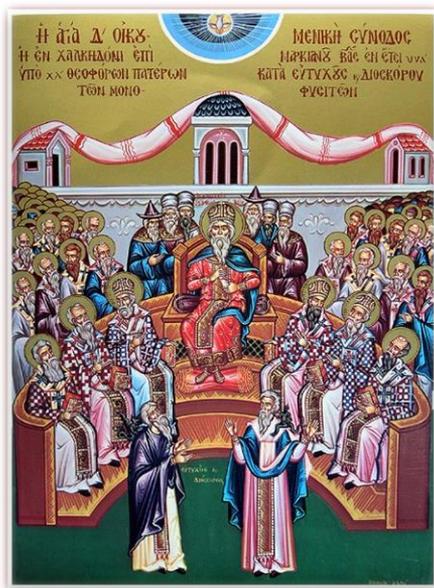


Diocese of Eastern Pennsylvania + Wilkes-Barre Deanery

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



## Fathers of the First Six Ecumenical Councils

*4<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost*

July 18<sup>th</sup>, 2021

# Elevation of the Holy Cross Orthodox Church

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

*Epistle: Hebrews 13:7-16; Romans 6:18-23*  
*Gospel: St. John 17:1-13; St. Matthew 8:5-13*

***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 July 21<sup>st</sup> @ 5:30pm*
- + *Great Vespers – Saturday July 24<sup>th</sup> @ 5pm*
- + *Divine Liturgy – Sunday July 25<sup>th</sup> @ 10am (Hours @ 9:40)*  
*Fellowship following in the Hall.*
- + *3<sup>rd</sup> Official Announcement Special Parish Meeting –*  
**Sunday July 18<sup>th</sup>** to discuss and vote on a new roof for the Church and ceiling repair inside.

## **Our Giving – July 11<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

Tithes/Offerings - \$613.00  
Candle Offerings – \$113.00 / Love Offerings - \$150.00

**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***

It's so important that we keep ourselves in gratitude. For even in our afflictions, we often stumble across our strengths. And though it's easy to think about what's missing in our lives, and what we wish we had, we also don't have to look too far to see how much we have been blessed. It's just, we don't always attend to our blessings.

When we seek gratitude, both in our hearts and in our minds, we often find that what flows out of our mouths is drastically transformed. Even the mental framework we take with us into the world when we live in gratitude, is just different. Smiles flow more freely, petty things become easier to overlook, we feel more satisfied with what we have and we look at people with more appreciation than frustration.

You see, what resides in our hearts and in our minds, works very much like magnets. We attract whatever it is, we allow ourselves to feed and dwell upon. So look for the blessings in your life, both small and large. Take notice of all the places God has been at work in your life, all the people and opportunities He has placed along your path and how much you have grown even amidst

affliction. Observe how transformative this one act of seeking gratitude with intention, can truly be in your daily life.

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

*“By striking our bodily structure with sickness, the Lord crushes the old, sinful, carnal man, in order to give strength to the new man, whom we have weakened by the works of the flesh: gluttony, slothfulness, amusements, and manifold sinful attachments and passions. “For when I am weak, then am I strong.” Therefore, we must accept every malady with gratitude.”*

*St. John of Kronstadt  
My Life in Christ p.251*

*“In trials borne with joy, with gratitude to the Lord, who saves us through suffering, lies hidden the joy of spiritual ascent from strength to strength.”*

*Abbot Nikon Vorobiev  
Abbot Nikon Letters to Spiritual Children p.35*

***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*

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

*Deacon Stephen Hall +6/10 & Peter Petronka +6/27,  
Peter Mamonov +7/15*