

Diocese of Eastern Pennsylvania + Wilkes-Barre Deanery

# Elevation of the Holy Cross Orthodox Church Williamsport, PA.



## St. Thomas Sunday

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Pascha -  
Antipascha

May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021

# Elevation of the Holy Cross Orthodox Church

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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!***  
***Christos Voskrese! Voistinu Voskrese!***  
***Christos Anesti! Alithos Anesti!***

***A festive welcome to everyone, and especially to our visitors this morning! Please join us for some fellowship after in the Parish Hall!***

## **Services, Events & Announcements**

- + *Compline & Adult Ed – Wednesday May 4<sup>th</sup> @ 5:30pm***
- + *Great Vespers – Saturday May 7<sup>th</sup> @ 5pm***
- + *Sunday of the Holy Myrrhbearers – Divine Liturgy – Mother's Day - May 8<sup>th</sup> @ 10am (Hours @ 9:40) Fellowship following***
- + *3<sup>rd</sup> Official Announcement – Special Parish Meeting – May 1<sup>st</sup>, after Fellowship Hour***

## **Our Giving – PASCHA 2022**

Tithes/Offerings - \$281.00  
Candle Offerings – \$201.00  
PASCHA Gifts - \$1,290.00  
Love Offerings – \$40.00 / Flower Offerings - \$150.00

**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. 😊

**From your Pastor:** Christ Is Risen! Indeed He Is Risen! I pray that you and your families are still basking in the joy of Pascha! I want to thank everyone who had a part in all the preparations for Great Lent, Holy Week and Pascha. It was all incredibly beautiful! Glory Be to God!

*Love in Christ,*  
✝ Fr. Seraphim

"O Lord, what filth is in me! Along came the thought that so-and-so insulted me, and this thought will not abandon me.... After that, I heard about the war in such-and-such a country and the injustice that is being carried out there. And again my thoughts will not leave me in peace, and I begin stating my opinion. All of a sudden my peace is shattered—I have begun to pass judgment...." We must leave everything to the Lord. He will take care of everything in the world. Our thoughts should not become involved in these worldly matters."

Elder Thaddeus of Vitovnica

[Our Thoughts Determine Our Lives: The Life and Teachings of Elder Thaddeus of Vitovnica p.200](#)

"...you must watch your heart, must be kind, and refrain from irritability and movements of self-love, from attachments to earthly

things, and from impure risings of the flesh; otherwise, the priceless treasure of the Spirit will immediately leave you, peace and joy will vanish from your heart..." St. John of Kronstadt

My Life in Christ p.76

“And He calls all to Himself: "Come to Me all you who labor and are heavy laden [those who are exhausted by the troubles and fruitless suffering under the lordship of sinful passions coming from pride and self-love], and I will give you rest." I will give you peace from your passions. "Take My yoke upon you," the yoke of the law of the Gospel, learn from Christ's meekness and humility, and you will find peace for your soul. This yoke of the law of the Gospels, compared with the yoke of the passions, "is easy and My burden is light," for the Lord Himself gives one the strength to bear it through the grace of the Holy Spirit, and His own personal example inspires us to bear this yoke.”

Archbishop Averky (Taushev)

The Four Gospels: Commentary on the Holy Scriptures of the New Testament p.77

***Prayers For the Health and Salvation of those in need: Many Years!***

*His Eminence Archbishop Mark, 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, & those suffering in Ukraine.*

***Prayers for the Newly Departed: Memory Eternal!***

*His Eminence, Archbishop PAUL (Gassios) +4/24, Hieromonk Arsanios +4/7, Protodeacon Sergius Miller +3/16 & those who have lost their lives in Ukraine.*