Shop Rite cards every week. If you already do your grocery shopping at Shop Rite, please consider purchasing a card or two. They are available from **Larry Skvir** every Sunday.

## Light In and Light Out

*"Do not fight to expel the darkness from the chamber of your soul. Open a tiny aperture for light to enter, and the darkness will disappear."*

St. Porphyrios



November 8, 2026



**BE PART OF OUR**
**2026**
**PARISH CHRISTMAS CARD!**

**Your names and donation can be left at the church office or sent to:**

**Scott Sorrentino**
**sorrentino71@gmail.com**
**(856) 430-0562**

**Deadline: December 6, 2026**

***All proceeds will given to the Community Luncheon in Mt. Holly for the purchase of additional meat products.***

**********

**Parish Christmas Card 2026 Please print clearly**

**Name(s):** _____

**Phone:** _____

**Donation:** _____

# 2026 St. Helena's Guild Holiday Bazaar ~~~Menu~~~

Orthodox Church of the Holy Cross, P. O. Box 805, 11 Wilkins Station Rd, Medford, NJ 08055

https://www.holycrossmedford.org

All orders will be for PICK UP ONLY on

***** Saturday, December 12th, 10 am-noon *****

**Payment by CASH (exact change) or CHECK payable to St Helena's Guild**

All items must be ordered in advance; prepayment is appreciated

***** Order deadline is Friday, November 27th by 8 pm *****

## Babkas

Single Flavors **$18 ea** Cheese, Chocolate, Cinnamon Loaf, Prune

Double Flavors **$19 ea** Raspberry/cheese, Chocolate/cheese, Apricot/cheese

## Pastry Rolls

**$20 ea** Nut, Poppyseed, Seedless Raspberry, Apricot, Prune

We must sell 100 Pastry Rolls to place the order.

## Pierogies

Potato & Cheddar Cheese **$12 per doz**

Sauerkraut **$12 per doz**

## Cheese Blintzes

Pack of (4) Large Cheese Blintzes **$20**

***To place your order***, Call: Ellie K. (856) 858-6035, Barbara H. (609) 217-4437, Caitlin E.(609) 531-1930 or Leigh Ann B. (609) 600-0987

OR

**Please email your name, cell number, and order to** ochcfood@gmail.com

We will confirm all orders. Thank you for supporting our fundraiser!

# 2026 St Helena's Holiday Pretzel Sale

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

https://www.holycrossmedford.org

All orders will be for PICK UP ONLY on

***** Saturday, December 12th 10 am-noon*****

Payment by CASH (exact change) or CHECK payable to St Helena's Guild
All items must be ordered in advance; prepayment is appreciated

