

Diocese of Eastern Pennsylvania + Wilkes-Barre Deanery

Elevation of the Holy Cross Orthodox Church Williamsport, PA.



*Afterfeast of the Dormition
of the Most Holy Theotokos*

Apostle Thaddeus of the 70

August 21st, 2022

Elevation of the Holy Cross Orthodox Church

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

Rev. Fr. Seraphim Reynolds, Pastor
Office: 570.322.3020
(c) 717.576.3503
Email:
priestseraphim@protonmail.com

Today's Scripture Readings:

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 4:9-16
Gospel: St. Matthew 17:14-23

JOYOUS FEAST!!

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

Services, Events & Announcements

- + *Compline/Bible Study - Wednesday August 24th @ 5:30*
- + *Great Vespers – Saturday August 27th @ 5*
- + *Divine Liturgy - Sunday August 28th @ 10 (Hours @ 9:40) Fellowship following*
- + *Do you know someone who does not attend a Church? Invite them to come with you! 😊*

Our Giving – August 14th, 2022

Tithes/Offerings - \$1,312.00 / Online Giving - \$125.00
Candle Offerings – \$91.00 / Love Offerings - \$170.00 (collections through August will benefit Phoebe Davis and her children)

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. 😊

The Apostle Thaddeus of the Seventy

Saint Thaddeus, Apostle of the Seventy, was by descent a Hebrew, and he was born in the Syrian city of Edessa. The holy Apostle Thaddeus of the Seventy must be distinguished from Saint Jude, also called Thaddeus or Levi (June 19), who was one of the Twelve Apostles.

When he came to Jerusalem for a feastday, he heard the preaching of John the Forerunner. After being baptized by him in the Jordan, he remained in Palestine. He saw the Savior and became His follower. He was chosen by the Lord to be one of the Seventy Disciples, whom He sent by twos to preach in the cities and places where He intended to visit (Luke. 10: 1).

After the Ascension of the Savior to Heaven, Saint Thaddeus preached the good news in Syria and Mesopotamia. He came preaching the Gospel to Edessa and he converted King Abgar, the people and the pagan priests to Christ. He backed up his preaching with many miracles (about which Abgar wrote to the Assyrian emperor Nerses). He established priests there and built up the Edessa Church.

Prince Abgar wanted to reward Saint Thaddeus with rich gifts, but he refused and went preaching to other cities, converting many pagans to the Christian Faith. He went to the city of Beirut to preach, and he founded a church there. It was in this city that he peacefully died in the year 44. (The place of his death is indicated as Beirut in the Slavonic MENAION, but according to other sources he died in Edessa. According to an ancient Armenian tradition, Saint Thaddeus, after various tortures, was beheaded by the sword on December 21 in the Artaz region in the year 50).

(from the website oca.org)

“If we judge others, condemn others, criticize others and generally exalt ourselves, we are simply the new Pharisees. You can have perfect obedience to all the rules, and if you do not love your neighbor, they condemn you. You can fast perfectly, and if you judge and criticize your neighbor, you condemn yourself. . . . You have to live Orthodox to understand the Faith.”

Metropolitan Jonah Paffhausen

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 Moses (Berry), Pres. Eva (Koutroulelis), Pres. Rosy (Tanveer), Helen Mayo, Paul Beard, Evelyn Chabal, Phoebe Davis, Michael Kuzmiak, Juliana Matusiak, Catherine Mann, Sophia Cohen, Alfonse Ciaccio & those suffering in Ukraine

Prayers for the Newly Departed: Memory Eternal!

Archimandrite Duane Pederson +7/20, Archpriest Alexander Padlo +8/2, Monk Arseny +7/30, Matushka Patricia Bohush +8/2, Matushka Anne Hopko +8/4, & those who have lost their lives in Ukraine