

Diocese of Eastern Pennsylvania + Wilkes-Barre Deanery

Elevation of the Holy Cross
Orthodox Church
Williamsport, PA.



*Greatmartyr James the
Persian*

Venerable Palladius of Thessalonica

November 27th, 2022

Elevation of the Holy Cross Orthodox Church

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Today's Scripture Readings:

Epistle: Ephesians 2:14-22

Gospel: St. Luke 13:10-17

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

Services, Events & Announcements

- + *Compline / Bible Study (Book of Acts) – Wed Nov 30th @ 5:30*
- + *Great Vespers – Saturday December 3rd @ 5*
- + *Divine Liturgy - Sunday December 4th @ 10 (Hours @ 9:40) Fellowship following in the Hall / Orthodoxy 101*
- + *St Ann Food Pantry items are being collected in the narthex.*
- + *Parish Open House – Friday Dec 9th, 5:30 - 7*
- + *Has it been a while since your last confession? Let us be prepared and ready for the Nativity of Our Lord. 😊*

Our Giving – November 20th, 2022

Tithes/Offerings - \$1,270.00 / Online Giving - \$125.00

Memorial - \$1,200.00 / Candle Offerings – \$69.00

Thank you for all that you give!

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.

† ***Holy Great Martyr and Most Wise Catherine of Alexandria and those with her (305)***

"Saint Catherine, who was from Alexandria, was the daughter of Constatas (or Cestus). She was an exceedingly beautiful maiden, most chaste, and illustrious in wealth, lineage, and learning. By her steadfast understanding, she utterly vanquished the passionate and unbridled soul of Maximinus, the tyrant of Alexandria; and by her eloquence, she stopped the mouths of the so-called philosophers who had been gathered to dispute with her. She was crowned with the crown of martyrdom in the year 305. Her holy relics were taken by Angels to the holy mountain of Sinai, where they were discovered many years later; the famous monastery of Saint Catherine was originally dedicated to the Holy Transfiguration of the Lord and the Burning Bush, but later was dedicated to Saint Catherine." (Great Horologion)

So great was St Catherine's eloquence that the fifty orators assigned to debate her recognized their error and, as a body, asked for baptism, for which Maximinus condemned them all to death. The Saint was then subjected to torture on a

pecially-constructed spiked wheel (with which she is usually shown in her icon), but an angel loosed her and miraculously smashed the wheel. Maximinus' own wife and 200 soldiers, seeing her sufferings and the nobility with which she bore them, were moved to profess their faith in Christ and their yearning to be baptized. All of them were put to death. Finally, Catherine herself was led outside the walls of Alexandria and, after a prayer of thanksgiving to God, was beheaded. (www.abbamoses.com)

“All things here on this earth,” said Fr. Thaddeus, “all that is good and also all that is not, everything comes from our thoughts. Our thoughts determine our whole life. If our thoughts are destructive, we will have no peace. If they are quiet, meek and simple, our life will be the same, and we will have peace within us.”

Elder Thaddeus of Vitovnica

Our Thoughts Determine Our Lives: The Life and Teachings of Elder Thaddeus of Vitovnica p.49

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, Infant John & those suffering in Ukraine

Prayers for the Newly Departed: Memory Eternal!
Igumen Victorin (Torrez Martinez) +10/23, Protodeacon Paul Erickson +11/8 & those who have lost their lives in Ukraine