

# Orthodox Church of the Holy Cross

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[www.holycrossmedford.org](http://www.holycrossmedford.org)

14<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, September 18, 2022

## At a Glance

St. John the  
Forerunner-p2

Coffee Hour  
Volunteers  
Needed-p1

### Coffee Hour

September 18 Mary Stosuy  
September 25 Trudy Ellmore

*We need helpers for October. Please see  
Marie Clifton to sign up!*

### CROP Hunger Walk

With four (4) weeks to go before the CROP Hunger Walk, our parish has three (3) Walkers signed up. Please see Diana Bisinger in for more details and to sign up to be a Walker or to sponsor a Walker today.

Thank you to our corporate sponsors!

- WaWa – Medford
- Sunflour Bake Shop – Medford
- Taunton Forge Liquors
- Ramblewood Country Club
- Mosquito Hunters of Cherry Hill-Riverton-Mt. Laurel
- Murphy's Fresh Markets

Hunger is one of the greatest injustices facing our world, but it doesn't have to be this way. Ending hunger is possible in our lifetime. You can help make it happen.

The Crop Hunger Walk raises funds for hunger programs in our area and around

## Liturgical and Events Schedule

### Sunday, September 18

10:00 AM: Divine Liturgy followed by  
Coffee Hour & Inreach/Outreach  
Meeting

### Tuesday, September 20

7:30 PM: Choir Rehearsal

### Thursday, September 22

7:00 PM: Parish Council Meeting by  
Zoom

### Saturday, September 24

4:30 PM: Parastas for G. Kwascha  
5:00 PM: Great Vespers

the world. A quarter of the funds raised support the work of the Food Bank of South Jersey, which assist members of our community who are in need. This year, in addition to other needy areas around the globe, Church World Service (CWS) is delivering emergency food rations to 150,000 Kenyans, where drought conditions are contributing to deaths. And, in Ukraine, where 460,000 refugees, mostly women, children, and older people, have now fled to Moldova, CWS is setting up food banks, safe places, refugee assistance centers, and distribution centers that provide hot food and hygiene supplies. In addition, CWS is setting up portable classroom pods so that students can continue with their studies. Hopefully, that will help those young people focus on something other than the horrific situation their country is in.

2021 we raised \$1,114 for the hungry with 16 walkers!

2022 goal is to raise \$ 1,750 with 25 walkers,  
Can we count on your support to achieve that goal?  
It's easy!

Put your check (payable to "Crop Walk") in the  
basket in the vestibule. You can also register for our  
CROP Hunger Walk or donate at  
[www.crophungerwalk.org](http://www.crophungerwalk.org) and search for Orthodox  
church of the Holy Cross Medford NJ.

Help take us one step closer to ending hunger once  
and for all.

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**Glorious Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist John**  
*Commemorated on September 23*

The Conception of the Venerable Prophet,  
Forerunner and Baptist of the Lord, John: The holy  
Prophet Malachi prophesied that before the  
Messiah's birth His Forerunner would appear, and  
would indicate His coming. The Jews therefore in  
awaiting the Messiah also awaited the appearance of  
His Forerunner.

In a city of the hills of Judea in the land of Palestine  
lived the righteous priest Saint Zachariah and his  
wife Saint Elizabeth, zealously observing the  
commandments of the Lord. The couple, however,  
had a misfortune: they remained childless in their old  
age, and they prayed unceasingly to God to grant  
them a child.

Once, when Saint Zachariah took his turn as priest at  
the Temple of Jerusalem, he went into the Sanctuary  
to offer incense. Going behind the veil of the  
Sanctuary, he beheld an angel of God standing at the  
right side of the altar of incense.

Saint Zachariah was astonished and halted in fear,  
but the angel said to him, "Fear not, Zachariah, for  
your prayer is heard; and your wife Elizabeth will  
bear you a son, and you shall call his name John."  
But Zachariah did not believe the words of the

heavenly messenger, and then the angel said to him,  
"I am Gabriel, who stand in the presence of God; and  
I was sent to speak to you, and to bring you the good  
news. Behold, you will be silent and unable to speak  
until the day that these things come to pass, because  
you did not believe my words...."

Meanwhile, the people were waiting for Zachariah  
and they were astonished that he had not come out  
from the Sanctuary after so long a time. And when he  
did come out, he was supposed to pronounce a  
blessing upon the people, but could not do so because  
he had been struck speechless. When Zachariah  
explained by gestures that he was unable to speak,  
the people then understood that he had experienced a  
vision. The prophecy of the Archangel was fulfilled,  
and Righteous Elizabeth was delivered from her  
barrenness, and gave birth to John, the Forerunner  
and Baptist of the Lord.

Troparion — Tone 4

(Podoben: "Be quick to anticipate")

Be glad, O barren one who has not given birth until  
now, / for behold, you have conceived the lamp of  
the Sun, / and He shall enlighten all the earth,  
which is afflicted with blindness. / Dance, O  
Zachariah, and cry out with boldness: / The Prophet  
of the Most High is about to be born.

Kontakion — Tone 1

(Podoben: "The  
angelic choir...")

The great and  
renowned Zachariah  
rejoices radiantly, /  
and exults with his  
wife Elizabeth; / for  
worthily does she  
conceive John the  
Baptist, / whom the Archangel announced joyously,  
/ and men honor as an initiate of grace.

