

WELCOME TO ASCENSION

SAVE YOUR PEOPLE, OH GOD, AND BLESS YOUR INHERITANCE

PLEASE KEEP SOCIAL DISTANCE

SUN	Okt 30	21TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST After – Hospitality Gal 2:16-20 Lk 8:26:39 Tone 4
	11:00	Divine Liturgy For All Our Parishioners + John Labanish by Betta Labanish
Tue	Nov 1	8: 30am For Our Parishioners & For HGB Frank & Christine Janke by Fr. Alex
	5:15 pm	ADULT BIBLE STUDY (in Church Hall)
Wed	Nov 2	8:30am For Our Parishioners and HGB Katharina & Steven Margan by Fr. Alex MOLEBEN TO THE THEOTOKOS -Special Intention
Thu	Nov 3	8:30am For Our Parishioners and + Michael Dunhan by Patricia Dunhan After - Bible Study
	6:00pm	- ROSARY - Prayer for Protection and Healing of the coronavirus and all serious illnesses by Men's Club
SUN	NOV 6	22TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST After – Hospitality Gal 6:11-18 Lk 8:41:56 Tone 5
	11:00	Divine Liturgy For All Our Parishioners and + Claudia Luecke by Helen Luecke
	1:00 pm	Ascension's Young Adult Fellowship.



WE EXPRESS OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO DEBBIE KOTYK AS HER MOTHER, MARY VIEIRA, PASSED AWAY ON SUNDAY OCTOBER 17, 2022. MAY HER MEMORY BE ETERNAL. Fr. Alex

Thank your Ascension family for remembering you with beautiful cards and gifts as you celebrated your 31st Anniversary of your Ordination to the Priesthood. Fr Alex

Prayer to Guardian Angel

ANGEL OF GOD, MY GUARDIAN DEAR, TO WHOM HIS LOVE COMMITS ME HERE: EVER THIS DAY BE AT MY SIDE, TO LIGHT AND GUARD, TO RULE AND GUIDE. AMEN

We have several faithful from Ascension who are in need of special prayer.

Some of those who need special prayer are:

Frank and Chris Janke, Mary Grace Dorsey, Ben Pawers, Betta Labanish, Betty May Hertz, Emma Bernier, Lolly Vinson, William McGraw, June McGraw, Darren and June Hall, Aurora & Jaime Daquilanea, Mary Ann Drumtra, Steven Margan Thank you. Fr. Alex

ADULT BIBLE STUDY

Bible Study is held on the first and third Tuesdays. The next Bible study will be on **Tuesday November 1 and 15** from, 5:15 to 6:30 PM. The subject will be The Church (Session 22 in the Ascension workbook), The discussion will cover Acts Chapters 7 to 15. Please join us for great food and a wonderful conversation-based journey through Scripture! See Dr. Michael Lechman and Michael Bracelin for questions.

IN THIS CHURCH, WE BELIEVE

IN THE HOLY SPIRIT; THE HOLY CATHOLIC CHURCH; THE COMMUNION OF SAITS; THE FORGIVENESS OF SINS; THE RESURRECTION OF THE BODY; AND LIFE EVERLASTING

If any parishioners plan to visit Edmonton, Canada, please speak with Father Alex regarding picking up a needed item for faith formation.

Many unique items come into the shop weekly. We have a great selection of special-occasion gifts and religious items unique to the Williamsburg area, including a wide selection of spiritual books, music, icons and devotional and inspirational articles plus hand-made soaps, local honey.

SPECIAL ORDERS WELCOMED.

FINANCIALS, October 23, 2022

Monthly Dues –50.00; Offertory –878.00; Candles-28.00; Diocesan Income-120.00; Kitchen Income-75.00 In – 1,031.00; Out –510.08

Ascension's Young Adult Fellowship. Anyone age 18 to 40 is invited. After liturgy on Sunday, November 6 from 1 PM to 3 PM. Meet in St. Phillip's Hall. The topic will be an introduction to Philokalia and Christ Our Pascha Catechism. There will be potluck. Come and learn together! "This is the ultimate in human knowledge of God: to know that we do not know Him." St. Thomas of Aquinas, *Questiones Disputatae de Potentia Dei*, 7:5 ad 14.

Happy NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

1st Eric Hunter; 3rd Daisy Olson; 7th Walter Picconi; 16th Ann Kelly;
16th Delores Clinton; 18th Natalie Collions; 20th Michael Yackanich;
22nd Morgan Kelly;

CLOSING HYMN: Liturgy is not over until the closing hymn is complete, please refrain from conversation in the church. Remember we are live streaming. Thank you.

