

## WELCOME TO ASCENSION

SAVE YOUR PEOPLE, OH GOD, AND BLESS YOUR INHERITANCE

**PLEASE KEEP SOCIAL DISTANCE**

<b>SUN</b>	<b>SEP 4</b>	<b>13<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST</b> <b>After – Hospitality - POAT LUCK</b> 1 Cor 16:13-24 Mt 21:33-42 Tone 4 <b>11:00 Divine Liturgy For All Our Parishioners and</b> HGB John and Clarice Alexander by Fr. Alex
<b>Tue</b>	<b>Sep 6</b>	<b>8:30am MOLEBEN TO THE THEOTOKOS</b> -Special Intention  <b>5:15pm ADULT BIBLE STUDY</b>
<b>Wed</b>	<b>Sep 7</b>	<b>8:30am MOLEBEN TO THE THEOTOKOS</b> -Special Intention
<b>Thu</b>	<b>Sep 8</b>	<b>8:30am MOLEBEN TO THE THEOTOKOS</b> -Special Intention  <b>After - Bible Study</b> <b>6:00pm - ROSARY</b> - Prayer for Protection and Healing of the coronavirus and all serious illnesses by Men's Club
<b>SUN</b>	<b>SEP 11</b>	<b>SUNDAY BEFORE THE EXALTATION OF THE CROSS</b> <b>After – Hospitality-Security Training</b> Cal 6:11-18 Jn 3:13-17 Tone 5 <b>11:00 Divine Liturgy For All Our Parishioners and</b> HGB Mary Lewis by Dr. Mary Jean Sotack

“Indeed, Jesus affirms that the true bread of salvation, which transmits eternal life, is His very flesh; that to enter into communion with God, before observing the laws or satisfying religious precepts, it is necessary to live out a real and concrete relationship with Him... This means that one must not pursue God in dreams and in images of grandeur and power, but He must be recognized in the humanity of Jesus and, as a consequence, in that of the brothers and sisters we meet on the path of life.”

*Pope Francis*

**\*\* KITCHEN MAINTENANCE \*\***

**HOSPITALITY**- Scheduled person is responsible for setting up and cleaning up coffee and cakes according to the instructions in the coffee cabinet.

### 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, 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 September 6** from 5:15 to 6:30 PM. The subject will be Messianic Fulfillment Part 1 Which is Session 18. The readings will be from your Bible Timeline manual. Please join us for great food and a wonderful conversation-based journey through Scripture! See Dr. Michael Lechman and Michael Bracelin for questions.

**PARISH ACTIVITIES:** **All activities should be recorded on the main calendar 2022 in the office.** Please write in the activity you are responsible for and let Fr. Alex know the details so he can include it in the bulletin

IN THIS HOUSE, WE BELIEVE

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

**God bless America!!!**

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, Aug 28, 2022**

Monthly Dues –70.00; Offertory –608.00; Candles-25.00; Fuel –200.00 St. Luke's Icon Guild Gifts – 310.00

In – 1,213.00; Out –609.39

Attention all Parishioners, Visitors, and Guests: please do your part to help us keep the Social Hall clean. After Sunday Hospitality and Pot Lucks please make sure the table area where you were sitting is wiped clean. Also, please place your chair on top of the table.

Doing these things will be a big help and save much time in maintaining and keeping the floors clean. Thanks for your help and cooperation Fr. Alex

Happy SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

2nd Lisa Branden; 8th Jamie DaQuilanea; 14th Danny Montgomery;  
14th Lolly Vinson; 20 Patty Piszko-Dunham; 21st Deborah Kotyk;  
21st Sr Alphina Chepter; 23rd Peyton Karlson; 24th Zachary Karlson  
27th Lydia Marin; 28th Lisa Cifrulak Edwards; 29th Christine Noonan  
29th David Efimetz

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

We will have a special 30-minute training session in the Church Hall immediately following the **Hospitality Sunday, September 11**. The training will be presented by retired Officer Larry Drumtra. All new and current members of the Security Team are expected to attend.

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

**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 September:**

Sanctuary...For Our Parishioners

Tetrapod... For Our Parishioners

Theotokos & Child... For Our Parishioners

John Baptist... For Our Parishioners

St Nicholas... For Our Parishioners

Protection Theotokos... For Our Parishioners

Christ Teacher...HGB June Ann Hall by Mary Ann Drumtra

## To be a Saint – Seek God First

*To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. Rm, 1:7*

When I started the “To be a Saint” series years ago, I got initial feedback ranging from “the title was too presumptuous”, to “who are you to talk”. Well, I can understand the second objection to the title, but not the first. Paul gave not only the Romans this calling, but he gives it to us as well. Indeed, we are called to be Saints. Why would we want to ignore it? Instead, we should do our best to embrace it and answer this calling.

“*Beloved of God*”... In his letter to the Romans, Paul knew his audience was for the most part pagans and sinners, distant from God, and the Christian principles laid forth by Jesus. Still, Paul uses the term “Beloved of God”. It was Jesus Christ that laid forth the principle that our God was a loving God. Up until Jesus’ ministry on earth, God was seen as remote, even vengeful. The teachings of Jesus changed that forever and enlightened us. Rather than being remote, our God is like the father in the story of the prodigal son. God never ceases to love us, all of us, even in our sin.

Aside from our technology, in general, we are not unlike those “Romans” of Paul’s times, often cold, inconsistent, scheming, calculating, some even paganistic in their enthusiastic grasp for worldliness. Some wear the title of Christian but are weak and distracted and become easily deceived by the enemy. Still, through it all, God never ceases to love us. He waits for us to turn toward Him, ready to embrace us with the love of a father to his errant son and daughter. Truly this is our God.

“*Called to be Saints*”... The meaning is specific and centered on two small words, to be. The absence of these words changes the entire

meaning. The statement as written requires something from us. It was Paul’s challenge to the Romans. It becomes our challenge today. A challenge that requires us to turn toward God and leave the distractions of the world behind.

Consider, as the prodigal son was on his journey home to his father’s house, he was hungry and weary from his previous life, and from his travel home. How often was this son tempted to turn aside, to rest awhile or take what refreshment was offered, or that which could be taken by schemes or force? All these diversions would have surely led him away from his father once more. The son fought these temptations. He stayed the course. He sought not rest or comfort but only to return to his father’s house.

His father, on seeing his wayward son coming from afar, rushed to meet him. To guide him safely home. On seeing his father rushing to meet him, all distractions and temptations must have left the son, and he also rushed to embrace his father.

The journey of redemption taken by the prodigal son, began when he came to the stark realization that he had made an error in leaving his father’s home. His journey is like our journey to be a Saint. It starts when we come to realize our condition in life without God being at the center of it. From that starting point we begin our way home.

In the journey, we are answering Saint Paul’s calling to be Saints. Do not be distracted or veer from your path by temptations or weariness, most of all pride. These will be weapons the enemy uses to stop your journey. Seek God first. Like the father of the prodigal son, God will see you coming from afar and rush to meet you with the same graces and peace spoken of in Paul’s greeting to the Romans. Grace and peace necessary to complete your calling and become Saints in His Kingdom.

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