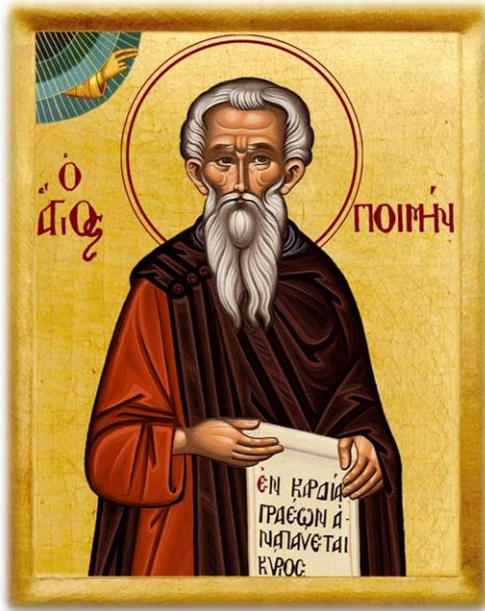


Orthodox Church in America + Diocese of Eastern Pennsylvania

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



## Venerable Pimen (Pimen) the Great

August 27<sup>th</sup>, 2023

# Elevation of the Holy Cross Orthodox Church

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

*Epistle:* 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

*Gospel:* St. Matthew 19:16-26

***A warm welcome to everyone, and especially to all our visitors!  
Please join us for some fellowship after in the Parish Hall!***

## **Services & Announcements**

- + Many More Blessed Years to the Newly Illumined: *Alexis, Vladimir, Raphael, Elizabeth, James, & Columba!* Glory Be to God!
- + Compline/Bible Study – Wednesday August 30<sup>th</sup> at 5:30
- + Church open for private prayer this **Tuesday & Thursday** mornings August 29<sup>th</sup> & 31<sup>st</sup> from 7:30-9:30am
- + *Great Vespers* – Saturday September 2<sup>nd</sup> at 5
- + *Hours, Divine Liturgy* – Sunday September 3<sup>rd</sup>, at 9:40 – Fellowship following in the Hall.
- + If you would like to donate toward our *Iconography* project, please use the “Designated” envelopes at the Candle Counter.
- + If you have interest in being buried at Wildwood Cemetery (Orthodox section) in Williamsport, please let Fr Seraphim know.
- + *Benevolence* collections through September will be sent to OCPM Orthodox Christian Prison Ministry
- + *Volunteers needed at St Ann's Food Pantry, every 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday and Saturday of the month. See the bulletin board for details.*

## *Our Giving – August 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023*

Tithes/Offerings - \$261.00 / Online Giving - \$201.50

Candle Offerings – \$63.00

*Thank you all for your support of our Parish!*

**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 everyone too.* If you have any questions about Communion, please see Fr. Seraphim. 😊

### ***The Liturgical Year***

#### ***The Creation of the Church Calendar***

The Church's liturgical worship is spread throughout the year, finding expression in the use of a calendar to regulate the observances of the Church's feasts. This is because Christian worship is corporate as well as private, and so if Christians will celebrate (for example) Christ's birth, they must first agree upon which date that celebration will take place. If Christian worship were merely individual, then different individual Christians might choose to celebrate Christ's birth on differing days, with no loss. But since our worship is corporate, a calendar becomes necessary if feast days and other special occasions are to be kept.

At first there was no such thing as a liturgical year, and no specifically Christian calendar, so that no calendar can claim apostolic provenance or authority. The apostles simply mandated the gathering together of all the baptized in a weekly qahal or ekklesia. It was on this day that all the Christians within a given locale (be it small hamlet or larger town) would meet (ideally in one place) to hear the Word and offer the Eucharist. This gathering

anticipated the age to come and was the Christians' weekly experience of the power that would flood the world in that age to come. There was, in other words, an eschatological dimension to the Christians' sacramental gathering. This eschatological gathering was the sole "Christian calendar" known to the apostles.

Very soon, however, martyrdoms began to multiply. The local church would treasure and celebrate their local martyrs, meeting on the anniversary of his or her martyrdom to rehearse those glorious events and celebrate the Eucharist (ideally, over the grave of the martyr). These annual celebrations of the martyred saints became the next layer of celebrations added to the apostolic gatherings on Sunday. As the stories of the martyrs became more widely known, the feast of the martyr might be celebrated not just by the community in which the martyr had lived and died, but by other church communities as well.

(Essential Orthodox Christian Beliefs, pgs. 57-58)

### **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), Priest James (Chuta), Mat. Mary (Reynolds), Pres. Eva (Koutroulelis), Pres. Rosy (Tanveer), Mat. Mary Lynn (Henry), Mat. Deborah (Belonick), Mat. Barbara (Matusiak), Mat. Seraphima (Hunter), Xenia Crews Alexa Yonkin & the children to be born of them, Paul & Judy Beard, Evelyn Chabal, Phoebe Davis, Michael Kuzmiak, Juliana Matusiak, Elias Ciaccio, Elizabeth Wadsworth, Sebastian Fillar, Infant John, Isaac Bannister, Vera Christopher, Paisios Sundin, Christine Perrin, Agnes Andreanoff, Michael Lazorchak, Edward Hojnicky, Basil Evick, Jennifer Updegrove, those suffering from the war in Ukraine, & **the Newly Illumined** Alexis, Vladimir, Raphael, Elizabeth, James, & Columba

### **Prayers for the Newly Departed: Memory Eternal!**

His Beatitude Met. Daniel +8/10, Mat. Delores Donlick +7/28, & Those who have lost their lives in the war in Ukraine & Russia, & the Fire in Hawaii