

WELCOME TO ASCENSION

SAVE YOUR PEOPLE, OH GOD, AND BLESS YOUR INHERITANCE

"NOTHING EMBITTERS A PERSON MORE THAN SUFFERING. BUT WHEN IT IS CONSECRATED TO GOD, IT BECOMES HOLY"
THOMAS MERTON

SUN NOV 19 25th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Eph 4:1-6; Lk 12:16-21 Tone 8

11:00 Divine Liturgy For All Our Parishioners and HGB who are in need special prayer by Fr. Alex

After –Hospitality

Tue Nov 21 ENTRANCE OF THE THEOTOKOS

8:30am For Our Parish HGB Betta Labanish and who are in need special prayer by Fr. Alex

Wed Nov 22 Private prayer in your home

Thu Nov 23 Thanksgiving Day

GOD bless you on this Day of thanks. All of my thoughts and prayers are with you and your family today! Fr. Alex

6:00pm - ROSARY - Prayer for Protection and Healing of the coronavirus and all serious illnesses by Men's Club

Sat Nov 25 1:00pm Church Cleaning Hours

SUN NOV 26 26th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Eph 5:9-19; Lk 13:10-17 Tone 1

11:00 Divine Liturgy For All Our Parishioners and + George Nicholas Hertz by Betty Mae Hertz

After –Hospitality

1:00pm - Young Adults Bible Study in the Saint John the Baptist Hall

Happy NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

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

LOVE YOUR HOSPITALITY GOODIES AFTER SUNDAY LITURGY?? WE ARE LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS FOR 2024 TO ENSURE THAT IT CONTINUES. IF INTERESTED, PLEASE SEE CHRIS NOONAN IN THE PARISH HALL OR EMAIL HER AT, CDFNOONA@GMAIL.COM

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, June Mathews, William McGraw, Thomas McGraw, Darren and June Hall, Aurora & Jaime Daquilanea, Mary Ann Drumtra, Katharina Margan, Elaine Hampton, Linda Lechman, Orysia Stefaniv, Elisabeth Branden, Merly & Teresa Phillips, Thank you. Fr. Alex

Bible Study: The Gospel of John

It's not too late to join the Bible Study for 2023! Come and grow in your relationship with Jesus Christ by diving deep in the life of Christ according to the beloved disciple John (and eat some great food as well!).

Please Join us on the (1st and 3rd Tuesday) of the month to: Read, Discuss, and Meditate on the Daily Readings, after Divine Liturgy, and (2nd and 4th Tuesday Evening Bible Study of St. John at 5:15pm. in the Social Hall. Fr. Alex

Visitors, family and friends: Are you curious, do you have questions or inquirers about our church, icons, Divine Liturgy, or Byzantine Catholic traditions? Someone will be waiting to answer your questions after Divine Liturgy on Sunday mornings in the vicinity of the icon corner at the front of the sanctuary. Don't be afraid to ask, there are no wrong questions.

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

The Automatic External Defibrillator (AED) is fully operational and located on the wall above the fire extinguisher in St. Phillips Hall. Eight parishioners were certified on the use of the AED on Oct 8, 2023 and other parishioners have been certified in the past. Periodic updates will follow. Dr. Michael Lechman

NEVER REPLY WHEN YOU'RE ANGRY. NEVER MAKE A PROMISE WHEN YOU'RE HAPPY. NEVER MAKE A DECISION WHEN YOU'RE SAD.

Candles for November

Sanctuary Lamp... + John Labanish by Betta Labanish
Tetrapod... HGB Roman Slysh by Dr. Nadia Shockley
Theotokos & Child... HGB Michael Noonan by Christine Noonan
John Baptist... HGB Morgan Kelly by Ann Kelly
St Nicholas... +Michael & Avanelle Bross by Angela Bross
Protection Theotokos... In Love & Gratitude by Jim & Gia Hoolan
Christ Teacher... + Michael Bross by Angela Bross

SPECIAL ORDERS WELCOMED.

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.

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 made 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

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

Young Adults will continue to meditate on the spiritual heritage of desert fathers and saints in Philokalia starting. November 26 at 1:00 pm. and December 3; Last meeting for Fall semester: Sunday, December 3. Adithia Kusno

Church Cleaning Hours: A change in church cleaning day/hours has been established in order to accommodate schedules. All your time and energy are deeply appreciated and perhaps this schedule will enable you to join with the cleaning of Ascension church. Please help with this very important mission. Thank you. Father Alex.

God bless America!!!

