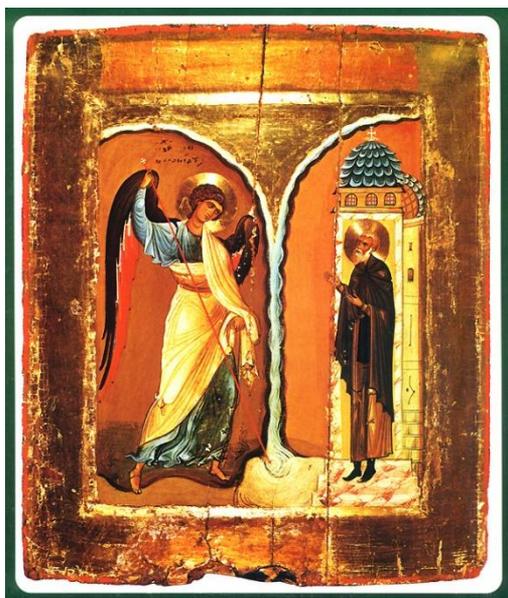


Diocese of Eastern Pennsylvania + Wilkes-Barre Deanery

Elevation of the Holy Cross  
Orthodox Church  
Williamsport, PA.



Miracle of the Archangel  
Michael at Golossae  
13<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost  
September 6<sup>th</sup>, 2020

# Elevation of the Holy Cross Orthodox Church

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

*Epistle:* 1 Corinthians 16:13-24

*Gospel:* Matthew 21:33-42

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

## **Services, Events & Announcements**

**\*\*Feast of the Nativity of the Theotokos\*\***

**Vespertal Liturgy – Monday September 7<sup>th</sup> @ 6pm**

**\*Compline / Adult Ed. – Wednesday September 9<sup>th</sup> @ 6pm  
Discussion on the *Evening Prayers***

**\*Great Vespers – Saturday September 12<sup>th</sup> @ 5pm (Confessions  
before, after or by appointment)**

**\*Divine Liturgy – September August 13<sup>th</sup> @ 10am (Hours @  
9:40am) Fellowship After in the Hall**

**\*\*Feast of the Elevation of the Holy Cross\*\***

***Our Patronal Feastday!!***

**Great Vespers w/Litiya Sunday September 13<sup>th</sup> @ 5pm**

**Divine Liturgy – Monday September 14<sup>th</sup> @ 9am**

**Our Giving – August 30, 2020**

**Tithes/Offerings - \$1,292.00**

**Candle Offerings – \$85.00**

**Love Offerings - \$5.00**

***From Your Pastor . . .***

*At times throughout their history, the people of Israel were living their lives in total rebellion toward God. When you look at the pattern of their lives, it is as if we too are living our own lives in the same way. The parable in this morning's Gospel is a warning, that we ourselves would not be overcome by the temptations that come before us. When we live our lives thinking we have all the answers, and that we do not need God and His Church, we are in grave danger. This is the sin of pride, and I pray that we all would be saved from this.*

*With Love and God's Blessing,*

*+ Fr. Seraphim*

***Commemoration of the Miracle of the Archangel Michael at Colossae***

In Phrygia, not far from the city of Hieropolis, in a place called Cheretopos, there was a church named for the Archangel Michael, built over a miraculous spring.

This church was built by a certain inhabitant of the city of Laodicia in gratitude to God for healing his mute daughter. The holy Chief Commander Michael appeared to this man in a dream and revealed to him that his daughter would receive the gift of speech after drinking from the water of the spring. The girl actually did receive healing and began to speak. After this miracle, the father and his daughter and all their family were baptized. In fervent gratitude, the father built the church in honor of the holy Chief Commander

Michael. Not only did Christians begin to come to the spring for healing, but also pagans. In so doing, many of the pagans turned from their idols and were converted to the faith in Christ.

At this church of the holy Chief Commander Michael, a certain pious man by the name of Archippus served for sixty years as church custodian. By his preaching and by the example of his saintly life he brought many pagans to faith in Christ. With the general malice of that time towards Christians, and especially against Archippus, the pagans thought to destroy the church in order to prevent people from coming to that holy place of healing, and at the same time kill Archippus.

Toward this end they made a confluence of the Lykokaperos and Kufos Rivers and directed its combined flow against the church. Saint Archippus prayed fervently to the Chief Commander Michael to ward off the danger. Through his prayer the Archangel Michael appeared at the temple, and with a blow of his staff, opened a wide fissure in a rock and commanded the rushing torrents of water to flow into it. The temple remained unharmed. Seeing such an awesome miracle, the pagans fled in terror. Archippus and the Christians gathered in church glorified God and gave thanks to the holy Archangel Michael for the help. The place where the rivers plunged into the fissure received the name “Chonae”, which means “plunging.”

The Chudov (“of the Miracle”) monastery in Moscow is named for this Feast.

(Source – [www.oca.com](http://www.oca.com))