

Diocese of Eastern Pennsylvania + Wilkes-Barre Deanery

Elevation of the Holy Cross Orthodox Church Williamsport, PA.



*Saint John Chrysostom
Archbishop of Constantinople*

November 13th, 2022

Elevation of the Holy Cross Orthodox Church

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Today's Scripture Readings:

Epistle: Galatians 6th 11-18; Hebrews 7:26-8:2
Gospel: St. Luke 10:25-37; St. John 10:9-16

A very warm welcome to our visitors this morning!
Please join us after in the Fellowship Hall!

Services, Events & Announcements

- + NATIVITY FAST BEGINS TUESDAY NOVEMBER 15TH**
- + *Compline and Bible Study*** – November 16th @ 5:30 We are studying the Book of Acts . . . please join us!
- + *Parish Council Meeting*** – Thursday November 17th @ 5:30
- + *Great Vespers*** – Saturday November 19th @ 5
- + *Divine Liturgy*** - Sunday November 20th @ 10 (Hours @ 9:40)
Fellowship following in the Hall / Orthodoxy 101
- + *Invite a friend, neighbor, or co-worker to Church with you!***

Our Giving – November 6th, 2022

Tithes/Offerings - \$3,533.00 / Online Giving - \$225.00

Love Offerings - \$20.00 / Candle Offerings – \$44.00

Benevolence - \$50.00 / Memorial Fund - \$200.00

Thank you for your generosity!

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. 😊

† ***Our Father among the Saints John Chrysostom, Archbishop of Constantinople (407)***

This greatest of Christian orators is commemorated not only today, but as one of the Three Holy Hierarchs (with St Basil the Great and St Gregory the Theologian) on January 30.

He was born in Antioch to pious parents around 345. His mother was widowed at the age of twenty, and devoted herself to rearing her son in piety. He received his literary and oratorical training from the greatest pagan teachers of the day. Though an illustrious and profitable career as a secular orator was open to him, he chose instead to dedicate himself to God. He lived as a monk from 374 to 381, eventually dwelling as a hermit in a cave near Antioch. Here his extreme ascetic practices ruined his health, so that he was forced to return to Antioch, where he was ordained to the priesthood. In Antioch his astonishing gifts of preaching first showed themselves, earning him the epithet Chrysostomos, "Golden-mouth", by which he became universally known. His gifts became so far-famed that he was chosen to succeed St Nectarius as Patriarch of Constantinople. He was taken to Constantinople secretly (some say he was actually kidnapped) to avoid the opposition of the Antiochian people to losing their beloved preacher. He was made Patriarch of Constantinople in 398.

Archbishop John shone in his sermons as always, often censuring the corrupt morals and luxurious living of the nobility. For this he incurred the anger of the Empress Eudoxia, who had him exiled to Pontus in 403. The people protested by rioting, and the following night an earthquake shook the city, so frightening the Empress that she had Chrysostom called back. The reconciliation was short-lived. Saint John did not at all moderate the intensity of his sermons, and when the Empress had a silver statue of herself erected outside the Great Church in 403, accompanied by much revelry, the Patriarch spoke out against her, earning her unforgiving anger. In 404 he was exiled to Cucusus, near Armenia. When Pope Innocent of Rome interceded on his behalf, the imperial family only exiled him further, to a town called Pityus near the Caucasus. The journey was so difficult and his guards so cruel that the frail Archbishop gave up his soul to God before reaching his final place of exile, in 407. His last words were "Glory be to God for all things."

Saint John Chrysostom is the author of more written works than any other Church Father: his works include 1,447 recorded sermons, 240 epistles, and complete commentaries on Genesis, the Gospels of Matthew and John, the Acts of the Apostles, and all the Epistles of St Paul. (www.abbamoses.com)

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), Paul Beard, Evelyn Chabal, Phoebe Davis, Michael Kuzmiak, Juliana Matusiak, Catherine Mann, Elias Ciaccio, Elizabeth Wadsworth, Gary Larson, & those suffering in Ukraine

Prayers for the Newly Departed: Memory Eternal!

Igumen Victorin (Torrez Martinez) +10/23, Priest Andrew Diehl +10/15, Protodeacon Paul Erickson +11/8, Helen Maybo +10/11 & those who have lost their lives in Ukraine