

Exaltation of the Precious and Life-Giving Cross – September 14th

The Feast of the Universal Exaltation of the Precious and Life-Giving Cross is celebrated each year on September 14. The Feast commemorates the finding of the True Cross of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ by Saint Helen, the mother of the Emperor Constantine.

Background

In the twentieth year of his reign (326), the Emperor Constantine sent his mother Saint Helen to Jerusalem to venerate the holy places and to find the site of the Holy Sepulchre and of the Cross. Relying upon the oral tradition of the faithful, Saint Helen found the precious Cross together with the crosses of the two thieves crucified with our Lord. However, Helen had no way of determining which was the Cross of Christ.

With the healing of a dying woman who touched one of the crosses, Patriarch Macarius of Jerusalem identified the True Cross of Christ. Saint Helen and her court venerated the Precious and Life-Giving Cross along with many others who came to see this great instrument of Redemption.

The Patriarch mounted the ambo (pulpit) and lifted the Cross with both hands so that all of the people gathered could see it. The crowd responded with "Lord have mercy".

This became the occasion of the institution in all of the Churches of the Exaltation of the Precious Cross, not only in memory of the event of the finding of the Cross, but also to celebrate how an instrument of shame was used to overcome death and bring salvation and eternal life.

The Feast is an opportunity outside of the observances of Holy Week to celebrate the full significance of the victory of the Cross over the powers of the world, and the triumph of the wisdom of God through the Cross over the wisdom of this world. This Feast also gives the Church an opportunity to relish the full glory of the Cross as a source of light, hope and victory for Christ's people. It is also a time to celebrate the universality of the work of redemption accomplished through the Cross: the entire universe is seen through the light of the Cross, the new Tree of Life which provides nourishment for those who have been redeemed in Christ.

Source: <https://www.goarch.org/exaltation>

Icon of the Feast

The icon of the Feast of the Precious Cross tells the story of the finding of the Cross and of its Exaltation. Patriarch Macarius is standing in the pulpit elevating the Cross for all to see and venerate. On each side of the Patriarch are deacons holding candles. The elevated Cross is surrounded and venerated by many clergy and lay people, including Saint Helen, the mother of Emperor Constantine.

In the background of the icon is a domed structure that represents the Church of the Resurrection in Jerusalem. This church was one of the churches constructed and dedicated by Emperor Constantine on the holy sites of Jerusalem.

Source: <https://www.goarch.org/exaltation>

Holy Spirit Byzantine Catholic Church
360 Clinton Street, Binghamton, NY 13905

Ss. Peter and Paul Byzantine Catholic Church
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Confessions: (Holy Spirit)
Sundays from 8:00am – 8:30 (Before Divine Liturgy)

Parishes Website:
<https://www.southerntiertybyzatholic.com>

Bulletin: churchbulletin0@gmail.com

On-Line Giving: Please use the link below for on-line donations for Ss. Peter & Paul OR for Holy Spirit Church:
<https://secure.myvanco.com/L-ZA77/home>

You can also scan the QR code with your phone or you can visit the Parish website for a link !

Thank you for your support of your Churches!



September 14, 2025

Exaltation of the Holy Cross



THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS
– September 14th –

✠ Liturgies for the Week of 9/13 – 9/21 ✠

SAT Sept 13 Dedication of the Church of the Resurrection of our Lord in Jerusalem (335)

--- No Divine Services ---

SUN Sept 14 Exaltation of the Holy Cross

9:00 am Holy Spirit – ✠ Myron Deliman by Eleanor Deliman

Apostol: 1 Cor 1: 18-24
Gospel: Jn 19: 6-11,
13-21, 25-27, 30-35

(Tone *)

11:00 am Ss. Peter & Paul – Living and Deceased Members of Holy Spirit
and Ss. Peter & Paul Byzantine Catholic Churches

MON Sept 15 The Holy Great Martyr Nicetas (372)

