

WELCOME TO ASCENSION

VE YOUR PEOPLE, OH GOD, AND BLESS YOUR INHERITANCE

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

SUN	SEP 27	17th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST 2 Cor 6:16-7:1 Lk 5:1:11 Divine Liturgy for Our Parishioners and For + George Mackowicz by Oksana Mackowicz
	11:00	
Tue	Sep 29	8:30am Divine Liturgy for Our Parishioners and + Andrew Kokinda by Eugene Kokinda
Wed	Sep 30	8:30am Divine Liturgy for Our Parishioners and + Anna Kokinda (mom) by Eugene Kokinda After Moleben to the Theotokos -Special Intentions-For Peace in Our Country
Thu	Oct 01	<u>PROTECTION OF THE THEOTOKOS</u> (solemn) 8:30am Divine Liturgy for Our Parishioners and + Cecelia Kokinda (wife) by Eugene Kokinda After Short Bible Reflection 6:00pm "ROSARY" Prayer for Protection and Healing of the coronavirus and all serious illnesses by Men's Club
SUN	OCT 04	18th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST 2 Cor 9: 6-11 Lk 6:31:36 Divine Liturgy for Our Parishioners

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

- * Taking advanced orders for Pulled Pork BBQ for pick up first
Sunday in October (10/04) after liturgy. Your order can be
placed through the link on the parish website or by contacting
Mike Olson at mike_o23608@gmail.com

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).

**Keep practicing social distancing and use a mask when out
and about as we continue through the "reopening" process.**

Coffee will be served by hostesses from the bar in St. Phillip's Hall. Server will
pour the coffee, ask if parishioner wants cream/sugar etc. and hand them the
coffee. Any pastries served will be individually wrapped.
Servers will be wearing masks and gloves. Parishioners will be wearing masks.
After receiving your coffee, you will head out to the new back patio area where
social distancing will be maintained. There will be trash cans to deposit your
trash when finished.

**No one, except servers, will be allowed to congregate in the Hall or go into
the kitchen.** Servers will clean up when finished.

Children's faith formation start last week. There is still time to enroll your family, and we are excited for coming year! Classes will start online due to Covid-19. Please contact Patty Duttry or Sasha Kusno. Enrollment for children's Eastern Catholic faith formation is still open. Ages 5-17.

Anyone who is interested in learning the liturgical music on their own could take online courses through the Metropolitan Cantor Institute. The Free courses can be found on their website: <https://mci.archpitt.org/online/>

New Information:

Due to the uncertainty of the COVID pandemic, all Yard Sales are postponed until masks are no longer needed to be worn. Only donations of furniture and finer antiques will be accepted due to limited storage space. Please contact Mary Jean Sotack if you have items for donation. Online sales will continue for these items. Thank you for your support!

HAPPY SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS!!

2nd	Lisa Branden
6th	Jacob Cook
8th	Jamie DaQuilanea
14th	Robert Danny Montgomery
14th	Lolly Vinson
20th	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

FINANCIALS

Total Contributions: Monthly Dues -220.00 Holyday 10.00
Offertory – 174.00 Non-Monetary Donation – 0.00 Fuel –0.00 Rainy Day
Fund-0.00 Candles –0.00 Religious Education –0.00 Special Gifts –
1,450.00
IN – \$1,624.00; OUT— \$ 0.00

Recommendation from Bishop concerning attending Divine Liturgy and receiving Holy Communion.

1. Should you stay home from Divine Liturgy? Please use your own prudence. If you believe you are sick, or you are in danger, you are dispensed from attending, and God will bless you for praying home.
2. Should you avoid receiving Holy Communion on spoon? St. Paul says about communion, “Let each one examine himself.” If you believe you are sick, or that you are in danger because of weak health, and you do not receive, I promise you that God will still bless you with His abundance of graces.

Prayer to Defeat the Work of Satan

O Divine Eternal Father, in union with your Divine Son and the Holy Spirit, and through the Immaculate Heart of Mary, I beg You to destroy the power of your greatest enemy- the evil spirits. Cast them into the deepest recesses of hell and chain them there forever! Take possession of Your Kingdom which You have created and which is rightfully Yours. Heavenly Father, give us the reign of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary, I repeat this prayer out of pure love for You, with every beat of my heart and with every breath I take. Amen (Imprimatur March 1973, +Richard H. Ackerman, Bishop of Covington)

HOSPITALITY

Please see Bulletin Board at the entrance to St Phillip's Hall for schedule of Lectures, Financial Records and Hospitality.

LIVE-STREAMING DIVINE LITURGY AND PRAYERS

Ascension of Our Lord Byzantine Catholic Church is providing live broadcasts of Divine Liturgy and prayers on the internet for those who would like to experience our worship and pray with us, but are unable to join us because of limited access due to COVID-19, work, personal illness or distance.

Attending the services via live streaming is an aid to sincere devotion but if you are able, we look forward to having you join us in person.

For easy access to our Facebook, go to our website, ascensionVA.org and link to our Facebook page. Past liturgies are also in an archive of videos on our website.

