

DIOCESE OF EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA + WILKES-BARRS DEANERY

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



**SUNDAY OF THE PARALYTIC  
MAY 19<sup>TH</sup>, 2019**

# ELEVATION OF THE HOLY CROSS ORTHODOX CHURCH

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Mr. Dan Thetford, Asst Warden

## ***Today's Scripture Readings:***

*Epistle:* Acts 9:32-42

*Gospel:* St. John 5:1-15

***CHRIST IS RISEN! INDEED HE IS RISEN!***

*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**

**\*\*Parish Council Meeting May 21<sup>st</sup> @ 6pm**

**\*\*Wednesday May 22<sup>nd</sup> Vespers @ 6pm (Orthodoxy 101 after Vespers)**

**\*\*Saturday May 25<sup>th</sup> Great Vespers @ 5pm**

**\*\*Sunday May 26<sup>th</sup> Divine Liturgy @ 10am (Hours @ 9:40)**

**\*\*This season's grass cutting list is posted on the bulletin board in the Hall. If your name is not on there, and you would like to help, contact Dan Thetford.**

**LAST SUNDAY – May 12<sup>th</sup>**  
**Attendance 42 - Regular Offering - \$1795.00**  
**Candles - \$77.00 / Love Offerings - \$170.00**  
**Memorial Offerings – \$100.00**

**NEXT SUNDAY – May 26<sup>th</sup>**  
**Reading of the Epistle – Herman A.**

**Fellowship Hour**  
**May 26<sup>th</sup> – Yonkin / Bohlander**  
**June 2<sup>nd</sup> – Almasy / Beard**  
**June 9<sup>th</sup> – Chelko / Andrew S.**

*Help with clean-up after our meals together is greatly appreciated, so let's ALL help each other! ☺*

***A Word from Your Pastor . . .***

This Tuesday we will be having our monthly Parish Council Meeting. Any member is invited to attend, to see what we are doing in our day to day Parish life.

The Leave-taking of Pascha is June 5<sup>th</sup>, so let us keep high the Feast of Feasts!!

***Christ Is Risen! Indeed He Is Risen!***

***Christos Anesti! Alithos Anesti!***

***Christos Voskrese! Voistinu Voskrese!***

*With Love and God's Blessing,*

*✠ Fr. Seraphim*

**Anger**

Abba Evagrius the Monk said that, "Anger is by nature designed for waging war with the demons and for struggling with every kind of sinful pleasure. Therefore angels, arousing spiritual pleasure in us and giving us to taste its blessedness, incline us to direct our anger against the demons. But the demons, enticing us towards worldly lusts, make us use anger to fight with men, which

is against nature, so that the mind, thus stupefied and darkened, should become a traitor to virtues.”

The Fathers tell us that whenever anyone takes God’s name in vain the ramifications reverberate throughout the entire cosmos. However insignificant we may think our uttered angry words may be, they impact the whole of God’s universe. Redemption is not just about us, but the whole of the universe. My salvation and your salvation are interconnected. When a Christian falls into such sin it is especially tragic, for there are many non-believers who guard their words better than many who profess Christ.

We must strive by every means to preserve peace of soul and not allow ourselves to be disturbed by offenses from others. In every way we must strive to restrain anger and remain attentive to the mind and heart. We must make every effort to bear the offenses and insults of others and accustom ourselves to such a disposition of spirit that their offenses not concern us. By guarding our thoughts, we can give quietness to our heart and make it as a dwelling for God Himself

Abba Nilus said, “Prayer is the seed of gentleness and the absence of anger.” If we truly be of Christ, we have the means to change, for it is because we have Christ in us that victory over the passions can be ours. There is simply no excuse for a Christian to lose his temper.

Ephesians 4:26, “Do not let the sun go down on the anger of your brother,” and Ephesians 4:29, “Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth, but what is good for necessary edification, that it may impart grace to the hearers.”

*Love in Christ,*

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

**Regarding Holy Communion: Only those faithful who are Orthodox Christians and have properly prepared themselves by fasting, prayer, 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.* 😊**