Help support our church

scan this code

To make a donation

FINANCIALS, November 12, 2023

Monthly Dues -1,020.00; Offertory -950.00; Candles-34.00; Holyday-0.00
In - 2,004.00; Out 2,818.90

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

“Lord, teach us to pray” Luke 11:1

PIEROGI SALE... We made 49 dozen on November 11th, and we only have 14 dozen left! Those will be for sale after Liturgy today. Lee

Men's Club 2024 Officer Elections Meeting & Nativity Unpacking

The Men's team will have their next meeting on the **3rd Tuesday of November (November 21) at 6:00 PM** in St. Philip Hall. Please come for elections and help out bringing down Nativity Decorations!
Michael Bracelin

Our Daily Bread, The Promise of Tomorrow and the Importance of Being Grateful.

A dusting of snow had fallen during the night coating the frozen ground, like icing spread to thinly over a cake. The feint glow of the morning sun, just below the wood line, indicated a clear morning to come. There was a brisk east wind however, that carried a morning chill, and the promise of more snow later that day. The old man turned his collar up and quicken his pace toward the barn. Morning chores are morning chores no matter the time of the year or what holiday it might be. Thanksgiving will come and go as all days must, but chores remain the constant in life.

Farmers on the whole are a quiet group, a thoughtful lot. Seldom does a moment go by without some thought or reminiscence. Today his thoughts were on the past year's efforts. Those efforts were usually a mixture of failures and successes. This year's results registered more in the area of nothing to show.

He walked into the processing room, set up as a mini kitchen, that had served him well over the years for those long days and nights. The coffee pot soon gave him the pick-me-up he needed. As he gazed out of the window at the barren fields, he turned his thoughts from the dismal farming year to a happier time. A time when the farm had provided a steady source of income that supported his family well. It was a bountiful time when crops, livestock and children were plentiful. A time of laughter, a time of wonder, a time of accomplishment. But a man's burning desire wanes in its time, turning efforts into memories of what was. "Well, that was then and this is now", he murmured into the coffee cup. He quickly changed his thoughts and went in another direction completely. A positive direction.

Gone were the thoughts of lost livestock, the vet bills, the crop failure, the unexpected hospital bills and the rest. God had given his family recovery, and good health, the ability to be together at the end of the year, and another grandchild. The farm had somehow been able to pay its bills, and stay in operation for another year. The green house upgrade was showing promise of increased production, and other diversification efforts had brought in more income than expected. Yes, he was excited about prospects for next year. In fact, he finished the coffee hurriedly, as he could hardly wait to get started with the chores that Thanksgiving morning. He looked up at the rugged cross hanging above the door on his way out to the stalls, and simply said "Thank You God." You see God had always given the farmer the ability to see past failure and troubles, and see the promise of tomorrow. It was this promise that had seen him and his family through years of hardship and trial. In addition to the promise, God had also given the farmer the wisdom to recognize this gift he had, and was grateful.

Thankfulness and Gratitude

Although interconnected, thankfulness and gratitude are often confused. Being thankful is a reaction, normally a short-lived feeling. Gratitude is a chosen state of being. Gratitude involves thankfulness as well as being appreciative of life in all its ups and downs. Thankfulness tends to fade, while gratitude remains. It was explained to me years ago that gratitude equals attitude. Like the farmer in the story above, we get much more out of life if we approach it in a positive way with gratitude. It balances us, making sense out of our past, creates a vision for tomorrow, and in the process brings us peace. It is the key to living a happy life.

The effects of gratitude are many. Gratitude turns what meager things we have into abundance. It makes leftovers into a feast, a house into a home, and knits kinfolk into a family. Being grateful takes a negative attitude and turns it positive. Gratitude is the key to unlocking the fullness of a happy life.

Certainly, gratitude lies outside ourself. It lies with God first, as He is the author of all things. It lies with the gifts and benefits God bestows upon us. Our gratitude extends to our family of course, and to our friends who are there for us when we need them. It also lies with those who preceded us, those who built our nation and the system of government which provides us our cherished rights.

Be like the farmer. Take life in stride in all of its ups and downs, being grateful at all times, in all seasons. Focus on the promise of tomorrow.

Love Dad

Miscellaneous Clothing Items

EFFECTIVE, DECEMBER 7, UNLESS REMOVED, ALL ITEMS HANGING ON HOOKS IN THE HALLWAY TO THE PARISH HALL, OR HANGING IN THE PARISH HALL WILL BE REMOVED AND DONATED TO FISH.

Chris

MAY GOD GRANT YOU ALWAYS A SUNBEAM TO WARM YOU, A MOONBEAM TO CHARM YOU, A SHELTERING ANGEL SO NOTHING CAN HARM YOU. LAUGHTER TO CHEER YOU, FAITHFUL FRIENDS NEAR YOU, AND WHENEVER YOU PRAY HEAVEN TO HEAR YOU. (An Irish blessing)

Nothing but a Number

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.

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 138

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.

Psalm 15

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

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.

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.

“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 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.

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.

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 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.

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.

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
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.