COMMITTEES

Trustees:	Mike Olson, David Efimetz
Bible Study with Coffee:	Linda Lechman
Liturgical/Church Website:	Don Merkely
Men’s Club:	John Alexander
Outreach Cleaning:	Betty Mae Hertz
Property:	Father Alex
Publicity:	Mary Jean Sotack
Security:	Mike Olson
Secretary:	Ann Kelly
Book Keeper	Patty Dutry
Youth:	Sasha Kusno

Sanctuary Lamp: HGB Margan Family...Requested by Katarina Margan

Tetrapod Lamp: BRS George Makowiec...Requested by Oksana Makowiec

Theotokos & Child Lamp: HGB Morgan & Kevin Kelly...Requested by Ann Kelly

Christ Teacher Lamp: HGB Patrick Alexander...Requested by Lee & Kathy Alexander

John Baptist Lamp: HGB John Alexander...Requested by Lee & Kathy Alexander

Protection of Theotokos Lamp: HGB JuneAnn and Darren Hall by MaryAnn Drumtra

Spiritual Communion

O Jesus, I turn toward the holy tabernacle where you live hidden for love of me. I love You, O my God, I cannot receive You in Holy Communion. Come, nevertheless, and visit me with Your grace. Come spiritually into my heart. Purify it. Sanctify it. Render it like unto Your own. Amen.

Prayer for Strength

"Holy Spirit, I need You more than ever right now. My heart is hurting, and I feel overwhelmed with loneliness. At this moment, I welcome Your presence, Your peace, and Your love. Thank You for filling me with Your overwhelming comfort, holding me in Your arms and surrounding me with Your healing love. Your Word says that because I’m Your child when I hurt, You hurt too. Thank You for caring about every single detail of my life, wiping away my tears, and for always being here for me. I love You, Lord. In Jesus' name, Amen."

Lord, I’m not praying for miracles and visions, **I’m only asking for strength for my days.** Teach me the art of small steps. Make me clever and resourceful, so that I can find important discoveries and experiences among the diversity of days. Help me use my time better. Present me with the sense to be able to judge whether something is important or not. I pray for the power of discipline and moderation, not only to run throughout my life, but also to live my days reasonably, and observe unexpected pleasures and heights.

Save me from the naive belief that everything in life has to go smoothly. Give me the sober recognition that difficulties, failures, fiascos, and setbacks are given to us by life itself to make us grow and mature. Send me the right person at the right moment, who will have enough courage and love to utter the truth!

I know that many problems solve themselves, so please teach me patience. You know how much we need friendship. Make me worthy of this nicest, hardest, riskiest and most fragile gift of life. Give me enough imagination to be able to share with someone a little bit of warmth, in the right place, at the right time, with words or with silence. Spare me the fear of missing out on life. Do not give me the things I desire, but the things I need. **Teach me the art of small steps!’**

“A Soulful Prayer by Antoine DE Saint-Exupery”

Parishioner to Parishioners

To live a life of a Saint - Our fight against evil;
“Woe to those who call evil good and good evil, who put darkness for light and light for darkness, who put bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter.” Is. 5:20 Friends, our society is being conditioned for evil. It’s been going on for a long time. You know it has.

Our modern society conditions us for many things. We are conditioned and trained to operate powerful vehicles on busy highways. We are conditioned to take in large amounts of news and information using powerful computers that we carry on our hip, and assimilate that information in order to live our lives. We are conditioned to expect to be able to talk to anyone on earth whenever we want to. We are conditioned to accept, and tolerate that which is different. We think nothing of it. After all we are modern and progressive in our thinking. Not hung up on the old foibles of our ancestors.

We have been conditioned for many years for many things; including acceptance of sin and evil...

Harry Potter..... What were your thoughts when you read those words? Magical fantasy world; young bright kids having adventures. “Good” versus evil???? Harry Potter was written as a kid fantasy but it’s primary focus was on witch craft and black magic. The first film in the series was very soft, and at times funny. In the end of the film the bad guy lost. Now think about the succeeding chapters in the film series. Each was a little more violent, a little darker and we found ourselves descending into a very bleak world. In each film we were conditioned to accept the next film. We thought very little of it. We were hooked. The end of the last film was an out and out evil war with some very dark moments..... But people will say in the end “good” witchcraft beat bad witchcraft? Well; Whoo Hoo.... That series was all about glorifying and romanticizing witch craft, which derives its power from Satan. Satan the master of evil and the great deceiver just conditioned us again.

The Harry Potter series is just one example. There are many, many more, including acceptance that killing children in the womb is solely a matter of a woman’s right to choose, and that there is nothing wrong with

raising boys as girls and vice versa. One of the latest manifestations of unholy conditioning is a video called “Cuties” promoted and shown on Netflix. Praised by the entertainment industry for its “art”; it is by the reviews I have seen a film showing young girls twerking and nothing more a vehicle for pornography and promoting pedophilia. No, I will not watch it to find out. I do not have to go in a cage with lions to find out if I will be killed.

Evil is manifesting itself in front of our eyes. So smoothly, so boldly. Some see it and decry it, others; well, they have been, or are in the process of being conditioned to accept this as just another development in our culture. No big deal. More important that we wear a mask, right? I would venture to say most Americans know more about safety protocols of the COVID Pandemic then to recognize the conditioning they are receiving to accept evil much less do anything about it.

Now; what does this have to do with Saints? Everything. Saints **do not** put up with the diabolical. If we are to live the life of a Saint, we have to recognize what is going on around us and take action to not only avoid it but fight against it. We fight against this with prayer, penance, by living and promoting our Catholic faith and values. We fight against it by voting for government that promotes the laws of God and not the depravity of Satan. We remember that conditioning works both ways. We condition our kids to seek God and put on the armor of Christ. “For we are not contending against flesh and blood but against the principalities, against the powers, against the world rulers of this present darkness, against the spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.” Eph. 6:12

Your in Christ Jesus,
Brother Joseph