

WELCOME TO ASCENSION

SAVE YOUR PEOPLE, OH GOD, AND BLESS YOUR INHERITANCE

SUN SEP 26

18TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

2 Cor 9:6-11 Lk 5:1-11 Tone 1

10:40 3rd Hour reading (Tony Rago)

11:00 Divine Liturgy for Our Parishioners and HGB Deonna and her son Braian by Katharina Margan

After – Hospitality

Tue Sep 28

8:30am MOLEBEN TO THE THEOTOKOS For Our Parishioners and HGB Lisa Edwards

Wed Sep 29

8:30am MOLEBEN TO THE THEOTOKOS For Our Parishioners and HGB David Efimetz and Christine Noonan

Thu Sep 30

8:30am MOLEBEN TO THE THEOTOKOS For Our Parishioners and HGB Fr. Alex

After - Bible Study

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

SUN OCT 3

18TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

2 Cor 11:31-12:9 Lk 6:31-36 Tone 2

10:40 3rd Hour reading (Adi Kusno)

11:00 Divine Liturgy for Our Parishioners and + Mark Andrew Cifrulak by Nancy Cifrulak

After – Hospitality - Potluk

A new security system is being installed in the church. New keys and personal alarm codes will also be distributed to the individuals who need keys by Don Merkley.

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

Office Manager: Adi Kusno (Deacon Candidate) will be acting as the Ascension Office Manager under Fr. Alex. He will be responsible for organizational duties with scheduling activities as well as a contact person if Father is unavailable.

LITURGY REQUESTS: If you would like to request a Liturgy, please fill out the Liturgy request envelope and give it directly to Fr. Alex. Please include your telephone number.

PARISH ACTIVITIES: All activities should be recorded on the main calendar 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

Happy SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

27th Lydia Marin; 28th Lisa Cifrulak Edwards; 29th Christine Noonan; 29th David Efimetz

FINANCIALS, Sep 19

In -1,085

3rd Hour Schedule:

October 10th: Michael Bracelin; October 17th: Michael Bracelin

TODAY.

I CHOOSE TO LIVE BY CHOICE, NOT BY CHANCE; TO MAKE CHANGES, NOT EXCUSES. TO BE MOTIVATED, NOT MANIPULATED. TO BE USEFUL, NOT USED. TO EXCEL, NOT COMPERE. I CHOOSE SELF-ESTEEM, NOT SELF-PITY. I CHOOSE TO LISTEN TO THE INNER VOICE, NOT THE RANDOM OPINION OF OTHERS.

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

Youth faith formation will take place the 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month from 9:30 - 10:30 am beginning in September. If you are interested in signing your child up for formation, or helping with youth formation and fun events, please contact Angela Bracelin at angela.bracelin@gmail.com (3rd grade and below), or Sasha Kusno at sashaeckstein@gmail.com (4th grade and up).

ADULT BIBLE STUDY

Join us as we journey through the Bible! The Ascension Bible Study will now take place on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month beginning on Tuesday October 5th in the church hall. It will begin at 4:30 pm and run no later than 6:00 pm.

See Dr. Michael Lechman and Michael Bracelin for questions.

Attention Advisory Board, Security Team, Ushers, and Church

Volunteers: Catholic Mutual (our insurance company) has developed on line training courses. Please see Mrs. Linda Lechman for information on how to access these training courses.

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

If you are interested in being an Usher, Greeter, or helping with Security please contact Mike Olson at mikeo23608@gmail.com.

If you are interested in serving the church by leading 3rd Hour before Divine Liturgy please email Michael Bracelin at Michael.bracelin@gmail.com

God bless America!!!

ASCENSION GIFT SHOP

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 and local honey. Special orders welcomed.

ASCENSION BONFIRE FRIDAY OCTOBER 29, 2021 6-9PM

Potluck Chili Cookoff. Hayrides by Mr. Tom. Games. Smores Child and the famous Adult Pinatas. "Fire fighters will come to extinguish the fire!" No touring of fire truck due to covid but they will come at 9 to put the fire out Donations for the Pinatas may be left in hall on the bar candy, children toy prizes and adult goodies are needed. Contact Mary Jean Sotack to volunteer for set up or clean up. Look for a potluck sign up via email soon.

