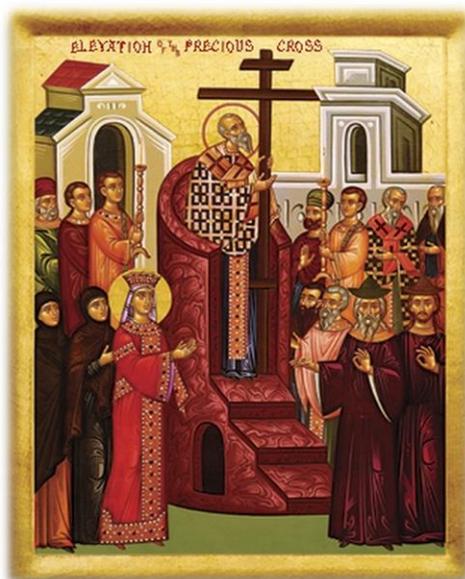


Diocese of Eastern Pennsylvania + Wilkes-Barre Deanery

Elevation of the Holy Cross Orthodox Church Williamsport, PA.



Procession of the Precious Cross

6th Sunday After Pentecost

August 1st, 2021

Elevation of the Holy Cross Orthodox Church

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Today's Scripture Readings:

Epistle: Romans 12:6-14; 1 Corinthians 1:18-24; Hebrews 11:33-12:2
Gospel: St. Matthew 9:1-8; St. John 19:6-11, 13-20, 25-28, 30-35;
St. Matthew 10:32-36; 11:1

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

Services, Events & Announcements

+ DORMITION FAST BEGINS TODAY

+ *Compline/Bible Study – Wednesday August 4th @ 5:30pm*

**+ FEAST OF THE TRANSFIGURATION – VESPERAL LITURGY
W/BLESSING OF FRUIT - THURSDAY AUGUST 5TH @ 5:30PM**

+ *Great Vespers – Saturday August 7th @ 5pm*

+ *Divine Liturgy – Sunday August 8th @ 10am (Hours @ 9:40)*
Fellowship following in the Hall.

+ Many Blessed Years this morning to the *Newly Illumined* Mary (Kelsi) Randall and Gregory (John) Larson on their Chrismations, and to Gary Larson becoming our newest Catechumen. Remember them in your prayers!

Our Giving – July 25th, 2021

Tithes/Offerings – \$1,288.00

Candle Offerings – \$83.00

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. 😊

Inspiration from the Louhs

“Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.”
Romans 12:2

So often we try to carry our burdens and manage them all on our own, forgetting that “apart from God, we can do nothing,” John 15:5. We forget that we are called to “humble ourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt us in due time, casting all our care upon Him, for He cares for us” 1 Peter 5:6-7. In the height of being upset, we forget these things. You see, upsetting circumstances overwhelm us with worry, uncertainty and feelings of helplessness. We react to our anxiety by trying to control and manage everything to the point of exhaustion. And still yet, the circumstance remains. The worries we face in the world sometimes makes us forget how much God has always been at work in our lives; the times God saw us through even the greatest of storms, the times where He brought healing in ways we could never have imagined, the times where new perspectives changed our entrenched perspectives, the times where He brought us peace in the midst of chaos, and the times where He took the wheel and

reminded us we weren't driving alone. God is our healer and in all things, we must remember to "let go and let God," work in our lives, remembering, "when we go through deep waters, He will be with us," Isaiah 43:2. And in any storm, sometimes the greatest change we must take control of, is not trying to change the storm itself, it is trying to change our perspective within the storm.

"Commit your way to the Lord. Trust in Him, and He will act." Psalm 37:5. Today, take a moment to think about all the times God has seen you through difficult times. Let not these be only memories, moments in time or coincidences. Let these moments bring about change within you. Let these experiences strengthen you, comfort you and shape a renewed perspective that you take with you into every new storm you face, as it is God who has, is and always will be with you. Our job is only to remember that He is there.

*Rev Fr Nicholas & Dr Roxanne Louh
St. John the Divine Orthodox Church, Jacksonville, FL.*

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), Pres. Eva (Koutroulelis), Mat. Seraphima (Hunter) and the child to be born of her, Helen Maybo, Paul Beard, Evelyn Chabal, Phoebe Davis, Michael Kuzmiak, Juliana Matusiak, Michael Juran & Innocent Sam

Prayers for the Newly Departed: Memory Eternal!

Preoteasa Maria Parau +7/25, Peter Petronka +6/27, Peter Mamonov +7/15, Mary Rines +7/16 & Aaron Gingo +7/28