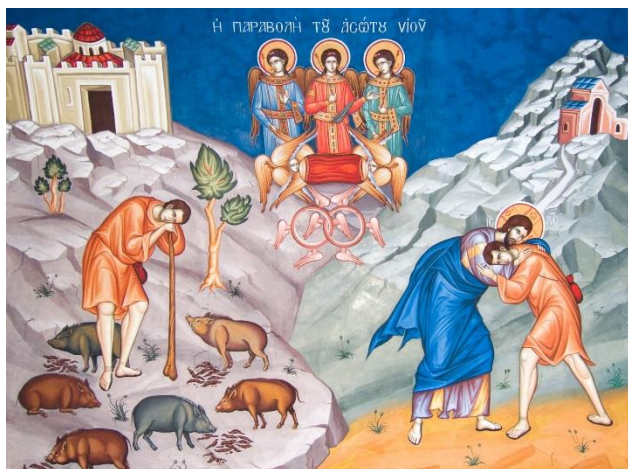


DIocese of Eastern Pennsylvania + Wilkes-Barre Diocese

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



35<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
SUNDAY OF THE PRODIGAL SON  
FEBRUARY 24<sup>TH</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 6:12-20  
*Gospel:* St. Luke 15:11-32

*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, Feb 27<sup>th</sup> @ 5:30pm (Orthodoxy 101 after Vespers)

\*\*Great Vespers - Saturday, Mar 2<sup>nd</sup> @ 5pm

\*\*Divine Liturgy - Sunday, Mar 3<sup>rd</sup> @ 10am (Hours @ 9:40)

\*\*Next Sunday Mar 3<sup>rd</sup> is Meatfare Sunday, and we will have a special "meaty" pot-luck, so please something to share. Anyone wishing to help clean -up after is most welcomed. ☺

\*\*Pierogi week is here: Prep days are Weds Feb 27<sup>th</sup> @ 4pm, Thursday Feb 28 @ 9am and @ 4pm. Pierogi Session on Mar 1 @ 8am. Anyone that wants to help, please see Chris Sinatra or any of the Pierogi Gang.

\*\*The weekly Parish bulletin can now be accessed on the Parish website homepage. Ww w.holycrosswilliamsport.org. **While you are there, please sign up for our Parish Email List.**

LAST SUNDAY - Feb 17

Attendance 68 - Regular Offering - \$807.00

Candles - \$96.43 Monthly Special - \$21.00

Benevolence - \$30.00

NEXT SUNDAY - Mar 3

Reading of the Hours - Mat. Mary

Reading of the Epistle – Jason F.

Fellowship Hour

Mar 3<sup>rd</sup> - Special Meatfare Potluck \*Meatfare Sunday\*

Mar 10<sup>th</sup> - Yvonne B. & Elizabeth Y. \*Cheesefare Sunday\*

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

*A Word from Your Pastor . . .*

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. 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. ☺

House Blessings are still going on! If you would like to have your home blessed, please see the calendar sign-up sheet on the candle counter. Also, please make sure that you pick up a copy of “You Want to Bless My House?” Please consider this wonderful opportunity to get to know your Pastor better. If you have any questions, please see me.

*With Love and God’s Blessing,*

+ *Fr. Seraphim*

## *The Prayer that Can Change Your Life. . . by Abbot Tryphon*

We all need a good dose of silent prayer each and every day. Finding that perfect place in your home that can become your cave, or prayer closet, will afford you that sacred space wherein you can go deep into the heart and connect with God. That place wherein you can close off your family, your worries, your job, your distractions, and go deep into your heart wherein you will find the peace that comes from Christ.

The Jesus Prayer is the perfect prayer, for it is a prayer of adoration and praise, and a prayer that proclaims that Jesus is Lord and, as God, can grant mercy upon you. The simple prayer which invokes the Holy Name of Jesus can transform your life and take you into the very Heart of God. This prayer is known as the Prayer of the Heart for the very reason that it is of the heart.

“Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me a sinner.” Said with the aid of a Prayer Rope (thus bringing your body into the action of the prayer), this prayer accomplishes Saint Paul’s admonition that we should “pray always”. It is a prayer that takes you out of yourself and into communion with Christ. It is a prayer that can change your life because through this prayer you can taste the presence of Christ beside you.

*Love in Christ,*

*Abbot Tryphon*

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