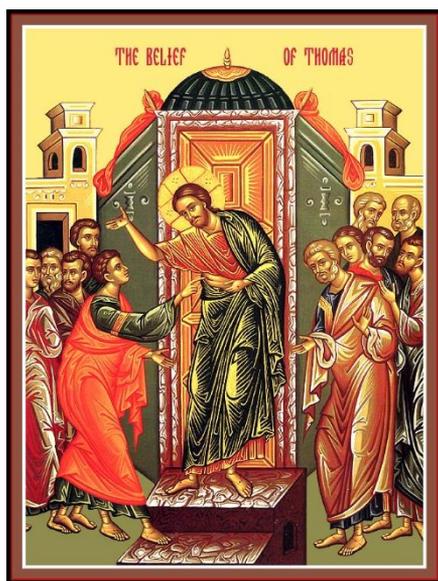


DIocese of Eastern Pennsylvania + Wilkes-Barre Diocese

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



**ST. THOMAS SUNDAY
ΑΝΤΙΠΑΣΧΑ**

MAY 5TH, 2019

ELEVATION OF THE HOLY CROSS ORTHODOX CHURCH

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Williamsport, Pennsylvania 17701-2749

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Today's Scripture Readings:

Epistle: Acts 5:12-20

Gospel: St. John 20:19-31

CHRIST IS RISEN! INDEED HE IS RISEN!

*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

****Wednesday May 8th Vespers @ 6pm**

****Saturday May 11th Great Vespers @ 5pm**

****Sunday May 12th Divine Liturgy @ 10am (Hours @ 9:40)**

****This season's grass cutting list is posted on the bulletin board in the Hall. If your name is not on there, and you would like to help, see Dan Thetford.**

This Sunday is also known as "Antipascha." This does not mean "opposed to Pascha," but "in place of Pascha." Beginning with this first Sunday after Pascha, the Church dedicates every Sunday of the year to the Lord's Resurrection. Sunday is called "Resurrection" in Russian, and "the Lord's Day" in Greek.

LAST SUNDAY – Pascha Apr 28th

Attendance 97 - Regular Offering - \$1354.00

Candles - \$205.00 / Pascha Offerings - \$1125.00

NEXT SUNDAY – May 12th

Reading of the Epistle – Herman A.

Fellowship Hour

May 5th – Lenora & Friends

May 12th – Lamprinos & Armstrong

May 19th – Strayer & Gavlock

Help with clean-up after our meals together is greatly appreciated, so let's ALL help each other! ☺

A Word from Your Pastor . . .

THANK YOU to everyone for helping us all have a beautiful and wonderful Pascha! Let us keep high the Feast!!

Christ Is Risen! Indeed He Is Risen!

Christos Anesti! Alithos Anesti!

Christos Voskrese! Voistinu Voskrese!

Some icons depicting this Sunday are inscribed “The Doubting Thomas.” This is incorrect. In Greek, the inscription reads, “The Touching of Thomas.” The Slavonic inscription is, “The Belief of Thomas.” When Saint Thomas touched the Life-giving side of the Lord, he no longer had any doubts.

With Love and God's Blessing,

+ Fr. Seraphim

It Begins with Me

“Our life depends on the kind of thoughts we nurture. If our thoughts are peaceful, calm, meek, and kind, then that is what our life is like. If our attention is turned to the circumstances in which

we live, we are drawn into a whirlpool of thoughts and can have neither peace nor tranquility (Elder Thaddeus of Vitovnica)".

Saint Saraphim of Sarov said that if we "acquire peace, a thousand around us will be saved", for having been created in the image of God, we are part of the Divine thought that was made material in time and space. We not only influence those around us with our thoughts, but we even influence the cosmos. If we focus on the negative, those negative thoughts impact everyone around us, and even the whole world. The Elder Thaddeus tells us we can be either very good, or very bad, depending on the thoughts and desires we breed.

There is a lot that is wrong with the world, but it begins with me. If there is to be peace in our world, it must begin with me. If hatred, anger, envy, lust, and spite, are to end, it must end with me. When we allow destructive thoughts to destroy our peace, the peace around us is destroyed. We cannot blame the world, or even those around us, for that which happens around us, radiates from us. Blame for all that is wrong with the world, cannot be placed beyond our own hearts.

*Love in Christ,
Abbot Tryphon*

All Merciful Saviour Monastery, Vashon Island, WA.

Regarding Holy Communion: Only those faithful who are Orthodox Christians and have properly prepared themselves by fasting, prayer, 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.* ☺