

DIocese of Eastern Pennsylvania + Wilkes-Barre Diocese

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



**CHURCH NEW YEAR**

**VEN. SYMONE STYLITE &  
RIGHTSUS JOSHUA**

**SEPTEMBER 1<sup>ST</sup>, 2019**

# ELEVATION OF THE HOLY CROSS ORTHODOX CHURCH

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Williamsport, Pennsylvania 17701-2749

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Mr. Dan Thetford, Asst Warden

## *Today's Scripture Readings:*

*Epistle:* 1 Timothy 2:1-7

*Gospel:* St. Luke 4:16-22

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

## Services, Events & Announcements

++Wednesday Sept 4<sup>th</sup> – Daily Vespers @ 6pm

+ Feast of the Nativity of the Theotokos +

++Saturday Sept 7<sup>th</sup> - Great Vespers w/Litya @ 5pm

++Sunday Sept 8<sup>th</sup> – Divine Liturgy @ 10am (Hours @ 9:40)

++Our Patronal Feastday is Saturday Sept 14<sup>th</sup>! ☺

Friday Sept 13<sup>th</sup> @ 6pm / Saturday Sept 14<sup>th</sup> @ 10am

\*LYRA will once again be with us on Friday Sept 20<sup>th</sup> @ 7pm for an evening of music. Invite someone!!

\*Sunday Oct 13<sup>th</sup> – CROP Walk

+His Eminence, Archbishop MARK will be with us on Oct 27<sup>th</sup>

+Pierogi Prep Work and Sales – Sept 4<sup>th</sup> – Sept 6<sup>th</sup>

LAST SUNDAY – **August 25<sup>th</sup>**  
Attendance 55 - Regular Offering - \$776.00  
Candles - \$55.00 / Memorial - \$35.00

NEXT SUNDAY – **Sept 8<sup>th</sup>**  
Reading of the Epistle – Jason F.

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

### ***The Church New Year***

The first day of the Church New Year is also called the beginning of the *Indiction*. The term Indiction comes from a Latin word meaning, “to impose.” It was originally applied to the imposition of taxes in Egypt. The first worldwide Indiction was in 312 when the Emperor Constantine (May 21) saw a miraculous vision of the Cross in the sky. Before the introduction of the Julian calendar, Rome began the New Year on September 1.

According to Holy Tradition, Christ entered the synagogue on September 1 to announce His mission to mankind (Luke 4:16-22). Quoting Isaiah 61:1-2), the Savior proclaimed, “The spirit of the Lord is upon me; because He has anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent me to proclaim release to captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord...” This scene is depicted in a Vatican manuscript (Vatican, Biblioteca. Cod. Gr. 1613, p.1).

Tradition says that the Hebrews entered the Promised Land in September. ([www.oca.org/saints/lives/2019/09/01/501-church-new-year](http://www.oca.org/saints/lives/2019/09/01/501-church-new-year))

## ***Teaching Children to Love God***

Every Orthodox parent wants their children to grow up attending Sunday Liturgies and staying active in the life of the Church throughout their lives. Yet many parents don't demonstrate the importance of having a personal relationship with God in front of their children. If you do not make God important, neither will your child.

Children observe their parents. They see hypocrisy and know when you are not following through with the teachings of the Church during the week. They hear when you take the Lord's name in vain. They notice when you reserve prayer to weekend service. They notice you only speaking of God on a Sunday morning. Making the sign of the cross, lighting candles and burning incense only on Sundays teaches your children to compartmentalize their own faith, and leaves them defenseless in a world filled with temptations and distractions from things that are of a spiritual nature. If you do not demonstrate the importance of prayer before your children, you will leave them defenseless in a world that hates Christ. Your children need to pray with you, read the scriptures with you, be taught the faith by you.

If you do not make your home a domestic church, your children will be lost to Christ, and Orthodoxy will not be lived out beyond your own grave. If they do not see you living a committed life in Christ, they will turn from the faith, and Orthodoxy will not survive into the next generation.

*With Love in Christ, Abbot Tryphon*

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