

Diocese of Eastern Pennsylvania + Wilkes-Barre Deanery

Elevation of the Holy Cross Orthodox Church Williamsport, PA.



Sunday of All Saints
1st Sunday After Pentecost
June 27th, 2021

Elevation of the Holy Cross Orthodox Church

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Today's Scripture Readings:

Epistle: Hebrews 11:33-12:2
Gospel: St. Matthew 10:32-33, 37-38, 19:27-30

Joyous Feast!!

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

Services, Events & Announcements

+ Sts. Peter & Paul Fast - June 28th

+ Vesperal Liturgy – Sts. Peter & Paul – Monday June 28th @ 5:30pm (*begin your Eucharistic Fast after your Noon meal*)

+ Compline/Bible Study – Wednesday June 30th @ 5:30pm

+ Great Vespers – Saturday July 3rd @ 5pm

+ Divine Liturgy – July 4th @ 10am (*Hours @ 9:40*) Fellowship following in the Hall.

Our Giving – June 20th, 2021

Tithes/Offerings - \$1,408.00

Candle Offerings – \$115.00

Love Offerings (Seminarians) - \$235.00

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. 😊

CONFESSION

On Making a Good Confession

Following His glorious Resurrection, as He appeared to His Disciples, Our Lord Jesus Christ gave the command that: “if you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained (John 20:23).”

From that moment in history, the Church has seen Confession (or repentance) as one of the holy mysteries (or sacraments) of the Church, through which the penitent receives the divine forgiveness of Christ for any sins that are confessed.

The Lord Jesus Christ bestowed His authority upon the Church to forgive sins, and the priest or the bishop, as His representative on earth through his ordination, prays to God for the salvation of the penitent who repents of his sins, and God forgives through the priest. The Mystery of Holy Confession is holy because it connects God and His children, with the priest acting as the Bridge.

To make a good confession it is necessary to prepare oneself carefully, asking God to grant grace sufficient to make a thorough examination of the conscience. Sometimes we get so bogged down with regret, we fail to move on and grasp the moment. The wonderful thing about confession is the ability we are given, by our loving God, to receive absolution and move into the present moment. The past is forgiven, and the future is filled with hope. We must not occupy ourselves with the past, nor occupy ourselves with the future. All that is important is the present.

*With love in Christ,
Abbot Tryphon*

“Every prayer should begin with a confession before God. But this should not be a mere sentimental confession, relating our sins and then doing the same things all over again. This is not true awareness of our sinfulness. When we become truly conscious of our sins, this is shown by a certain degree of improvement in our spiritual life.”

*St. Paisios of Mount Athos
Spiritual Counsels Vol. II Spiritual Awakening p.390*

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, Mary (Federoff) and the child born of her, Helen Maybo, Paul Beard, Evelyn Chabal, Phoebe Davis, Michael Kuzmiak, Juliana Matusiak, Michael Juran, Peter Petronka, & the child Marcus Linnehan

Prayers for the Newly Departed: Memory Eternal!

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