

DIocese of EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA + WILKES-BARRS DEANERY

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



**APOSTLES OF THE 70: ERASTUS,
OLYMPAS, HERODIUS, SOSPATER,
QUARTUS & TERTIUS**

NOVEMBER 10TH, 2019

ELEVATION OF THE HOLY CROSS ORTHODOX CHURCH

1725 Holy Cross Ln
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Rev. Fr. Seraphim Reynolds, Pastor
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Mr. Michael (Cory) Chelko, Parish President
Mr. Dan Thetford, Vice President

Today's Scripture Readings:

Epistle: Galatians 2:16-20

Gospel: St. Luke 10:25-37

Welcome to ALL our visitors and guests this morning! Please, come over to the Hall after Liturgy for some food & fellowship!!

Services, Events & Announcements

++Wed. Nov 13th – NO Daily Vespers this week (Clergy Retreat)

++Sat. Nov 16th – Great Vespers @ 5pm

++Sun. Nov 17th – Divine Liturgy @ 10am (Hours @ 9:40)

****Thurs. Nov 14th – Ladies W(h)ine Fest - 6pm @ the Sticky Elbow . . . please see Mat. Mary today if you will be attending.**

++Nativity Fast begins this Fri. Nov. 15th++

****Sat. Nov 16th - Women's Retreat at St. Tikhons, (9:30-3:00) flyer and registration forms on the bulletin board.**

****Thurs. Nov 21st – Men's Group – 6pm @ Moon & Raven**

Entrance of the Theotokos - Nov 21st

****Wed. Nov 20th – Great Vespers w/Litya @ 6pm at St. Michael's, Mt Carmel – Baptism of Elizabeth Eugenia Hunter**

****Thurs. Nov 21st – Divine Liturgy @ 10am (Holy Cross)**

LAST SUNDAY – Nov 3rd

Attendance 67 - Regular Offering - \$6841.00

Candles - \$76.50 / Landscape Project - \$1,100.00

Love Offering – \$132.00

NEXT SUNDAY – Nov 17th

Reading of the Epistle – Subdeacon Anthony

From Your Pastor . . .

Please look at the bulletin board in the Hall for other news and events of the Parish. You can also visit our Parish website www.holycrosswilliamsport.org.

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.* ☺

Our Laziness and Misplaced Priorities

Our laziness and misplaced priorities regarding the Sunday and holy day services, keep us from our obligations to God, and endanger the soul, for in keeping ourselves away from God's temple, we remain afar from the cure that comes from participating in the Divine Mysteries. Saint Gregory Palamas tells us that we “may remain uncured, suffering from unbelief in your soul because of deeds or words, and failing to approach Christ's surgery to receive... holy healing”.

Orthodoxy is not a religion by which we can attain salvation in the privacy of our own home, for our faith is a

communal faith, whereby we participate in the Body of Christ in a corporate way. It is in this life that we must participate in the communal life of the Church, for after death there is no treatment for that which separates us from God. There is no repentance after this life, because all people share the same end. Each of us is destined to see the Glory of God at the Second Coming of Christ.

Protopresbyter John Romanides tells us, “All people will see the Glory (Uncreated Light) of God, and from this viewpoint they have the same end. Everyone, of course, will see the Glory of God, but with one difference: The saved will see the Glory of God as a most sweet and never-setting Light, whereas the damned will see the same Glory of God as a consuming fire that will burn them.”

Our laziness, and our misplaced priorities, keep us from the Divine Mysteries, and deprive our soul of the healing grace that comes with an encounter with the Living God. As the Hospital of the Soul, the Church has been established by Christ Himself as that place wherein we receive the cure, so that we may bask in the Eternal Banquet that awaits us in the afterlife. By depriving ourselves of the grace filled Mysteries in this life, that are only found within the life of the Church, we separate ourselves from the very treatment that ensures eternal bliss in the next life.

With Love in Christ, Abbot Tryphon

All Merciful Saviour Monastery, Vashon Island, WA.