

Diocese of Eastern Pennsylvania + Wilkes-Barre Deanery

Elevation of the Holy Cross Orthodox Church Williamsport, PA.



The Healing of the
Paralytic

4th Sunday of Pascha

May 15th, 2021

Elevation of the Holy Cross Orthodox Church

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Today's Scripture Readings:

Epistle: Acts 9:32-42

Gospel: St. John 5:1-15

CHRIST IS RISEN! INDEED HE IS RISEN!
Christos Voskrese! Voistinu Voskrese!
Christos Anesti! Alithos Anesti!

***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

- + *Compline & Adult Ed – Wednesday May 18th @ 5:30pm***
- + *Great Vespers – Saturday May 21st @ 5pm***
- + *Sunday of the Samaritan Woman – Divine Liturgy – May 22nd @
10am (Hours @ 9:40) Fellowship following***
- + *Parish Council Meeting – Thursday May 19th @ 5:30***
- + *Congratulations to our Pennsylvania College of Technology
grads: Basil Andrew Evick, Gregory John Larson, & Andrew Goth!
May God continue to guide them and grant them many more
blessed years!***

Our Giving – May 8th, 2022

Tithes/Offerings - \$2,383.00

Online Giving - \$125.00

Candle Offerings – \$67.00 / 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.

THANK YOU: *On behalf of all the moms, Thank you to all of the fellas for their preparation and serving Brunch on Mother's Day! May God Grant Many More Blessed Years to All of our Mothers, Grandmothers, Great Grandmothers and Spiritual Mothers!*

***Laying Blame
Putting the Blame in the right place***

“A humble and spiritually active man, when he reads the Holy Scriptures, will refer everything to himself and not to another.”
Saint Mark the Ascetic

We all have a natural tendency to lay blame on others, when in truth we must blame only ourselves. When facing our own sins and shortcomings, it is always easy to put the blame on others, yet our faith tells us that spiritual progress can only come with the acquisition of a humble and contrite heart. As long as we are anxious to put the blame on others for our shortcomings, we will remain stagnant on the spiritual path. The saints give clear witness that progress towards holiness can only come when we look only to our own faults, and not see the faults of others.

It is far more comfortable to see the wickedness of others, for in focusing on them, we can forgo the all important work of changing our own behavior, and allowing the Holy Spirit to transform our own fallen nature. Focusing on the shortcomings of

others allows our own self-serving pride to grow stronger, and we remain puffed up, and wallow in unfounded pride.

When we keep our attention focused on our own shortcomings, we keep vigilant until our last day, guarding our soul until the final judgement. When we take our eyes off our own faults, while focusing on our neighbor's sin, we deprive ourselves of precious time for repentance. Since we do not know the day or hour of our last breath, we must treat every moment as though it were our last.

With love in Christ,

Abbot Tryphon

All Merciful Saviour Monastery, Vashon Island, WA.

“Be careful not to judge anyone. Judgement of your neighbor is linked to pride, and pride is our number one enemy; all our unhappiness comes from it.” *Elder Sergei of Vanves: Life & Teachings*
p.105

Prayers For the Health and Salvation of those in need: Many Years!

His Eminence Archbishop Mark, 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, & those suffering in Ukraine.

Prayers for the Newly Departed: Memory Eternal!

His Eminence, Archbishop PAUL (Gassios) +4/24, Hieromonk Arsanios +4/7, Protodeacon Nicodemus Myers +4/29, Matushka Helen Kuchta +5/6 & those who have lost their lives in Ukraine.