

Diocese of Eastern Pennsylvania + Wilkes-Barre Deanery

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



*Priest-martyr John Kochurov of  
Chicago*

19<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost

October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021

# Elevation of the Holy Cross Orthodox Church

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

*Epistle:* 2 Corinthians 11:31-12:9; Hebrews 13:7-16  
*Gospel:* St. Luke 8:26-39; St. Luke 12:32-40

***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 November 3<sup>rd</sup> @ 5:30pm
- + *Great Vespers* – Saturday November 6<sup>th</sup> @ 5pm
- + *Divine Liturgy* - Sunday November 7<sup>th</sup> @ 10am (Hours @ 9:40), fellowship following in the Hall.
- + Giant gift cards are available! Help support the Parish and they make good stocking stuffers too! 😊 See Mat. Mary!
- + **2<sup>nd</sup> Official Announcement – Annual Parish Meeting – November 7<sup>th</sup>**

## **Our Giving – October 24<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

Tithes/Offerings - \$1,260.00  
Online Giving - \$200.00  
Candle Offerings – \$86.00 / Love Offerings - \$20.00

***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. 😊

## ***Principalities and Powers of Darkness***

### ***The Enemy of humankind are not armies, but demons***

Many people are convinced we are living in the end times. They look to changes in the earth's climate, ever more disastrous storms, and the failing economy, as well as the political upheaval in our land, as signs of the end times. Coupled with the increase in terrorist activity worldwide and the rise of Islam, people are afraid.

The truth is that we do not know when the end is coming, for Jesus tells us that only the Father knows the date and the hour. We must remember our battle is not with earthly enemies, but with the principalities and powers of darkness. This is important to remember because the weapons needed to combat the enemy are not found in armies, guns, tanks, and missiles, but in prayer. Our combat against the enemy must be centered in the church services, prayer, fasting, spiritual preparedness and repentance.

The enemy are not armies but demons who would demoralize us and strike fear in our hearts. In Christ Jesus we have all the strength to overcome the powers of darkness that are set upon our destruction. There is no need to panic when we have Jesus Christ by our side. The end days will come when God decides. As for us, we must always be prepared for the end, just as were the disciples. Fear is brought on by the enemy of humankind, the devil himself. In Christ there is no fear.

*Love in Christ,*

*Abbot Tryphon*

*All Merciful Saviour Monastery, Vashon Island, WA.*

*“All of us sin constantly. We slip and fall. In reality, we fall into traps set by the demons. The Holy Fathers and the saints always tell us, “It is important to get up immediately after a fall and to keep on walking toward God.” Even if we fall a hundred times a day, it does not matter; we must get up and go on walking toward God without looking back. What has happened has happened—it is in the past. Just keep on going, all the while asking for help from God.”*

**Elder Thaddeus of Vitovnica**

**Our Thoughts Determine Our Lives: The Life and Teachings of Elder Thaddeus of Vitovnica p.104**

*“Call upon the name of the saint with your whole soul; he will hear you, and will manifest his miraculous power in the image. The name of the Saviour, called upon with faith, works wonders. It drives away the demons, quenches the fire of the passions, heals sicknesses. The names of the saints, called upon with faith, by the grace of God also work wonders.”*

**St. John of Kronstadt My Life in Christ p.498**

***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), Subdeacon Anthony (Affsprung), 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 & Gabrielle Russin*

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

*Priest Narcis Stoica + 10/16, Priest Maximos Herman +10/26*

*Olga Uvari + 10/23*