

WELCOME TO ASCENSION

VE YOUR PEOPLE, OH GOD, AND BLESS YOUR INHERITAN

We are only allowing **between 22 and 44 people in Church**
and **20 people in Church Hall**

| | | |
|------------|---------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| SUN | JAN 31 | SUNDAY OF THE PRODIGAL SON 1 Cor 6:12-20 Lk 15:11-32 11:00 Divine Liturgy for Our Parishioners and HGB Betty May Hertz by Oksana Makowiec |
| Tus | Feb 2 | Meeting of our Lord with Simeon and Anna (solemn) <u>8:30am</u> Divine Liturgy for Our Parishioners and HGB Helen and Jerry Luecke by Fr. Alex 4:15 -6:00pm Office hours in Church (Fr. Alex) |
| Wed | Jan 3 | <u>8:30am</u> Divine Liturgy for Our Parishioners and HGB JANUARY and FEBRUARY Birthday by Fr. Alex After Moleben to the Theotokos -Special Intentions-For Peace in Our Country |
| Thu | Jan 4 | <u>8:30am</u> Divine Liturgy for Our Parishioners and + Cecelia Kokinda (wife) by Eugene Kokinda After <u>Short Bible Reflection</u> 6:00pm “ROSARY” Prayer for Protection and Healing of the coronavirus and all serious illnesses by Men’s Club |
| SUN | FEB 7 | SUNDAY OF THE MEAT FARE 1 Cor 8:8-9:2 Mt 25:31-46 11:00 Divine Liturgy for Our Parishioners and HGB Betta Labanish by Fr. Alex |

Read Full Bulletin online [www. ascensionva.org](http://www.ascensionva.org)

Are you aware of any organization or church that is selling used church pews? Desired length 12 feet. If so, please speak to Thomas (Tom) McGraw.tel: (804) 932-8098

God bless America!!!

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 Would Welcome Some Helping Hands to Keep Our Church Clean and Disinfected. Due to Covid 19 We Still Need to Clean the Church Before and After Every Liturgy. If You Would Like More Information, or If You Can Help, especially on a Monday or Wednesday, Please Speak with Kathy Alexander (566-8637) or Linda Lechman (714-3515).

THANK YOU TO ALL THE PEOPLE WHO DONATED SUPPLIES FOR CLEANING OF CHURCH. FROM LINDA AND KATHY, THANK YOU EVER SO MUCH.

.....
Happy FEBRUARY Birthdays
1st Mabel Picconi; 4th Angela Bross; 4th MaryJean Sotack
6th Julian Picconi; 9th Greg Pula; 16th Don Merkley
17th Nadia Shockley; 17th Mike Olson; 19th Claudia Cochran

“Holy Water: Fresh and newly blessed Holy Water is now available in the church to take home with you and bless your home or drink some . Father Alex.”

JANUARY Candles:

Sanctuary...HGB Margan Family...Requested by Katarina Margan
Tetrapod...BRS Bill Kelly...Requested by Ann Kelly
Theotokos & Child...HGB...Morgan & Kevin Kelly Requested by Ann Kelly
Christ Teacher...HGB Patrick Alexander & Family Requested by Lee & Kathy Alexander
John Baptist...HGB John Alexander Requested by Lee & Kathy Alexander
St Nicholas...For Our Parish
Protection of the Theotokos...For Our Parish

Reminder: Hospitality is **SUSPENDED**

FINANCIALS Jan. 24, 2021

**Total Contributions: Monthly Dues -50.00 Holyday 0.00 Offertory -682.00
Non-Monetary Donation - 0.00 Fuel -0.00 Rainy Day Fund-0.00 Candles -
50.00 Initial Offering/Envelopes-6.00IN - \$ 832.00; OUT- \$ 3,654.89**

We have several faithful from Ascension who are in need of special prayer. Some of those who need special prayer are:
Ann Harmeyer, Chris Janke, Mary Grace Dorsey, Adithia and Sasha Kusno, Patrick Cook, Betta Labanish, Elizabeth “Betty” Basarab, Betty May Hertz Thank you. Fr. Alex

**Tuesday, 2 February, 2021, is Solemn Holy Day of the Meeting of Our Lord with Simeon and Anna. Tradition is to bless candles on this Feast Day.
We will bless candles on Tuesday, 2 February, at 8:30 Liturgy.
“Lord, teach us to pray” Luke 11:1**

God sees to it that when every part of a believer prays, He blessed that person. Clear thinking, an enlightened understanding, and safe reasoning powers come from praying. Divine guidance means that God moves and impresses the mind in order for us to make wise decision. In former days, when men of very limited education had such wonderful liberty of invigorated minds and thoughts from the Spirit, they explained it as successful prayer. Their minds felt the impulse of the Spirit’s gracious influences.