*****Candy order deadline is Friday, November 27th by 8 pm*****

## Giambri's Belgian Chocolate Pretzels

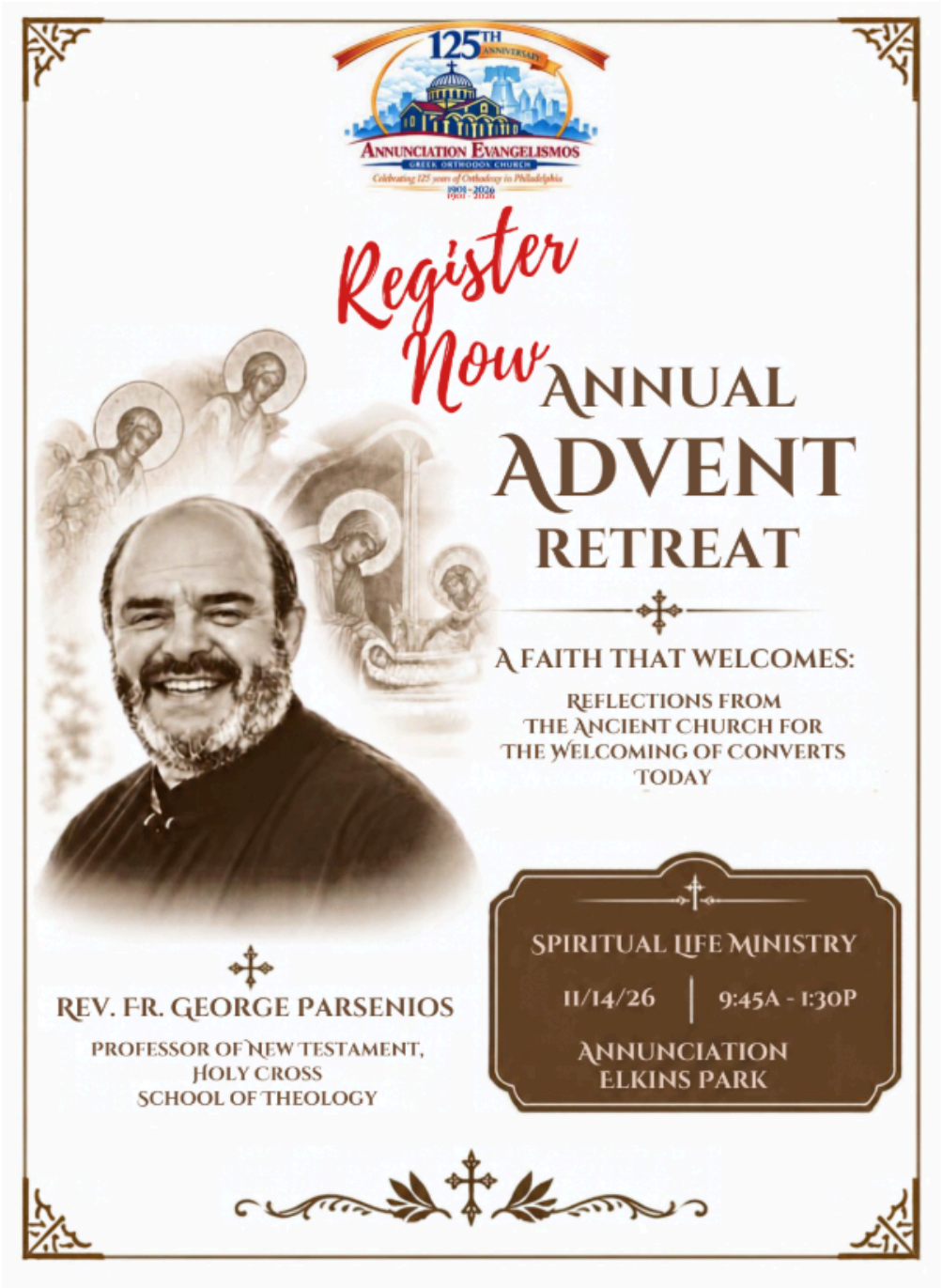
| | |
|---|---|
| **$ 19.50 ea** | Milk Chocolate, 1 lb box - FM |
| **$ 19.50 ea** | Dark Chocolate, 1 lb box - FD |
| **$ 19.50 ea** | Mixed Milk, Dark, White chocolate, 11 oz box - FA |
| **$ 19.50 ea** | Assorted Gourmet toppings, 1 lb box - FG |
| **$ 16.50 ea** | Assorted Gourmet Pretzel rods, 8 oz - FR |

To place your order, call: Ellie K. (856) 858-6035 OR Barbara H. (609) 217-4437, Caitlin E.(609) 531-1930 or Leigh Ann B. (609) 600-0987

OR

**Please email your name, cell number, and order to** ochcfood@gmail.com
We will confirm all orders. Thank you for supporting our fundraiser!

ANNUNCIATION ✻ EVANGELISMOS
GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH



# Parent Page Newsletter

*For the parents of children in the CGS Atrium*
August 2025

# Practical Life

**What is Practical Life?**
In the atrium, young children are typically first drawn to the Practical Life area, as its materials closely resemble those found in their everyday home environment. These exercises—such as pouring, folding, and table washing—offer familiar, hands-on experiences that help the child transition into the atrium while building concentration, coordination, and independence.

**What does Practical Life have to do with the child's spiritual formation?**
Practical Life activities are essential to the spiritual formation that is nurtured in the Atrium. As children engage in these simple, purposeful works —such as pouring, sweeping, or arranging flowers—they develop inner order, concentration, and a sense of peace. These qualities prepare the heart and mind to encounter God. Through repetition and care in their work, children begin to experience stillness, attentiveness, and joy in doing small things with great love—dispositions essential for prayer and contemplation. As children engage in these practical life works, they will:

- **Develop a sense of wonder and reverence:** When the child carefully arranges flowers or polishes a brass paten, it can become a meditative act, which invites contemplation and a deeper connection to God's presence in creation.

- **Encounter the joy of serving God and others:** When the child contributes to the care of the Atrium environment and participates in activities like setting the prayer table or creating a prayer card, it is an act of love and service to our Lord.

- **Build the foundation for prayer and contemplation:** When the child engages in a practical life activity, the concentration and focus developed help prepare the child for periods of silent reflection and listening to God's Word.

