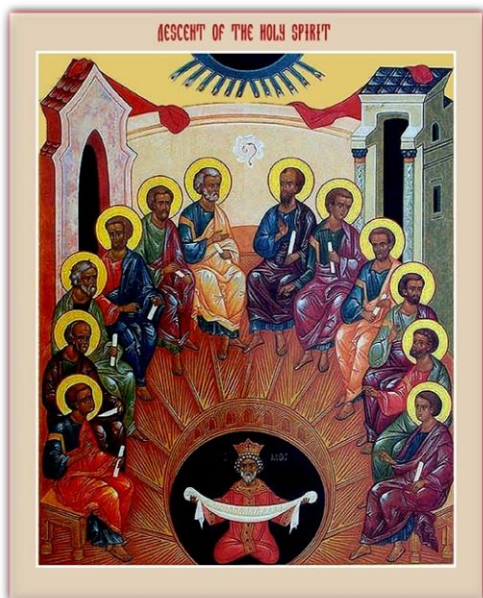


Diocese of Eastern Pennsylvania + Wilkes-Barre Deanery

Elevation of the Holy Cross Orthodox Church Williamsport, PA.



Holy Pentecost

Father's Day

June 20th, 2021

Elevation of the Holy Cross Orthodox Church

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Williamsport, Pennsylvania 17701-2749
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Today's Scripture Readings:

Epistle: Acts 2:1-11

Gospel: St. John 7:37-52, 8:12

Joyous Feast!!

Fast Free Week!

A festive welcome to everyone, and especially to our guests & ALL our Fathers this morning! Please join us for some fellowship after in the Parish Hall!

Services, Events & Announcements

- + *Compline/Bible Study – Wednesday June 23rd @ 5:30pm*
- + *Great Vespers – Saturday June 26th @ 5pm*
- + *Divine Liturgy - June 27th @ 10am (Hours @ 9:40) Fellowship following in the Hall.*
- + *Happy Father's Day to all our Fathers, Grandfathers, Great-grandfathers and Spiritual Fathers today! May God Grant them Many More Blessed Years!*

Our Giving – June 13th, 2021

Tithes/Offerings - \$1,779.36

Candle Offerings – \$105.80

Love Offerings (Seminarians) - \$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. 😊

THE STRUGGLE

Holiness Comes Only to Those Who Struggle

There is no spiritual improvement if we do not seek to please God with holiness of life. If we find good in our deeds, we must attribute it to God. If we find we've neglected our spiritual struggle, and acted with foolish abandon, we, in our weakness, must turn to God in repentance. We must resolve to turn ourselves around, with God's help, and fight against the enemy of our souls. Holiness comes only to those who struggle.

It is often difficult for us to put our total trust in God. We have our own agenda as to what WE think needs to happen and wonder where God is when we don't get the answer to our prayers the way we think it should be. We are like little children who doubt our mom's love when we don't get the cookie we want, just before dinner.

When good things happen to us we are convinced God is looking kindly upon us, but when things happen that are disappointing or even bad we think God is absent. As God is

everywhere present He is involved with everything that happens in our lives. Harmonious and good things are from God, but when disappointing things happen, God is still in charge, giving us what we need for our salvation.

Not an hour should pass without taking time to examine our heart, for the hour of judgement can come at any time, and we must be ready to give account to God for our life.

*With love in Christ,
Abbot Tryphon*

“...when a Christian falls into sin, it is a sign that grace has left him. The whole struggle of Christian life, as St. Symeon teaches (Homily 2, section 3) is to preserve God's grace and, when we find ourselves losing it, to re-acquire it.”

*Blessed Fr. Seraphim Rose
The First-Created Man p.80*

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, Mat. MaryAnn (DeTrana), Mary (Federoff) and the child born of her, Helen Maybo, Paul Beard, Evelyn Chabal, Phoebe Davis, Michael Kuzmiak, Juliana Matusiak & Michael Juran

Prayers for the Newly Departed: Memory Eternal!

*Archpriest Sergei Droba +6/7, Protodeacon Edwin Aasen +5/23
& Deacon Stephen Hall +6/10*