Samaritans Purse. Shoebox Project

Now that Covid is almost over we will once again restart the wonderful project of filling **Shoe Boxes** with goodies for needy children all over the world. For more information contact **ORY STEFANIW**

God bless America!!!

HOSPITALITY - is in need of volunteers for 2023. Please see Chris Noonan if interested.

Let's Keep Our Parish Safe and Secure
New In Person Training For Our Security Team

Let's be prepared and proactive for any event that may happen on church property during our Sunday Divine Liturgy and every day.

IMPORTANT REMINDER FOR ALL PARISHONERS:

AFTER LITURGY ON SUNDAY NOVEMBER 13, THE YORK-POQUOSON SHERIFF'S OFFICE WILL PRESENT THEIR CIVILIAN RESPONSE TO ACTIVE SHOOTER EVENT (CRASE) COURSE. Thank you, Father Alex

We will still collect donations for the Ukrainian Humanitarian Cause. You may place your generous gift in the basket with the Ukrainian Flag. You will find it at the Icon Screen. Thank you for your gift of hope! Fr. Alex

Candles for October:

Sanctuary Lamp... + John Labanish by Betta Labanish
Tetrapod... + Elvira & Anthony DeGaspari by Ann Kelly
Theotokos & Child... HGB Michael Noonan by Chris Noonan
John Baptist... HGB Morgan Kelly by Ann Kelly
St Nicholas... HGB Merle & Teresa Phillips by MaryAnn Drumtra
Protection Theotokos... For Our Parishioners
Christ Teacher...HGB Norma Duttry by Patty Duttry

The Williamsburg **House of Mercy feed and shelter your neighbors?** This summer, Williamsburg House of Mercy gave food to 208 families in a single day and has moved 25 households into stable housing. For more information on how to donate or our shopping list, please visit WilliamsburgHouseOfMercy.org. Will you help? Thank you for being the hands and feet of Christ to our community!
Thank you. God Bless, Larissa

Seven Signs - Part One

Prelude - The Gospel of John stands apart from the synoptic gospels in many ways. John, who wrote his gospel many years after the first three, was writing to an audience that had witnessed the fall of Jerusalem and the early persecutions, as well as the rise of heresies surrounding Jesus, such as Gnosticism, which questions the divine nature of Christ. In his gospel, John seeks to define Christ as the incarnation of the Divine Word. John is concerned more with theology than with a geographically accurate historical timeline. In his gospel, John records only seven major miracles. This letter will begin to explore these seven signs.

The first Sign - The Wedding Feast in Cana

The wedding feast of Cana was the first recorded public miracle of Jesus. As such, it began His public ministry and path toward Calvary and the cross, for up until that time Jesus had not manifested himself beyond being a very learned Rabbi, and the son of a carpenter. It all changed at Cana.

Jesus often referred to wedding feasts in His parables. Indeed, Jesus' ministry and role in our salvation is analogous to a wedding feast. Jewish wedding arrangements were complex and would take some time to complete. The Jewish wedding feast could last for seven days. It would take months to prepare, and it was a grave responsibility to keep the wedding guests satisfied and joyful. Wine at a traditional Jewish wedding feast was extremely important as it symbolizes joy and life. To run out of wine would be embarrassing, even shameful.

The role of the Blessed Virgin - When it was found that the wedding feast had run out of wine, Mary, without hesitation, went to her Son, whom she knew could resolve the problem. All she said to Him was, "They have no wine." Like a prayer, for in her words she expresses the acknowledgement of her Son's divine power as well as a request to remedy the situation. Being her Son, God incarnate, she knew nothing else need be said. Here we find the gift of Mary's intercession. On this occasion it was an intercession on behalf of the wedding party. Mary still intercedes for us

today before the throne of God. A powerful intercession for all who come to her.

Jesus protested, "Oh woman, what have you to do with Me? My hour has not yet come." In addressing His mother as Woman, Jesus was not being disrespectful. John is connecting Mary with the Old Testament stories of Creation. This would have had a profound impact on the followers of Christ. In addressing her as Woman, Mary has become the New Eve, the one whose seed, Jesus, will bruise the head of the serpent as foretold in chapter three of Genesis. Jesus would address Mary as Woman one other time while he was hanging from the cross. But for now, let us return to the wedding feast.

