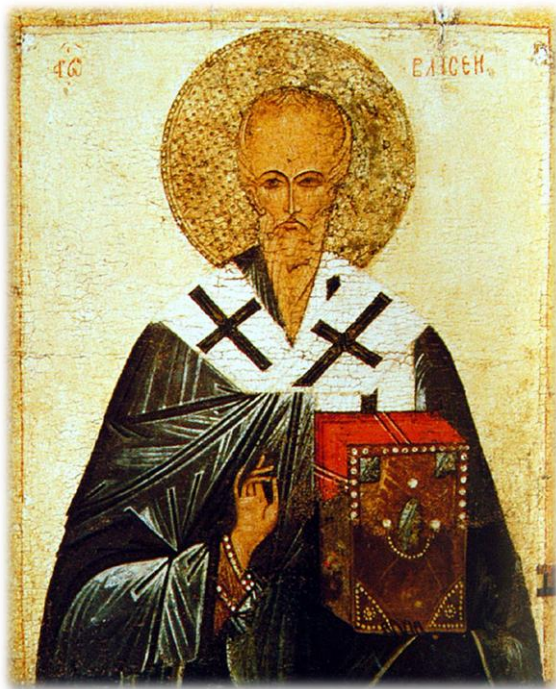


Orthodox Church in America + Diocese of Eastern Pennsylvania

Elevation of the Holy Cross Orthodox Church Williamsport, PA.



Hieromartyr Blaise
Bishop of Sebaste

February 11th, 2024

Elevation of the Holy Cross Orthodox Church

1725 Holy Cross Ln
Williamsport, Pennsylvania 17701-2749
www.holycrosswilliamsport.org

Rev. Fr. Seraphim Reynolds, Rector/Pastor
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Today's Scripture Readings:

Epistle: 1 Timothy 1:15-17

Gospel: St. Matthew 15:21-28

A warm welcome to EVERYONE this morning!!

UPCOMING SERVICES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

- + Church **closed** for prayer/Confession – Tuesday Feb 13th.
- + *Compline/Bible Study* – Wednesday February 14th at 5:30pm
- + Church **open** for prayer/Confession – Thursday Feb 15th - 7 to 9:30am
- + *Parish Council Meeting* – Thursday Feb 15th at 5:30pm
- + *Free Community Luncheon* – Saturday Feb 17th – 10 till Noon
- + *Great Vespers* – Saturday February 17th at 5pm
- + *Hours, Divine Liturgy* – Sunday February 18th at 9:40am – *Fellowship following in the Hall.*
- + *Confessions on Saturdays before Vespers or by appointment.*
- + Benevolence Fund for February: - *Community Luncheon*
- + House Blessings are now happening! Please contact Fr. Seraphim to set up a day and time. 😊

OUR GIVING – FEBRUARY 4TH, 2024

Tithes/Offerings - \$4,710.00 / Online Giving - \$250.00

Candle Offerings – \$67.00 / Benevolence - \$20.00

Thank you all for your generous giving to our Parish!

Regarding Holy Communion: Only those faithful who are Orthodox Christians and have properly prepared themselves by **fasting, prayer [i.e., *Prayers Before Communion*], recent confession**, and who were *at least present for the reading of the Epistle and Gospel* should approach to receive the Holy Eucharist. *We must be at peace with everyone too.* If you have any questions, please see Fr. Seraphim. 😊

**** Please remain (quietly) for the *Prayers of Thanksgiving* after the Liturgy, before going over to the Hall for Fellowship.**

“To judge sins is the business of one who is sinless, but who is sinless except God? Whoever thinks about the multitude of his own sins in his heart never wants to make the sins of others a topic of conversation. To judge a man who has gone astray is a sign of pride, and God resists the proud. On the other hand, one who every hour prepares himself to give answer for his own sins will not quickly lift up his head to examine the mistakes of others.”

*St. Gennadius of Constantinople,
The Golden Chain, 53-55 Fertile Ground*

“These eight passions should be destroyed as follows: gluttony by self-control; unchastity by desire for God and longing for the blessings held in store; avarice by compassion for the poor; anger by goodwill and love for all men; worldly dejection by spiritual joy; listlessness by patience, perseverance and offering thanks to God; self-esteem by doing good in secret and by praying constantly with a contrite heart; and pride by not judging or despising anyone in the manner of the boastful Pharisee (cf. Luke 18 : 11–12), and by considering oneself the least of all men. When the intellect has been freed in this way from the passions we have described and been raised up to God, it will henceforth live the life of blessedness, receiving the pledge of the Holy Spirit (cf. 2 Cor. 1

: 22). And when it departs this life, dispassionate and full of true knowledge, it will stand before the light of the Holy Trinity and with the divine angels will shine in glory through all eternity.”

+ *St. John Damascene, “On the Virtues and the Vices”*

“Don’t complain, mumble, murmur or whine.

Don’t compare yourself with anyone.

Don’t seek or expect praise or pity from anyone.

We don’t judge anyone for anything.

Don’t try to convince anyone of anything.

Don’t defend or justify yourself.”

+ *Fr. Thomas Hopko*

Prayers For the Health and Salvation of those in need: Many Years!

Priestmonk Ambrose (Young), Abbot Tryphon, Mitred-Archpriest Nicholas (Harris), Mitred-Archpriest Daniel & Mat. Myra (Kovalak), Archpriest Michael (Evans), Priest Gregory (White), Pres. Eva (Koutroulelis), Pres. Rosy (Tanveer), Mat. Mary Lynn (Henry), Mat. Deborah (Belonick), Mat. Barbara (Matusiak), Mat. Daria Pelesh, Xenia Crews (child Odette), Anastasia Linnehan & Sarah Gunter (children to be born of them), Paul Beard, Evelyn Chabal, Michael Kuzmiak, Juliana Matusiak, Elias Ciaccio, Elizabeth Wadsworth, Sebastian Fillar, Isaac Bannister, Christine Perrin, Elizabeth Yonkin, Michael Lazorchak, Edward Hojnicky, Brian Gunter, Vladimir Kerkendall, Alec Litchard & those suffering from the wars in Ukraine, Russia, & the Middle East

Prayers for the Newly Departed: Memory Eternal!

Archpriest Moses Berry +1/12, Archpriest Robert Stephen Kennaugh +1/12, Deacon Horia Roscanu +1/19, Deacon Joseph Rabickow, Jr +1/22, Matushka Rosemary Mariamna Soot +1/16, Mother Elizabeth Lutz +1/6, & Those who have lost their lives in the wars in Ukraine, Russia, & Middle East