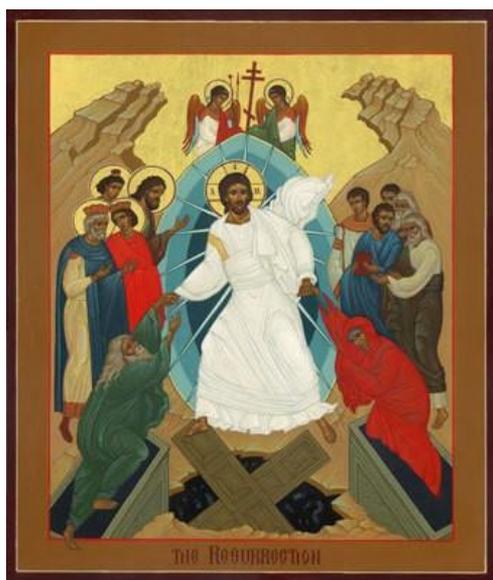


DIocese of Eastern Pennsylvania + Wilkes-Barre Diocese

**ELEVATION OF THE HOLY CROSS  
ORTHODOX CHURCH  
WILLIAMSPORT, PA.**



**PASCCHA**

**CHRIST IS RISEN!**

**INDEED HE IS RISEN!**

**APRIL 28<sup>TH</sup>, 2019**

**ELEVATION OF THE HOLY CROSS  
ORTHODOX CHURCH**

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Williamsport, Pennsylvania 17701-2749

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***Today's Scripture Readings:***

*Epistle: Acts 1:1-8*

*Gospel: St. John 1:1-17*

*Welcome to EVERYONE! Please join us over in the Parish Hall after the Liturgy for some Paschal Feasting & fellowship!*

***Christ Is Risen! Indeed He Is Risen!  
Christos Anesti! Alithos Anesti!  
Christos Voskrese! Voistinu Voskrese!***

**Services, Events & Announcements**

**BRIGHT WEEK**

**\*\*Bright Monday – Divine Liturgy @ 10am**

**\*\*Paschal Vespers – Wednesday @ 6pm**

**\*\*Panikhida for Michael Stefanick at Spitler Funeral Home,  
Montoursville, PA. Monday @ 7pm (viewing @ 6)**

**\*\*Funeral Service – Bright Tuesday @ 10am**

**Memory Eternal!**

**LAST SUNDAY – Apr 21**

Attendance 97 - Regular Offering - \$1435.00  
Candles - \$149.00 / Monthly Special - \$25.00  
Memorial - \$697.00 / Auxiliary Gift - \$3000.00

**NEXT SUNDAY – May 5th**

Reading of the Epistle – Jason F.

**Fellowship Hour**

May 5<sup>th</sup> – Lamprino / Armstrong

May 12<sup>th</sup> – Lenora & Friends

May 19<sup>th</sup> – Alexander / Palhamus

**Pierogi Preparation Week – This Weds - Fri**

Help with clean-up after our meals together is greatly appreciated, so please, let's ALL help each other! ☺

*A Word from Your Pastor . . .*

**CHRIST IS RISEN! INDEED HE IS RISEN! THANK YOU to everyone who helped with all our preparations for PASCHA! As they say, “Many hands make light work.” The Services have been beautiful, and the Church looks simply gorgeous! THANK YOU EVERYONE!**

**May we all have a Blessed Paschal Season!!**

*With Love and God's Blessing,*

*✠ Fr. Seraphim*

***The Paschal Sermon of St. John Chrysostom***

If any man be devout and love God, let him enjoy this fair and radiant triumphal feast. If any man be a wise servant, let him rejoicing enter into the joy of his Lord. If any have labored long in fasting, let him now receive his recompense. If any have wrought from the first hour, let him today receive his just reward. If any have come at the third hour, let him with thankfulness keep the feast. If any have arrived at the sixth hour, let him have no misgivings; because he shall in nowise be deprived thereof. If any

have delayed until the ninth hour, let him draw near, fearing nothing. If any have tarried even until the eleventh hour, let him, also, be not alarmed at his tardiness; for the Lord, who is jealous of his honor, will accept the last even as the first; he gives rest unto him who comes at the eleventh hour, even as unto him who has wrought from the first hour.

And he shows mercy upon the last, and cares for the first; and to the one he gives, and upon the other he bestows gifts. And he both accepts the deeds, and welcomes the intention, and honors the acts and praises the offering. Wherefore, enter you all into the joy of your Lord; and receive your reward, both the first, and likewise the second. You rich and poor together, hold high festival. You sober and you heedless, honor the day. Rejoice today, both you who have fasted and you who have disregarded the fast. The table is full-laden; feast ye all sumptuously. The calf is fatted; let no one go hungry away.

Enjoy ye all the feast of faith: Receive ye all the riches of loving-kindness. let no one bewail his poverty, for the universal kingdom has been revealed. Let no one weep for his iniquities, for pardon has shown forth from the grave. Let no one fear death, for the Savior's death has set us free. He that was held prisoner of it has annihilated it. By descending into Hell, He made Hell captive. He embittered it when it tasted of His flesh. And Isaiah, foretelling this, did cry: Hell, said he, was embittered, when it encountered Thee in the lower regions. It was embittered, for it was abolished. It was embittered, for it was mocked. It was embittered, for it was slain. It was embittered, for it was overthrown. It was embittered, for it was fettered in chains. It took a body, and met God face to face. It took earth and encountered Heaven. It took that which was seen and fell upon the unseen.

O Death, where is your sting? O Hell, where is your victory? Christ is risen, and you are overthrown. Christ is risen, and the demons are fallen. Christ is risen, and the angels rejoice. Christ is risen, and life reigns. Christ is risen, and not one dead remains in the grave. For Christ, being risen from the dead, is become the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep. To Him be glory and dominion unto ages of ages. Amen. +