

Diocese of Eastern Pennsylvania + Wilkes-Barre Deanery

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



**Hieromartyr Hierotheus  
Bishop of Athens  
17<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost  
October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

# Elevation of the Holy Cross Orthodox Church

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## *Today's Scripture Readings:*

*Epistle: 2 Corinthians 6:16-7:1*

*Gospel: St. Luke 6:31-36*

*Welcome to ALL our visitors and guests this morning!  
Please join us for some fellowship after!*

## Services, Events & Announcements

*\*Compline/Adult Ed. (Discussion on **Special Prayers**) -  
Wednesday, October 7<sup>th</sup> @ 6pm*

*\*Great Vespers – Saturday, October 10<sup>th</sup> @ 5pm  
(Confessions before, after or by appointment another  
time)*

*\*Divine Liturgy – Sunday, October 11<sup>th</sup> @ 10am (Hours @  
9:40am) Fellowship After in the Hall*

*\*Crop Walk – Sunday, October 11<sup>th</sup> - See Lenora Georges*

***\*His Eminence, Archbishop Mark will be with us on  
Sunday October 18<sup>th</sup>!***

## *Our Giving – September 27<sup>th</sup>, 2020*

**Tithes/Offerings - \$1,235.00**

**Candle Offerings – \$32.00**

**Memorial - \$100.00**

### *From Your Pastor . . .*

Please turn in your Stewardship card for 2021 asap to any Parish Council member. Prayerfully consider how you will give back to God, for all that He has given you. If you need one mailed to you, please let me know, and we will get one to you. Let us not forget that ALL we have comes from God. Where do our treasures lie? How thankful are we to Him?

*With Love and God's Blessing,*

+ *Fr. Seraphim*

### **2 Corinthians 6:16-7:1 (Epistle)**

16 And what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For you are the temple of the living God. As God has said: "I will dwell in them and walk among them. I will be their God, and they shall be My people."

17 Therefore "Come out from among them and be separate, says the Lord. Do not touch what is unclean, and I will receive you."

18 "I will be a Father to you, and you shall be My sons and daughters, says the LORD Almighty."

1 Therefore, having these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.

### **Luke 6:31-36 (Gospel)**

31 And just as you want men to do to you, you also do to them likewise.

32 But if you love those who love you, what credit is that to you?  
For even sinners love those who love them.

33 And if you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is  
that to you? For even sinners do the same.

34 And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive back,  
what credit is that to you? For even sinners lend to sinners to  
receive as much back.

35 But love your enemies, do good, and lend, hoping for nothing in  
return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the  
Most High. For He is kind to the unthankful and evil.

36 Therefore be merciful, just as your Father also is merciful.

““But I say to you,” the Lord says, “love your enemies, do good to  
those who hate you, pray for those who persecute you.” Why did he  
command these things? So that he might free you from hatred,  
sadness, anger and grudges, and might grant you the greatest  
possession of all, perfect love, which is impossible to possess except  
by the one who loves all equally in imitation of God.”

***St. Maximus the Confessor***

“A believer in Christ needs only to realize his weaknesses and sins  
and ask forgiveness, and God’s love cleanses and heals all the  
wounds of sin. The sins of the entire world drown in the sea of  
God’s love, like a stone which sinks when thrown into the water.  
There should be no place for despondency, hopelessness or  
despair.”

***Abbot Nikon Vorobiev***