--- No Divine Services ---

TUES Sept 16 The Holy Great Martyr Euphemia (303)

9:30 am Ss. Peter & Paul – Health and Blessings upon the Schmidt and Swygart Families

WED Sept 17 The Holy Martyr Sophia (Wisdom) and her three Children, Faith, Hope, and Charity

--- No Divine Services ---

THU Sept 18 Our Venerable Father Eumenius the Wonder-worker, Bishop of Gortyna

--- No Divine Services ---

FRI Sept 19 The Holy Martyrs Trophimus, Sabbatius, and Dorymedont (c. 227)

--- No Divine Services ---

SAT Sept 20 Holy Martyr Eustace and his Companions (118)

--- No Divine Services ---

SUN Sept 21 Sunday after the Exaltation of the Holy Cross

9:00 am Holy Spirit – ✠ Charles Punako by Daughters:
Nancy Mastry, Sonya Hildebrandt, and Diane Hover

Apostol: Gal 2: 16-20
Gospel: Mk 8: 34 – 9: 1

(Tone 6)

11:00 am Ss. Peter & Paul – Living and Deceased Members of Holy Spirit
and Ss. Peter & Paul Byzantine Catholic Churches



Candle Intentions: Please see the sheet posted in the Church vestibule for the Candle Intentions and Sponsors for the Month of ✠ **September**.



Happy Birthday: We'd like to wish a very Happy Birthday to:

Olga Demoski, who will celebrate her Birthday this Monday, **September 15th**, and
Irene Bealo, who will celebrate her Birthday this Wednesday, **September 17th**

May Our Lord and God bless them and grant them long life, good health, peace and happiness for
Many Happy and Blessed Years! - Na Mnohaja i Blahaja Lita!



Holy Spirit / Ss. Peter & Paul Rummage Sale: The Holy Spirit / Ss. Peter & Paul Annual rummage Sale will be held on **Saturday, November 1st, 2025** !

We are currently collecting items for the Rummage Sale. They can be **dropped off during the Coffee Social Hours on Sunday**, or you can contact Daria Shierly at eagle27endwell@gmail.com or 607-760-1892. More details to follow as we get closer to the sale. **Thank you for your Support !**



Stephen Dean, the cantor from Ss. Peter and Paul Church, is **hosting classes** to help anyone who is interested in learning more about singing the melodies of the Divine Liturgy in the Green Book, including the eight tones, Troparions, Kontikons, and even the Prokeimenon and Alleluias. Reading of music is not required and everyone is welcome !

The **remaining list of Thursday classes** before winter **are listed BELOW**. They will start again **next April**.



The FINAL Classes will be: **9/18/25 class**, **9/25/25 class** & **10/2/25 (last class before winter break)**. All classes will remain from **4:00 pm to 5:30 pm** at Ss. Peter and Paul Church.



Social Hour: NEXT Sunday, September 21st, we will be having our social hour in the Holy Spirit Church Hall after the 9:00 am Holy Spirit liturgy. All are welcome and encouraged to come and have a cup of coffee & snack with your fellow parishioners.

There still a few dates that are in need of a sponsor, please consider signing up for one of these future dates so we can continue this ministry. A signup sheet is in the church vestibule. **Thank You! ✠**



Holy Spirit Church 50/50 Raffle: The **winner of August's 50/50 Raffle** is: **Audrey Kalb**



Congratulations Audrey! The total entered for August was \$105.00 and Audrey won \$52.50 !! Audrey, please contact **Daria Shierly** at eagle27endwell@gmail.com or 607-760-1892 regarding your winnings. **Thank you to everyone for your support !**



On-Line Giving: Please use this link for on-line donations for *SS. Peter & Paul* OR for *Holy Spirit Church*:

<https://secure.myvanco.com/L-ZA77/home>

Or, you can scan the QR code to the right, with your phone. You can also visit the Parish website or Facebook pages for links! **Thank you for your support! ✠**