Mary, being full of grace and understanding, knew this action would begin Jesus' long road to the cross. There would be no turning back. Jesus is asking her this question to clarify the consequences. Yet within Mary's humility was a strength of purpose. There was no hesitation. Like the ready response she once gave to the Angel; "Be it done according to thy word.", Her response to Jesus' words was immediate and decisive. She replied to Jesus' question with action. A complete cooperation with the divine plan. She turned to the wine steward and spoke for the last time in recorded scripture. "Do whatever He tells you." The instruction could well have been given to the disciples present at the feast that day. Indeed, it speaks through the ages to us today, clearly.

It is significant that the jars used to contain the water turned to wine were those used to contain water for Jewish ritual purification. They were made of stone, rather than clay, as stone was seen as a superior vessel to hold the purification water. The symbolism of Old Testament ritual connection with New Testament revelation is very important. The water changed into wine would come to symbolize the blood of Jesus, who being the superior vessel, would come one day to shed on the cross to "purify" mankind.

Even though Saint John the Baptist had earlier named Jesus "The Lamb of God", at Cana, Jesus manifested Himself for the first time in Galilee. It was here that "...His disciples believed in Him." Jn. 2:11. There would now be no turning back. Jesus was on the road to Calvary.

Yours in Christ
Brother Joseph

Nothing but a Number

Japanese mountain climber Yuichiro Miura reached the summit of Mount Everest at age 70.

George Brunstad was also 70 when he swam the English Channel. Naval officer Grace Hopper became the first female rear admiral of the United States Navy when she was 79. Margaret Haggerty completed her quest to run a marathon on each of the seven continents when she was 84.

If stories like these teach us anything, it's that senior adults are capable of amazing things.

That was certainly true of Joshua. Even though he was probably nearing the century mark, God had a plan for him. Age didn't matter to God. Rather than telling Joshua to rest, retire or step aside for a younger replacement, God instructed him to get to work.

Perhaps we should take a cue from God in our attitude toward older adults. From an early age most of us were taught to respect our elders. However, too often we confuse politeness for respect. What's the difference? Politeness might include offering a hand to senior adults when they struggle with steps or making awkward small talk with aging relatives at family gatherings. Respect, however, would include realizing that with their years of challenges and experiences these adults are a rich, God-given resource.

In this age of politically correct labels, perhaps a better name for senior citizens is "ultra-experienced adults." God entrusted Joshua with an important duty a quarter century after Joshua reached retirement age because of his vast military experience and knowledge.

Think of the older adults you know. How does God want to use them in your life? What experiences of theirs might benefit you? What life lessons have they learned that might keep you from making a bad decision? And what might you be able to learn from hearing their stories and asking for their advice?

To Take Away

- How would you describe your attitude toward senior adults?*
- Think of two or three seniors you know. What might getting to know them better add to your life?*
- What steps can you take this week to build a mutually beneficial relationship with an older adult?*

Psalm 1

Blessed are they who hope in the Lord.

Blessed the man who follows not
the counsel of the wicked
Nor walks in the way of sinners,
nor sits in the company of the insolent,
But delights in the law of the LORD
and meditates on his law day and night.

Blessed are they who hope in the Lord.

He is like a tree
planted near running water,
That yields its fruit in due season,
and whose leaves never fade.
Whatever he does, prospers.

Blessed are they who hope in the Lord.

Not so, the wicked, not so;
they are like chaff which the wind drives away.
For the LORD watches over the way of the just,
but the way of the wicked vanishes.

Blessed are they who hope in the Lord.

Psalm 95

If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

Come, let us sing joyfully to the LORD;
let us acclaim the Rock of our salvation.
Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving;
let us joyfully sing psalms to him.

If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

Come, let us bow down in worship;
let us kneel before the LORD who made us.
For he is our God,
and we are the people he shepherds, the flock he guides.

If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

Oh, that today you would hear his voice:
“Harden not your hearts as at Meribah,
as in the day of Messiah in the desert,
Where your fathers tempted me;
they tested me though they had seen my works.”

If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

Psalm 23

Even though I walk in the dark valley I fear no evil; for you are at my side.

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.
In verdant pastures he gives me repose;
Beside restful waters he leads me;
he refreshes my soul.

Even though I walk in the dark valley I fear no evil; for you are at my side.

He guides me in right paths
for his name's sake.
Even though I walk in the dark valley
I fear no evil; for you are at my side
With your rod and your staff
that give me courage.

Even though I walk in the dark valley I fear no evil; for you are at my side.

You spread the table before me
in the sight of my foes;
You anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.

Even though I walk in the dark valley I fear no evil; for you are at my side.

