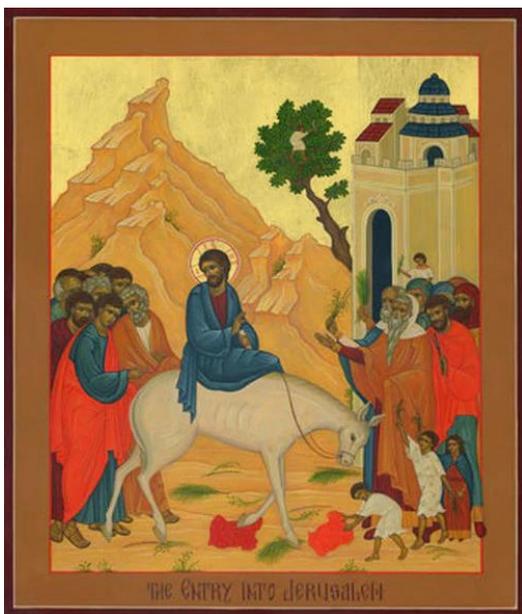


Diocese of Eastern Pennsylvania + Wilkes-Barre Deanery

Elevation of the Holy Cross Orthodox Church Williamsport, PA.



Palm Sunday

Lord's Entry into Jerusalem

April 25th, 2021

Elevation of the Holy Cross Orthodox Church

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

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

Epistle: Philippians 4:4-9

Gospel: St. John 12:1-18

A warm welcome to everyone, and especially to our visitors and guests this morning! Please join us for some fellowship after in the Parish Hall!

Services, Events & Announcements

Bridegroom Matins – Sunday, Apr 25th @ 5:30pm

Bridegroom Matins – Monday, Apr 26th @ 5:30pm

Bridegroom Matins – Tuesday, Apr 27th @ 5:30pm

Holy Unction – Wednesday, Apr 28th @ 5:30pm

Vesperal Liturgy – Thursday, Apr 29th @ 9am

Matins w/Passion Gospels – Thursday, Apr 29th @ 5:30pm

Burial Vespers – Friday, Apr 30th @ 3pm

Matins w/Lamentations – Friday, Apr 30th @ 6pm

For a complete list of services for Holy Week and PASCHA, please see the Parish website.

Our Giving – April 18th, 2021

Tithes/Offerings - \$1,143.00

Candle Offerings – \$83.25

Love Offerings - \$25.00 / Memorial Gifts - \$550.00

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 should all be at peace with each other too.* If you have any questions about Communion, please see Fr. Seraphim. 😊

Casting Aside Despondency

When despondency seizes us, let us not give in to it

As a priestmonk I am often troubled by the knowledge that I am a poor example to others, and that I fall short, daily, of living out the image of Christ in me. Yet I am compelled to live out every day with joyfulness of heart, no matter what. I am also compelled to preach, teach, and write of the things of the Lord, and to try to trust God, no matter what. I try, as best I can, to remember the words, “Rejoice in the Lord always: and again I say, Rejoice (Philippians 4:4)”.

The renowned 19th century Russian saint, Seraphim of Sarov (1759-1833), said of himself, “I don’t know anything”. These words were remarkable coming from a hermit who was the most sought after spiritual adviser of his age, with even the Tsar seeking out his counsel. Yet Saint Seraphim recognized that he was but a funnel from which anything good that came out of him, was from God.

I try to remember the words of Saint Basil the Fool for Christ, whose holy relics reside in Saint Basil’s Cathedral in Red Square, who said, “winter is cold, but paradise is sweet”. Knowing that true validation comes only from God, I try not to be hurt when

I do not receive validation from my peers, remembering that I am called upon to give to others what I want to receive.

Like Saint Anthony the Great, I cry out to God, “where are You?”, all the while floating in a river of grace. I want to be a friend of God, yet often feel like the chick who has been pushed out of the nest by the mother eagle.

Yet I am comforted by the counsel of Saint Seraphim, who instructed his spiritual children with the words: “When despondency seizes us, let us not give in to it. Rather, fortified and protected by the light of faith, let us with great courage say to the spirit of evil: ‘What are you to us, you who are cut off from God, a fugitive from Heaven, and a slave of evil? You dare not do anything to us: Christ, the Son of God, has dominion over us and over all. Leave us, you thing of bane. We are made steadfast by the uprightness of His Cross. Serpent, we trample on your head.’”

*Love in Christ,
Abbot Tryphon
All Merciful Saviour Monastery, Vashon Island, WA.*

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), Mat. Theodora (Ressetar), Pres. Eva (Koutroulelis), Mat. Seraphima (Hunter) & Mary (Federoff) and the children to be born of them, Helen Maybo, Paul Beard, Evelyn Chabal, & Phoebe Davis

Prayers for the Newly Departed: Memory Eternal!

Mitred-Archpriest Basil Summer +3/26, Archpriest Antonio Perdomo +4/1, Archpriest George Morelli +3/17, Archpriest Vladimir Lecko +3/16, Archpriest Viktor Tseshkovsky +3/15, Archpriest Peter Pawlack +4/19, Neven Stanisic +3/22, Peter Georges +4/15, John Hranitz +4/21, Donna Kadenas +4/22