Dear God, I pray that Your divine guidance will lead me in such a way that I too, will be able to experience the Spirit’s gracious touch upon my life. Amen.

HRAMOTY

There is an envelope for the 5 All Souls Saturdays (which we celebrate on Sunday mornings) in your pack of envelopes. Please write on the card all changes to the list of deceased members of your family to be remembered in prayer. If there are no changes, please write “no changes”. The offering should be for Father Alex Shuter, not Ascension.

ENVELOPES

There is a large box of offering envelopes at the back of the church. If you have not yet picked up your envelopes, please ask the ushers to give you an package of envelopes

Parishioner to Parishioners

I remember growing up thinking; if only I had a bike, then I would be happy. I would be satisfied. It was this way with many things in my youth, if only I had a baseball glove, if only I had a sling shot; if only... Then I would then be happy. As I got older my “if only’s” changed to cars and jobs. If only...; then I would be happy, I would be satisfied. I didn’t just sit and wait for good things to happen. I would work hard to earn these things. After marriage my “if only’s” expanded. They included things like a career, promotions, and safety for my family in the form of a good home and all that comes with it. If only...; then I will be satisfied. It will be enough.

It is natural to want things; all manner of things according to our expectations in life. Our modern society tends to exploit this human desire with its focus on the material things. Many try to emulate those they consider to be fashionable, sports or media stars. Nothing new; it’s been going on for a long time.

The accumulation of wealth for the sake of having things will never lead to happiness; will never lead to contentment. It only leads to wanting more stuff. It is a trap.

So; are you saying we stop buying new things, stop dreaming of a better lifestyle?

No. It is natural to accumulate some type of wealth sufficient to sustain us and our families, and keep us from want. In the process, we develop the individual gifts God has given each of us. Saint Joseph used his carpentry skills to sustain the Holy Family. Saint Paul was a tent maker, and used his skills to sustain his ministry. God expects us to develop the unique gifts he bestows on us, both to provide for ourselves and our family, as well as share for the benefit of others. In doing so, we magnify the greatness of God.

In our pursuit for the next “if only”, we tend to forget that expectation. Rather, we are thrust into a lifelong pursuit of material things that ultimately will not satisfy, and only lead to wanting more stuff. This pursuit also leads to additional worry and anxiety, which effects not only ourselves but those around us.

All the possessions on earth will not satisfy; will not give you true contentment. These are only transitory things. Contentment is found in

trusting God, and developing talents given to us by God. The makings of contentment are found all around us; in the evening around the supper table with your family, and later in evening prayer. It is found in hearing the voices of your loved ones in the morning, or when they come home from school or work. Contentment is found in conversation with an old friend on a sunny afternoon, or a solitary stroll on a beautiful day. Contentment is found in serving others. Contentment is found in God’s promise of salvation. Knowing that we are part of the vine that is Jesus Christ. If you have these things, you will find contentment.

Lord; in Your wisdom You have given me so much in this life. Grant me the wisdom therefore to understand and appreciate the blessings you have bestowed on me, and to be content with them in You. For in this contentment, I will find true happiness all the days of my life. Amen.

BLESSINGS TO SASHA AND ADDY ON THE BIRTH OF THEIR SON!
GABRIEL JOSEPH THEOPHILUS KUSNO MADE HIS ARRIVAL
SHORTLY AFTER MIDNIGHT 01/29. HE WEIGHED 5 LB 6 OZ. THE
KUSNO WISHES TO THANK THE ASCENSION FAMILY FOR ALL
THEIR PRAYERS AND BEST WISHES.

"The prayer of praise is helpful to us... It must be practiced not only when life fills us with happiness, but above all in difficult moments, in moments of darkness when the path becomes an uphill climb... Giving praise is like breathing pure oxygen: it purifies the soul, it makes you look far ahead, it does not leave you imprisoned in the difficult and dark moment of hardship."

Pope Francis