Only goodness and kindness follow me
all the days of my life;
And I shall dwell in the house of the LORD
for years to come.

Even though I walk in the dark valley I fear no evil; for you are at my side.

Psalm 16

Keep me safe, O God; you are my hope.

Keep me, O God, for in you I take refuge;
I say to the LORD, "My Lord are you."
O LORD, my allotted portion and my cup,
you it is who hold fast my lot.

Keep me safe, O God; you are my hope.

I bless the LORD who counsels me;
even in the night my heart exhorts me.
I set the LORD ever before me;
with him at my right hand I shall not be disturbed.

Keep me safe, O God; you are my hope.

Therefore my heart is glad and my soul rejoices,
my body, too, abides in confidence;
Because you will not abandon my soul to the nether world,
nor will you suffer your faithful one to undergo corruption.

Keep me safe, O God; you are my hope.

You will show me the path to life,
fullness of joys in your presence,
the delights at your right hand forever.

Keep me safe, O God; you are my hope.

Psalm 138

Your right hand saves me, O Lord.

I will give thanks to you, O LORD, with all my heart,
for you have heard the words of my mouth;
in the presence of the angels I will sing your praise;
I will worship at your holy temple,
and give thanks to your name.

Your right hand saves me, O Lord.

Because of your kindness and your truth,
you have made great above all things
your name and your promise.
When I called, you answered me;
you built up strength within me.

Your right hand saves me, O Lord.

Your right hand saves me.
The LORD will complete what he has done for me;
your kindness, O LORD, endures forever;
forsake not the work of your hands.

Your right hand saves me, O Lord.

Psalm 113

The Lord will give him a seat with the leaders of his people.

Praise, you servants of the LORD,
praise the name of the LORD.
Blessed be the name of the LORD
both now and forever.

The Lord will give him a seat with the leaders of his people.

From the rising to the setting of the sun
is the name of the LORD to be praised.
High above all nations is the LORD;
above the heavens is his glory.

The Lord will give him a seat with the leaders of his people.

Who is like the LORD, our God, who is enthroned on high
and looks upon the heavens and the earth below?

The Lord will give him a seat with the leaders of his people.

He raises up the lowly from the dust;
from the dunghill he lifts up the poor
To seat them with princes,
with the princes of his own people.

The Lord will give him a seat with the leaders of his people.

Psalm 104

Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.

Bless the LORD, O my soul!
O LORD, my God, you are great indeed!
How manifold are your works, O LORD!
the earth is full of your creatures.

Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.

May the glory of the LORD endure forever;
may the LORD be glad in his works!
Pleasing to him be my theme;
I will be glad in the LORD.

Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.

If you take away their breath, they perish
and return to their dust.
When you send forth your spirit, they are created,
and you renew the face of the earth.

Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.

Psalm 11

The LORD is in his holy temple;
the LORD's throne is in heaven.
His eyes behold,
his searching glance is on mankind.

The just will gaze on your face, O Lord.

The LORD searches the just and the wicked;
the lover of violence he hates.
For the LORD is just, he loves just deeds;
the upright shall see his face.

The just will gaze on your face, O Lord.

Psalm 103

The Lord has established his throne in heaven.

Bless the LORD, O my soul;
and all my being, bless his holy name.
Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and forget not all his benefits.

The Lord has established his throne in heaven.

For as the heavens are high above the earth,
so surpassing is his kindness toward those who fear him.
As far as the east is from the west,
so far has he put our transgressions from us.

The Lord has established his throne in heaven.

The LORD has established his throne in heaven,
and his kingdom rules over all.
Bless the LORD, all you his angels,
you mighty in strength, who do his bidding.

The Lord has established his throne in heaven.

He who walks blamelessly and does justice;
who thinks the truth in his heart
and slanders not with his tongue.

He who does justice will live in the presence of the Lord.

Who harms not his fellow man,
nor takes up a reproach against his neighbor;
By whom the reprobate is despised,
while he honors those who fear the LORD.

He who does justice will live in the presence of the Lord.

Who lends not his money at usury
and accepts no bribe against the innocent.
He who does these things
shall never be disturbed.

He who does justice will live in the presence of the Lord.

Psalm 15

He who does justice will live in the presence of the Lord.

Exodus 15

Let us sing to the Lord; he has covered himself in glory.

I will sing to the LORD, for he is gloriously triumphant;
horse and chariot he has cast into the sea.
My strength and my courage is the LORD,
and he has been my savior.
He is my God, I praise him;
the God of my father, I extol him.

Let us sing to the Lord; he has covered himself in glory.

