

DIocese of Eastern Pennsylvania + Wilkes-Barre Diocese

ELEVATION OF THE HOLY CROSS ORTHODOX CHURCH WILLIAMSPORT, PA.



THE FEAST OF
ALL SAINTS OF NORTH AMERICA
JUNE 30TH, 2019

ELEVATION OF THE HOLY CROSS ORTHODOX CHURCH

1725 Holy Cross Ln
Williamsport, Pennsylvania 17701-2749

Rev. Fr. Seraphim Reynolds, Pastor
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Mr. Michael (Cory) Chelko, Parish Warden
Mr. Dan Thetford, Asst Warden

Today's Scripture Readings:

Epistle: Romans 2:10-16

Gospel: St. Matthew 4:16-23

*Welcome to EVERYONE this morning to our visitors and guests!
Please join us over in the Parish Hall after the Liturgy for some food
& fellowship!*

Services, Events & Announcements

****Wednesday July 3rd Vespers @ 6pm**

****Saturday July 6th Great Vespers @ 5pm**

****Sunday July 7th Divine Liturgy @ 10am (Hours @ 9:40)**

****Tuesday July 2nd Baseball & Picnic to see the Reading Fightin Phils in Reading, PA, an all-U-can-eat Buffet served from 6pm to 8:30 during the game. Fireworks after the game.**

****Sunday July 14th, The FOCA Annual Knoebel's Family Picnic - Arrive at the Park after Liturgy, a Hamburger/ Hot Dog dinner will be served at 6pm in Pavilion K. No need to RSVP, \$5 per person, children under 6 FREE.**

LAST SUNDAY – **June 23rd**
Attendance 58 - Regular Offering - \$805.00
Candles - \$75.00 / Missions - \$6.00

NEXT SUNDAY – **July 7th**
Reading of the Epistle – Herman A.

++Please check the bulletin board in the Hall for information on local events, Parish schedules and recent Parish Council Minutes.

From Your Pastor . . .

Please remember that when you go on vacation this Summer, please continue to send/bring your tithe to Church. While you are away, our Parish continues to carry on with the weekly obligations of maintaining everything.

If you are traveling and looking for an Orthodox Parish to attend, you can visit www.orthodoxyinamerica.org and locate a Parish in the area.

While the weather is getting warmer, and the temptation is to wear less, please remember that modest dress is expected in the Church. We are blessed to have air conditioning, so there is no reason to wear shorts or immodest clothing.

Thank you ALL for your cards and gifts, remembering me on my birthday last Sunday! I am very grateful. ☺

*With Love & God's Blessing,
+ Fr. Seraphim*

The Synaxis of the Saints of North America

On the second Sunday after Pentecost, each local Orthodox Church commemorates all the saints, known and unknown, who

have shone forth in its territory. Accordingly, the Orthodox Church in America remembers the saints of North America on this day.

Saints of all times, and in every country are seen as the fulfillment of God's promise to redeem fallen humanity. Their example encourages us to "lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily besets us" and to "run with patience the race that is set before us" (Hebrews 12:1). The saints of North America also teach us how we should live, and what we must expect to endure as Christians

Although it is a relatively young church, the Orthodox Church in America has produced saints in nearly all of the six major categories of saints: Apostles (and Equals of the Apostles); Martyrs (and Confessors); Prophets; Hierarchs; Monastic Saints; and the Righteous. Prophets, of course, lived in Old Testament times and predicted the coming of Christ.

In addition, we also honor those saints who are known only to God and have not been recognized officially by the Church. As we contemplate the lives of these saints, let us remember that we are also called by God to a life of holiness.

For more information on the lives of various Saints in our Church, please visit www.oca.org/saints/lives

Regarding Holy Communion: Only those faithful who are Orthodox Christians and have properly prepared themselves by fasting, prayer [i.e. *Prayers Before Communion*], 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. ☺