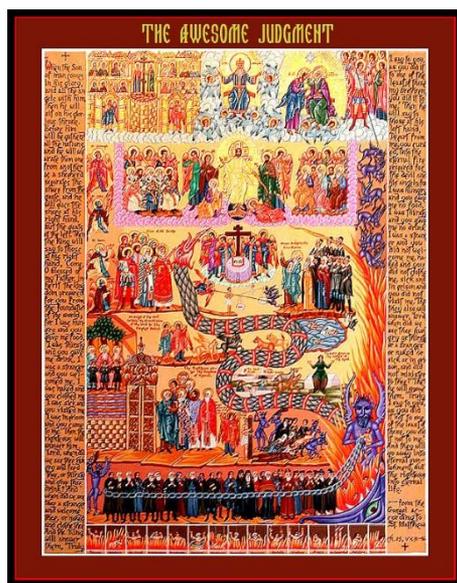


DIOCESE OF EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA + WILKES-BARRS DEANERY

**ELEVATION OF THE HOLY CROSS  
ORTHODOX CHURCH  
WILLIAMSPORT, PA.**



**40<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
SUNDAY OF THE LAST JUDGMENT  
MARCH 3<sup>RD</sup>, 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. Dan Thetford, Asst Warden - 724-544-5029

*Today's Scripture Readings:*  
*Epistle:* 1 Corinthians 8:8-9:2  
*Gospel:* St. Matthew 25:31-46

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

## Services, Events & Announcements

\*\*Daily Vespers - Wednesday, Mar 6<sup>th</sup> @ 5:30pm (Orthodoxy 101 after Vespers)

\*\*Great Vespers - Saturday, Mar 9<sup>th</sup> @ 5pm

\*\*Divine Liturgy - Sunday, Mar 10<sup>th</sup> @ 10am (Hours @ 9:40)

\*\*Forgiveness Vespers - Sunday, Mar 10<sup>th</sup> @ 5pm

\*\*Great Canon of St Andrew - Mar 11-14 @ 5:30pm

\*\*Pre-Sanctified Liturgy – Friday Mar 15<sup>th</sup> @ 5:30pm

\*\*Next Sunday Mar 10<sup>th</sup> is Cheesfare Sunday, and we will have a special “cheesy” pot-luck, so please something to share. Anyone wishing to help clean -up after is most welcomed. ☺

\*\*The weekly Parish bulletin can now be accessed on the Parish website homepage. [www.holycrosswilliamsport.org](http://www.holycrosswilliamsport.org). While you are there, **please sign up for our Parish Email List if you have not already.**

LAST SUNDAY - **Feb 24**

Attendance 60 - Regular Offering - \$923.00  
Candles - \$54.00 / Monthly Special - \$45.00  
Benevolence - \$100.00 / Memorial - \$25.00

NEXT SUNDAY - **Mar 10**

Reading of the Hours - Methodios Y.  
Reading of the Epistle - Herman A.

Fellowship Hour

Mar 10<sup>th</sup> - Special Cheesefare Potluck **\*Cheesefare Sunday\***

Mar 17<sup>th</sup> - Daria F. & Mat. Diane

Mar 24<sup>th</sup> - Mat. Mary & Meg J.

Pre-Sanctified Lenten Meal sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board in the Hall.

*A Word from Your Pastor . . .*

I recently read this quote and it struck me deeply: *"If you only knew how great a blessing comes from the Divine Liturgy, then you would collect even the dust from the floor of the church to wash your faces with it."* St. Gabriel the Confessor of Georgia. WOW! As we approach Great Lent, please try to attend as many services as you are able. What a great refuge our Church is . . . from the storms of life.

Also, I am available for confession most anytime, before or after Vespers, and after Divine Liturgy if need be. I am also available by appointment most anytime during the week. Just let me know. If you have any concerns or questions, please see me. ☺

*With Love and God's Blessing,*

*+ Fr. Seraphim*

## *Examination of the Heart. . . by Abbot Tryphon*

Spiritual progress comes through examination of the heart. Not an hour should pass without taking time to examine our heart, for the hour of judgement can come at any time, and we must be ready to give account to God for our life.

According to Saint Theophan the Recluse, when we examine our lives, we find many instances when God shows His unmistakable mercy on us. Those moments we experienced trouble brewing, God delivered us. We must acknowledge these moments and give thanks to God for His love.

When we practice examination of the heart, we do so with the knowledge that there is no spiritual improvement if we do not seek to please God with holiness of life. If we find good in our deeds, we must attribute it to Christ. If we find we've neglected our spiritual struggle, and acted with foolish abandon, we must turn to God in repentance.

Each moment of each hour must find us resolved to turn ourselves around, knowing that with God's help, we will defeat the enemy of our souls. Holiness comes only to those who struggle, but with God we have the grace needed to battle the enemy.

*Love in Christ,*

*Abbot Tryphon*

*All Merciful Saviour Monastery, Vashon Island, WA.*

**Regarding Confession & Holy Communion: Only those faithful who are Orthodox Christians and have properly prepared themselves by fasting, prayer and confession, and who were at least present for the reading of the Epistle and Gospel, should approach to receive the Holy Eucharist.**