Candles for September:

Sanctuary...HGB Margan Family...by Katarina Margan
Tetrapod...HGB Joel Hampton & Family by Elaine & Joe Hampton
Theotokos & Child...HGB June Ann and Darren Hall...by Mary Ann Drumtra
Christ Teacher...HGB Patrick Alexander & Family...by Lee & Kathy Alexander
John Baptist...HGB Olson Family...by Lee & Kathy Alexander
St Nicholas...+ Margaret Fitzgerald...by Claudia Fitzgerald
Protection Theotokos... HGB Morgan and Kevin Kelly by Ann Kelly

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, Betty May Hertz, Emma Bernier, Fr. Alex

Thank you. Fr. Alex

To Be a Saint – Can a person go to Heaven without being Baptized?

This was a question posed recently to me. One that deserves more than a formula answer. The question was in the context of a loved one that has not been Baptized.

For those who may be new to the faith, let's begin by saying that Baptism is the cornerstone of the whole Christian life. Through it we become sons of God (CCC1213). Baptism is essential to be saved for those who have heard the gospel of Jesus Christ, and have had an opportunity to receive the sacrament. Baptism brings with it Sanctifying Graces, purification of sins including original and personal sins, and a new birth in the Holy Spirit. According to the Catechism of the Church (CCC1257), the Lord affirmed that Baptism is required for salvation. "Truly truly, I say unto you that unless one is born of water, and the Spirit, he cannot enter into the Kingdom of Heaven." (Jn. 3:5). We see this theme further illustrated in the gospel of Mk. 16:16.

Baptism is part of the process of obtaining eternal salvation. I say this, for Baptism by itself will not guarantee salvation. How many evils in the world have been wrought by those who were Baptized at some point in their life, and then rejected God, turning their life to evil? So, there must be more. In addition to Baptism, one needs to live a life according to Christ's teachings. A life of love, charity, repentance, forgiveness, and a firm believe in God.

But what of those who are not Baptized? Are there exceptions? Yes. God is omnipotent and He desires for mankind to be saved. 1 Tim. 2:4; 2 Pet. 3:9. Remember the thief on the cross? After admonishing the thief on the other side of Christ, he cried out "Lord remember me when you come into your Kingdom!". Jesus, reaching the end of His endurance, replied, "I assure you that today you shall be with me in Paradise."

Maybe the thief had at one time been baptized by St John the Baptist, or even by Jesus Himself, as we read in the Gospel of John. Maybe on his approaching death he was truly sorry and rejected his sinful life asking for forgiveness the only way he knew how. Maybe he had always believed in the Jewish prophecy of a Messiah. Maybe; we will never know. Whatever the circumstances, Jesus, our Lord and Savior, took pity on this poor soul, and in that moment of supreme love, redeemed the thief into paradise.

So too, I firmly believe that the Lord takes pity on others, who like the thief, truly desires God with all their heart and with all their soul. The Church holds that those who suffer death without baptism for the sake of the faith were baptized by their death.

There are other exceptions. For those who do not know the teachings of Christ and the Gospel; if they seek God with a sincere heart, and with works of mercy according to their understanding, God can supply the grace necessary to be redeemed. For children who die without baptism, including those innocents that have died through abortion, the church entrusts them to the mercy of God.

So yes, Baptism is important for believers, but it is part of a process for obtaining eternal salvation. Process sounds too clinical. Let's pause for a moment and rephrase the original question. Instead of speaking of the path to eternal salvation as being a process, let's state the question in another way. *Can you attain eternal salvation if you do not seek God, and God hasn't forgiven you?* I greatly doubt it.

So my friend, read Matthew 19:26. In God, all things are possible. Pray, and have hope for your friend. Help this person, as you can, to understand with true Christian love. Whatever happens trust in the mercy and wisdom of our God.
Yours in Christ
Brother Joseph

"Dear friends, the family is alive if it is united in prayer. The family is strong, if it rediscovers the Word of God and the providential value of all its promises. The family is generous and builds history if it remains open to life, if it does not discriminate and serves the weakest and most in need, if it does not stop offering the world the bread of charity and the wine of fraternity."

Pope Francis

The biggest difference between money and time... You always know how much money you have, but you never know how much time you have.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.