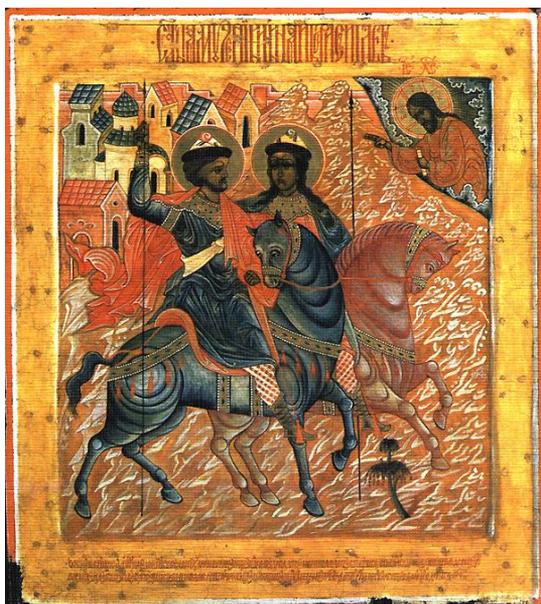


Diocese of Eastern Pennsylvania + Wilkes-Barre Deanery

Elevation of the Holy Cross
Orthodox Church
Williamsport, PA.



*Martyrs and Passion-
bearers Boris & Gleb*

July 24th, 2022

Elevation of the Holy Cross Orthodox Church

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Today's Scripture Readings:

Epistle: Romans 12:6-14; Romans 8:28-39
Gospel: St. Matthew 9:1-8; John 15:17-16:2

A very warm welcome to everyone, and especially to our visitors this morning! Please join us after in the Fellowship Hall!

Services, Events & Announcements

- + *Compline/Bible Study - Wednesday July 27th @ 5:30*
- + *Great Vespers – Saturday July 30th @ 5*
- + *Divine Liturgy - Sunday July 31st, @ 10 (Hours @ 9:40) Fellowship following*
- + Thank you for your prayers while Fr. Seraphim and our delegates attended the *All-American Council* in Baltimore this past week. For detailed information, visit the OCA website.

Our Giving – July 17th, 2022

Tithes/Offerings - \$1,768.00 / Online Giving - \$125.00

Candle Offerings – \$54.00

Love Offerings - \$100.00 (*collections through August will benefit Phoebe Davis and her children*)

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.* If you have any questions about Communion, please see Fr. Seraphim. 😊

Holy Martyrs and Passion-bearers Boris and Gleb of Russia, in holy baptism Romanus and David (1015)

Pious sons of Prince Vladimir, enlightener of Russia, they were named Romanus and David in Baptism. When Prince Vladimir died, his kingdom was divided among his sons (prior to baptism, he had children by several wives). But Prince Svyatopolk, not content with his share, resolved to have his brothers murdered in order to take their territories. Both brothers knew of the plan but resolved not to take up arms against their brother, to avoid civil war and to fulfil the commandment "Resist not evil with violence." Their bodies remained incorrupt and fragrant in death. They are buried in Vyshgorod.

St Olympias the Deaconess (408)

She was born to a noble family in Constantinople: her father Anysius Secundus was a senator. She was betrothed to a nobleman who died before they could be wed; resisting all advice to take another husband, Olympias devoted herself entirely to God, giving her large inheritance to the Church and to the poor. She served as a deaconess, first under the Patriarch Nektarios, then under St John Chrysostom.

When St John was sent into exile, he advised her to remain in Constantinople, and to continue to serve the Church whatever

patriarch took his place. But as soon as the holy hierarch went into exile, a fire destroyed a large part of the City, and St John's enemies accused the holy Olympias of setting the fire. She in turn was exiled to Nikomedia, where she reposed in 408. She left instructions that her body be placed in a coffin and thrown into the sea, to be buried wherever it was cast up. The coffin came to shore at Vrochthoi and was buried there at a church dedicated to the Apostle Thomas. Her relics have continued to be a source of great miracles of healing.

During his exile, St John Chrysostom wrote a number of letters to St Olympias, seventeen of which have been preserved through the centuries. In one he writes: 'Now I am deeply joyful, not only because you have been delivered from sickness, but even more because you are bearing adversities with such fortitude, calling them trifles — a characteristic of a soul filled with power and abounding in the rich fruits of courage. You are not only enduring misfortune with fortitude but are making light of it in a seemingly effortless way, rejoicing and triumphing over it — this is a proof of the greatest wisdom.' (www.abbamoses.com)

Prayers For the Health and Salvation of those in need: Many Years!
Priestmonk Ambrose (Young), Abbot Tryphon, Mitred-Archpriest Nicholas (Harris), Mitred-Archpriest Daniel & Mat. Myra (Kovalak), Archpriest Moses (Berry), Pres. Eva (Koutroulelis), Pres. Rosy (Tanveer), Helen Maybo, Paul Beard, Evelyn Chabal, Phoebe Davis, Michael Kuzmiak, Juliana Matusiak, Catherine Mann, & those suffering in Ukraine

Prayers for the Newly Departed: Memory Eternal!
Protodeacon Averky (Davis) +6/19, Mat. Marion Swencki +6/30, Mat. Helen Ziatyk +7/10, & those who have lost their lives in Ukraine