

# The Big Picture

## Gold Beacon Touches Generations

In October, the Holy Virgin Protection Russian Orthodox Church in Nyack, New York, reinstalled two gleaming cupolas after a five-month restoration project that involved nearly 270 square feet of gold leaf. The gold-domed church was built in the late 1950s and the cupolas were last gilded in 1976.

Church council member John Paschenko, who led the project, had a special connection to the cupolas: His relative helped build them in the 1950s, and his grandmother applied gold leaf during the last restoration.

After restoring the damaged areas of the cupolas, volunteers applied squares of patent leaf and ribbon leaf. The gold leaf used was 23 ¾ karat Rosenoble gold leaf.

“A properly applied high-karat, heavy gold leaf has the potential to last for decades outdoors,” says Jennifer Longworth of Sepp Leaf Products Inc., which supplied the materials.

With a high-quality product and the dedication of several parishioners, the gleaming cupolas on the Hudson River will be around for generations to come. ◀