

Dear Friends and Members,

The icon, "Virgin of Vladimir" has not been displayed for at least six months 2022 through March, 2023. The original frame came apart one day and sent the whole print, frame, and glass crashing to the floor. When trying to replace the frame we discovered the print is an unusual size. The framed print of this icon was a gift to Ray Of Hope Church by the monks of the Monastery of the Holy Spirit in Conyers, GA. The artwork has been displayed from the first day it was received at Ray Of Hope Church.

Continued on the Icon of the Virgin of Vladimir:

We painted a frame with the black and gold style often seen with framed Icons of the Eastern Orthodox Church. In this photograph taken on 3/29/23 we see it is once again above the altar / credence table dedicated to Mary the Mother of God Incarnate, here at Ray Of Hope Church. To the right of the Icon of the Vladimir Mother of God is another Icon of Marianne Cope, OSF of Syracuse, NY and above the grille are the black framed pictures of our Elmira Chapel Foundresses.

The following is a direct quote from Daniel C. Waugh on the website Simeon Ushakov's Icon of the "Tree of the Muscovite State" He writes: "the famous "Icon of the Vladimir Mother of God"(shown on right), a twelfth-century Byzantine painting which, according to tradition, had been brought to Vladimir by Andrei Bogoliubskii. Tradition further had it that when Moscow was threatened by Tamerlane's armies in 1395, the icon was brought to the city from Vladimir and thus Moscow was spared destruction. The icon thus came to be considered the most important of the miracle-working icons associated with Moscow and eventually was moved permanently to the Cathedral of the Dormition in the Moscow Kremlin. Its significance was the equivalent to that of the icon of the "Virgin of the Sign" in Novgorod, which was considered to have defended Novgorod against the army of Bogoliubskii in 1169. Countless copies of the icon of the

Vladimir Mother of God circulated in Muscovy." (source: <http://faculty.washington.edu/dwaugh/rus/art/tree.html>)

There is also more information on Wikipedia: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Virgin_of_Vladimir.





