Orthodox Church in America + Diocese of Eastern Pennsylvania

Elevation of the Holy Cross Orthodox Church

Williamsport, PA.

Martyr Julian of Tarsus in Cilicia (3rd-4th c.)

June 21st, 2026

ORTHODOX CHURCH in AMERICA

Elevation of the Holy Cross Orthodox Church

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Today's Scripture Readings:

Epistle: Romans 5:1-10
Gospel: St. Matthew 6:22-33

Blessed Father's Day!!

A warm welcome to everyone this morning! Please join us for some fellowship after Liturgy in the Parish Hall!

This Week at Holy Cross

✝ *Church open for prayer/Confession* on Thursday * 7-9:30am. Please let Fr Seraphim know if you are coming for Confession.

✝ ***No Compline / Bible Study*** – Wednesday June 24th

✝ ***Great Vespers*** – Saturday June 27th * 5pm

✝ ***Hours & Divine Liturgy*** – Sunday June 28th * 9:40 Fellowship following in the Hall.

✝ June Benevolence – *Office of Pastoral Life Financial Health Program*

** THANK YOU to all who helped with the ***Community Luncheon!!***

June 13 & 14, 2026

Attendance: Vespers – 25 / Divine Liturgy - 99
Collection - $3,670.00 / Online Giving - $341.00
Candle Offerings – $63.00 / Benevolence - $255.00

Thank you all for your support of our Parish!!

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

✝ *Martyr Julian of Tarsus*

The Holy Martyr Julian of Tarsus was born at Diocesarea in the province of Cilicia. He was the son of a pagan senator, but his mother was a Christian. After the death of her husband, she and Julian moved to Tarsus, where her son was baptized and raised in Christian piety. When Julian reached the age of eighteen, Emperor Diocletian (284-305) began to persecute Christians, issuing a decree that everyone had to offer sacrifice to the idols. If they refused, they would be tortured. Among those arrested was Saint Julian. They brought him before the eparch Marcian to be tried, and for a long time they urged him to renounce Christ. Neither tortures nor threats, nor promises of gifts or honors could convince the devout young man to sacrifice to the idols and deny Christ, and so the holy confessor remained steadfast in his faith.

For a whole year they led the martyr through the cities of Cilicia, everywhere subjecting him to interrogation and torture, after which they threw him in prison. Saint Julian's mother followed her son and prayed that the Lord would strengthen him. In the city of Aegea, she besought the eparch to let her to visit the prison, ostensibly to persuade her son to offer sacrifice to the idols. When she saw him, she did just the opposite. She spent three days in prison with Saint Julian, exhorting him to remain strong until the end.

Once again, Saint Julian was brought before the eparch. Thinking that his mother had persuaded her son to obey the imperial decree, Marcian tried to convince her to offer sacrifice, but she continued to confess Jesus Christ, and boldly denounced polytheism. Marcian then ordered that her feet be cut off, since she had followed her son from Tarsus.

Then Saint Julian was placed into a sack filled with sand and poisonous snakes, and it was thrown into the sea. The Martyr's body was carried by the waves to the shores of Alexandria. There his body was buried by a certain pious Christian. Saint Julian's death occurred around the year 305. Afterward, his relics were transferred to Antioch.

Saint John Chrysostom honored the holy Martyr Julian with an encomium, and fragments of the Saint's relics are found in the Monasteries of Pantokrator and Saint Panteleimon on Mount Athos. We pray to Saint Julian to protect gardens and fields from creeping things, snakes, and harmful insects. (oca.org)

"Orthodoxy is life. If we don't live Orthodoxy, we simply are not Orthodox, no matter what formal beliefs we might hold."

Bl Fr. Seraphim Rose (+1982)

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

His Eminence Archbishop Alexander, Hieroschemamonk Ambrose (Young), Abbot Tryphon, Mitred-Archpriest Nicholas (Harris), Mitred-Archpriest Daniel (Kovalak), Mat. Myra (Kovalak), Pres. Eva (Koutroulelis), Mat. Mary Reynolds, Paul Beard, Harry Hiras, Evelyn Chabal, Amelia Kuzmiak, Juliana Matusiak, Isaac Bannister, Michael Lazorchak, Brian Gunter, Joanna Bohlander, John Dykes, Mary Fish, Innocent Sam, Chris Gehret, Bridget Youmans, Stephanie Raptis, Hannah Conover, Anthony Arroyo & those suffering from the wars and unrest in Ukraine, Russia, & the Middle East. ***Our Catechumens*:** Jiselle Macari, Spencer Leoutsakos, Benjamin Zachariah (Military), Garette, Morgan, Charlotte & Nathaniel Fallon, Rick Lucas, Dean Johnson, Jennifer Benick, Joseph Fazio, Dallas Compton, Jonathan, Madison (& child born of her), Felicity & Edmund Race, Mason Hall, Andrew Gehret, Donald & Alyssa Rubino & Michael Remick

Prayers for the Newly Departed: Memory Eternal

Hieromonk Alexis (Lisenko) + 6/12, Fr Dcn John Wesner +5/15, John Sam +5/12, James Lew Shatto +5/13, Theodore Federoff +6/18 and All those who have lost their lives in the wars & unrest in Ukraine, Russia, the Middle East and around the world.