The LORD is a warrior,
LORD is his name!
Pharaoh's chariots and army he hurled into the sea;
the elite of his officers were submerged in the Red Sea.

Let us sing to the Lord; he has covered himself in glory.

The flood waters covered them,
they sank into the depths like a stone.
Your right hand, O LORD, magnificent in power,
your right hand, O LORD, has shattered the enemy.

Let us sing to the Lord; he has covered himself in glory.

Psalm 69

Turn to the Lord in your need, and you will live.

I am sunk in the abysmal swamp
where there is no foothold;
I have reached the watery depths;
the flood overwhelms me.

Turn to the Lord in your need, and you will live.

But I pray to you, O LORD,
for the time of your favor, O God!
In your great kindness answer me
with your constant help.

Turn to the Lord in your need, and you will live.

But I am afflicted and in pain;
let your saving help, O God, protect me;
I will praise the name of God in song,
and I will glorify him with thanksgiving.

Turn to the Lord in your need, and you will live.

“See, you lowly ones, and be glad;
you who seek God, may your hearts revive!
For the LORD hears the poor,
and his own who are in bonds he spurns not.”

Turn to the Lord in your need, and you will live.

Psalm 106

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

Our fathers made a calf in Horeb
and adored a molten image;

They exchanged their glory
for the image of a grass-eating bullock.

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

They forgot the God who had saved them,
who had done great deeds in Egypt,
Wondrous deeds in the land of Ham,
terrible things at the Red Sea.

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

Then he spoke of exterminating them,
but Moses, his chosen one,
Withstood him in the breach
to turn back his destructive wrath.

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

Psalm 99

Holy is the Lord our God.

Extol the LORD, our God,
and worship at his footstool;
holy is he!

Holy is the Lord our God.

Moses and Aaron were among his priests,
and Samuel, among those who called upon his name;
they called upon the LORD, and he answered them.

Holy is the Lord our God.

From the pillar of cloud he spoke to them;
they heard his decrees and the law he gave them.

Holy is the Lord our God.

Extol the LORD, our God,
and worship at his holy mountain;
for holy is the LORD, our God.

Holy is the Lord our God.

Psalm 95

If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

Come, let us sing joyfully to the LORD;
let us acclaim the Rock of our salvation.

Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving;
let us joyfully sing psalms to him.

If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

Come, let us bow down in worship;
let us kneel before the LORD who made us.
For he is our God,
and we are the people he shepherds, the flock he guides.

If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

Oh, that today you would hear his voice:
“Harden not your hearts as at Meribah,
as in the day of Massah in the desert,
Where your fathers tested me;
they tested me though they had seen my works.”

If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

Psalm 106

Remember us, O Lord, as you favor your people.

We have sinned, we and our fathers;
we have committed crimes; we have done wrong.
Our fathers in Egypt
considered not your wonders.

Remember us, O Lord, as you favor your people.

But soon they forgot his works;
they waited not for his counsel.
They gave way to craving in the desert
and tempted God in the wilderness.

Remember us, O Lord, as you favor your people.

They forgot the God who had saved them,
who had done great deeds in Egypt,
Wondrous deeds in the land of Ham,
terrible things at the Red Sea.

Remember us, O Lord, as you favor your people.

Then he spoke of exterminating them,
but Moses, his chosen one,
Withstood him in the breach
to turn back his destructive wrath.

Remember us, O Lord, as you favor your people.

Psalm 97

The Lord is king, the Most High over all the earth.

The LORD is king; let the earth rejoice;
let the many islands be glad.

Clouds and darkness are round about him,
justice and judgment are the foundation of his throne.

The Lord is king, the Most High over all the earth.

The mountains melt like wax before the LORD,
before the LORD of all the earth.
The heavens proclaim his justice,
and all peoples see his glory.

The Lord is king, the Most High over all the earth.

Because you, O LORD, are the Most High over all the earth,
exalted far above all gods.

The Lord is king, the Most High over all the earth.

To his people, and to his faithful ones,
and to those who put in him their hope.

The Lord speaks of peace to his people.

Kindness and truth shall meet;
justice and peace shall kiss.
Truth shall spring out of the earth,
and justice shall look down from heaven.

The Lord speaks of peace to his people.

The LORD himself will give his benefits;
our land shall yield its increase.
Justice shall walk before him,
and salvation, along the way of his steps.

The Lord speaks of peace to his people.

Psalm 85

The Lord speaks of peace to his people.

I will hear what God proclaims;
the LORD—for he proclaims peace