- **Make Silence:** Silence is important as a necessary means of listening to and responding to God. This is the greatest help to the child in becoming aware of and mastering his or her own actions. The experience of silence heightens the child's awareness of self, others, and the environment. Silence fosters a state of inner peace and thus, also a greater capacity for listening to God.



© The United States Association of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd, Inc. All Rights Reserved 



# Parent Pages

## Preparing the environment of the Domestic Church*

* The term "Domestic Church" refers to the family, the smallest body of gathered believers in Christ. Though recovered only recently, the term dates back to the first century AD. The Greek word ecclesiola referred to "little church." The early Church understood that the home was fertile ground for discipleship, sanctification, and holiness.

# Words of Thanksgiving from the Holy Bible

This month we hear and give voice to the following words "thanksgiving", "blessing", and "gratitude". We pause within our day, and in our prayer, to reflect upon how God has blessed us, and the lives of our children.

We find words of thanksgiving woven throughout the Holy Bible. It is good to remind our children as we gather at the family prayer table or when we pray before or after a meal, that we hear beautiful words in the Bible about our relationship with God.

This month we invite you to simply choose one of the scripture passages below and share it as a family. Perhaps this will become part of your prayer ritual for the month of November.

- Light a candle.
- Slowly and solemnly read the words from the Bible.
- Allow for a moment of silence.
- Ask the children, 'What did you hear?'

*Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise.*
*Give thanks to him, bless his name.*
- **Psalm 100:4**

*Do not worry about anything,*
*but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving*
*let your requests be made known to God.*
- **Philippians 4:6**

*I thank my God every time I remember you,*
- **Philippians 1:3**

*I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart;*
*I will tell of all your wonderful deeds.*
- **Psalm 9:1**

© The United States Association of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd, Inc. 2023 1




**CATECHESIS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD**
**REGISTRATION FORM 2026-2027**
Level 1 Atrium, 3-6 & Level 2 Atrium, 6-9

Child's Name: _____

Birth Date: _____

Age: _____

Parent's Name: _____

Parent's Name: _____

**Contact Information:**

Phone Number: _____

Email: _____

Email: _____

Address: _____

_____

Is your child potty-trained?

Comments:_____

Can your child read?

Comments:_____

Additional notes or information we should know:_____

_____

Please contact Phyllis with any questions or concerns at phyllis.pritchard@gmail.com or 609-315-1258

# Hailey's Little *Pumpkin* is on the Way!



## Come to our shower, Sat. Nov. 21 at 2:30

Orthodox Church of the Holy Cross
11 Wilkins Station Road, Medford, N.J. 08055

**Hailey** is a friend of the Heiland family She is expecting a baby boy in December. As a young single mom, she can use all the help she can get. The following are most needed:

- **Gift cards**: Costco, Amazon, Walmart, Shop Rite, etc.
- **Baby clothes**: He will get older, so things for 9-12 mo and up would be good.
- **Rocker/glider**: It's a big item, but she could really use it.
- **Water wipes**: For the baby's bottom
- **Anything Paddington Bear**: Hailey loves Paddington and would love to share him with her little boy.
- **Behind-the-door storage shelf/bookshelf**: Their house is snug, so they will need to optimize space.



**Your prayers & spiritual bouquets are also welcome!**

RSVP to Julie or just show up: (609) 204-7367

# Thanksgiving Interfaith Service




Sponsored by the Medford Area Fellowship of Religious Leaders

## PROVIDENCE HOUSE HOLIDAY STORE IS COMING!

'Tis the season for giving, whether it be foods for our Thanksgiving food drive, gifts for our families at holiday times, or gifts for the Holiday Store sponsored by Providence House shelter in Westampton run by Catholic Charities.

**Starting Sunday, November 22,** we're going to do it again! There is much more information to come, so be sure to follow the articles in Crossroads—more information about Providence House and the shelter itself, a wish list with ideas for gifts, the collection dates, etc.

Ask any parishioner and he/she will tell you what a joy it is to shop for those less fortunate – particularly the vulnerable moms and the young children who have had to seek shelter in a safe place. If you should be out doing some early Christmas shopping, the shelter has asked us to focus on teens, smaller children, and of course, the moms, when buying gifts (all new and unwrapped please).

Our Inreach/Outreach Ministry truly appreciates your generosity!



# BEAUTIFUL Cemetery Plots




Dear Parishioners,

Holy Cross is offering 12 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 see Michelle 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.

## *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

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

**+**

**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 already use the gift cards, please consider purchasing them in 2026.