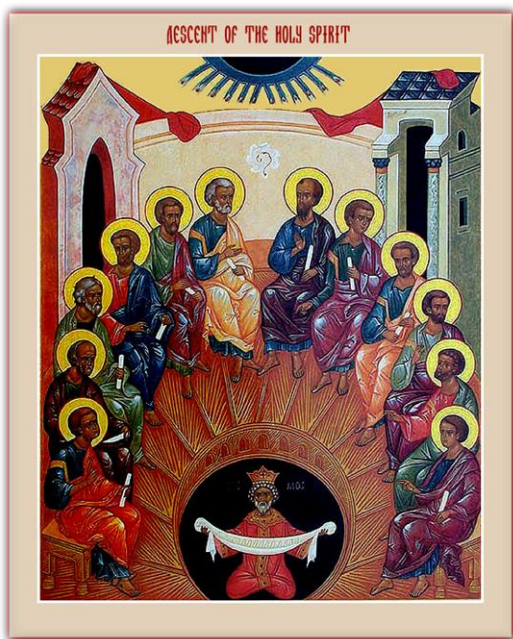


Diocese of Eastern Pennsylvania + Wilkes-Barre Deanery

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



Feast of the Holy Trinity

Pentecost

June 12<sup>th</sup>, 2022

# Elevation of the Holy Cross Orthodox Church

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

*Epistle: Acts 2: 1-11*

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

## ***Joyous Feast!!***

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

### **Services, Events & Announcements**

- + *Compline/Bible Study – Wednesday June 15<sup>th</sup> @ 5:30pm*
- + *Great Vespers – Saturday June 18<sup>th</sup> @ 5pm*
- + *Divine Liturgy - Sunday June 19<sup>th</sup> @ 10am (Hours @ 9:40) festive Father's Day potluck Fellowship following!*
- + *Today we say goodbye to John Andrew Barrett, our Choir director. Thank you, John, for ALL that you have done for the Choir and our Parish! We will surely miss you and may God Bless you in your new position.*

### **Our Giving – June 5<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

Tithes/Offerings - \$2,290.00 / Online Giving - \$221.95

Candle Offerings – \$42.00

Love Offerings - \$120.00

**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), Archpriest Moses (Berry), Pres. Eva (Koutroulelis), Pres. Rosy (Tanveer), Helen Maybo, Paul Beard, Evelyn Chabal, Phoebe Davis, Michael Kuzmiak, Juliana Matusiak, Michael Juran, Catherine Mann, & those suffering in Ukraine and Texas.*

***Prayers for the Newly Departed: Memory Eternal!***  
*His Beatitude, Metropolitan HILARION (Kapral) +5/16, Matushka Helen Kuchta +5/6, Matushka Evgenia Glagolev +5/23 & those who have lost their lives in Ukraine and Texas.*