



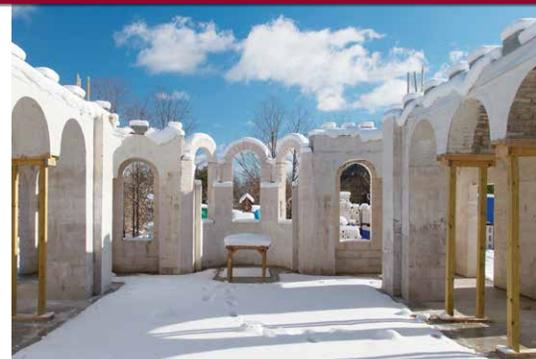
# Holy Ascension Monastery...Reaching Heavenwards



*A series of arches and barrel vaults*



*Fathers joyfully working unto the Lord*



*Completed first floor of Hagia Sophia*

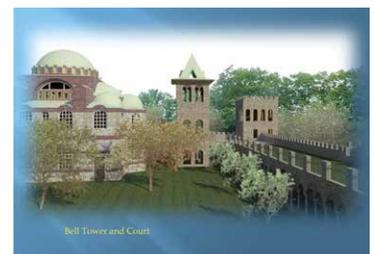
High in New York's Catskill Mountains, a beacon of Orthodoxy is being built.

A letter from Metropolitan Demetrius

Throughout the history of the Orthodox Church, vibrant monasteries have been key to the spiritual health of Christians. Keeping that in mind, we at Holy Ascension Monastery are striving to live monasticism in the tradition of the ancient Fathers. Part of that vision is building a traditional Byzantine church and monastery complex. At its center is a unique 1/5<sup>th</sup> scale replica of Constantinople's Hagia Sophia – the greatest church that ever was.

During my recent travels across the Metropolis, I have seen a lot of enthusiasm for the building of our new church and abbey. And this could not come at a better time. We are at a crossroads where your support is critical.

*Read more on reverse...*



## YES, I want to contribute

\_\_\_\_\_  
First Name                      Last Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
City                      State                      Zip

\_\_\_\_\_  
Email address                      Telephone

- **Bricks and Arches**  
YES, I will purchase \_\_\_\_ bricks or \_\_\_\_ arches.
- **Marble Columns**  
YES, I will purchase \_\_\_\_ columns.
- **Monk's Cells**  
YES, I will purchase \_\_\_\_ monk's cells.
- **New Septic System**  
YES, I will to donate \_\_\_\_ towards the new septic system.
- **Monthly Contributions**  
YES, I will donate \_\_\_\_ every month.



Please mail form and checks payable to Holy Ascension Monastery to:  
Holy Ascension Monastery, 521 Cold Brook Road, Bearsville, NY 12409

*For more information and prices see reverse. Donations of any size are very appreciated and every benefactor will be prayed for. Have questions? Call (845) 679-0600.*

## Monastery at a Crossroads

Our Church, the Genuine Orthodox Church of America (GOC), has seen tremendous growth over the past two years. Parishes, monasteries, clergy and faithful have been united in a bond of love and fellowship. At the epicenter of this growth—both physically and spiritually—is the Holy Ascension Monastery.

With great joy I can say that we are bursting at the seams. I am proud of the fathers who are living in an environment designed for less than half their number and squeezing into a small chapel multiple times a day for services. But we can't continue like this much longer.

The Town of Woodstock has come to this conclusion as well. They will not allow us to continue building our church or any monastery buildings until we have put in a new septic system to accommodate so many people. We are at an exciting time, but we need your support.

## Help us become an example of true monasticism for all of North America

According to monastic tradition monks support themselves by the work of their hands. But to be self-supporting, we need to create a proper environment for living, working, and worshiping. All the great monasteries on Mount Athos and in the Orthodox homelands were built and endowed by lay benefactors. That is why we are appealing to you. We need your help to erect the basic structure of the monastery: church, cells, and workshops.

## Here Are Ways You Can Help Us

### ■ Bricks and Arches

*Purchase bricks for Hagia Sophia - \$10 each*

*Purchase arches for Hagia Sophia - \$500 each*

### ■ Marble Columns for Hagia Sophia - \$5,000 per column

*A plaque with donor name will be placed on the purchased column*

### ■ Monk's Cell - \$10,000 each

*Your name will be inscribed in the cell and commemorated perpetually by the monk who occupies it.*

### ■ New Septic System - estimated to cost \$30,000

*We must have this done before we can continue construction.*

### ■ Monthly Contributions

*Donations provided on a monthly basis.*

*All donors that contribute \$5,000 or more will have their names displayed on a plaque if they wish. Everyone will be prayed for.*

Again we pray for the founders,  
donors, and benefactors of  
this sacred monastery.  
Lord have mercy, Lord have  
mercy, Lord have mercy.



With your prayers and support, we will be able to continue construction and Holy Ascension Monastery will become an inspiration to souls thirsting for God—as well as a testament to the faith and sacrifice of Orthodox Christians. We call upon all the faithful to help us in this blessed undertaking, and we invoke God's blessings upon you!

Your Fervent Suppliant before the Lord,

*†Demetrius of America*

†Demetrius, Metropolitan of America

P.S. Don't forget to fill out the form and remember us. To learn more, visit [AscensionMonastery.org](http://AscensionMonastery.org).