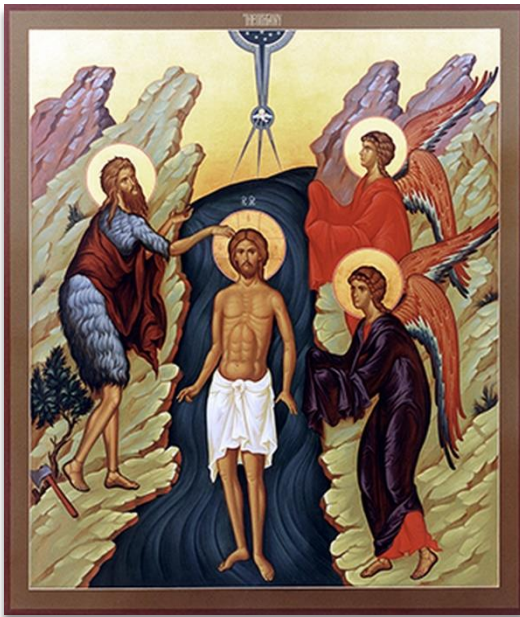


Diocese of Eastern Pennsylvania + Wilkes-Barre Deanery

# Elevation of the Holy Cross Orthodox Church Williamsport, PA.



*Sunday After Theophany*

*Martyr Polyeuktos of Melitēnē in  
Armenia*

January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2022

# Elevation of the Holy Cross Orthodox Church

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Williamsport, Pennsylvania 17701-2749  
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## ***Scripture Readings:***

*Epistle: Ephesians 4:7-13*

*Gospel: St. Matthew 4:12-17*

***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**

- + *Compline/Bible Study* - Wednesday January 12<sup>th</sup> @ 5:30pm
- + *Great Vespers* – Saturday January 15<sup>th</sup> @ 5pm
- + *Divine Liturgy* - Sunday January 16<sup>th</sup> @ 10am (Hours @ 9:40), fellowship following in the Hall.
- + House Blessings are now going on! Want to have your home blessed? See Fr Seraphim to setup a day!!
- + Next Saturday January 15<sup>th</sup> @ 10am, Fr Seraphim will be giving a presentation on the “Icon Corner” at Holy Trinity Orthodox Church in State College. All are welcome to attend!

## **Our Giving – January 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2022**

Tithes/Offerings - \$1,255.25 / Online Giving - \$130.00

Candle Offerings – \$64.00 / Christmas Gifts - \$10.00

Love Offerings - \$10.00

**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 everyone too.* If you have any questions about Communion, please see Fr. Seraphim. 😊

### ***Receiving Therapy***

#### ***The Important Role of the Church in Bringing About Healing***

The answer for all of us, in our desire to overcome the misery and depression of the past, is to immerse ourselves in the Life of the Church. As a Hospital for the Soul, the Church is the very place wherein we can find the healing from the past that we so crave. As a former psychologist, I am totally amazed at how effective the Orthodox Church is in the psychological healing process. Much more than any therapy I could have accomplished in my former role as a therapist. But, like anyone seeing a psychologist, in seeking the healing that the Church has to offer, we need to be strongly committed to the healing process.

Whenever I had a patient who would not fully commit themselves to therapy, there was not much I could do for them. But in the case of those who would seek the healing that comes from Christ's Church, they have an even bigger obstacle in the way, for the demons are battling them, as the demons want those persons for themselves. The Evil One does not want Christ to have them. We need to remember this. Every time we claim we cannot participate in a service because of laziness or distraction, we need

to remember the enemy who is behind this. May God help us stay the course.

Christ is Born! Glorify Him!

*With love in Christ,  
Abbot Tryphon*

*“Afflictions are a great teacher; afflictions show us our weaknesses, passions, and the need of repentance; afflictions cleanse the soul, they make it sober, as from drunkenness, they bring down grace into the soul, they soften the heart, they inspire us with a loathing for sin, and strengthen us in faith, hope, and virtue.”*

*St. John of Kronstadt  
My Life in Christ p.422*

*“I believe that Thou wilt come to judge the living and the dead, and all will stand in order, old and young, lords and princes, priests and virgins. Where shall I find myself? Therefore, I cry: Grant me, O Lord, repentance before the end.”*

*The Canon of Repentance*

***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), Subdeacon Anthony (Affsprung), Pres. Eva (Koutroulelis), Helen Maybo, Paul Beard, Evelyn Chabal, Phoebe Davis, Michael Kuzmiak, Juliana Matusiak, and Phillip Paxos*

***Prayers for the Newly Departed: Memory Eternal!***

*Protopresbyter Michael Slovesko +1/4, Archpriest Igor Soroka +12/18, Archpriest John Loejos +12/10, and Matushka Anne Pawlush +12/7*