

**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**

<b>SUN</b>	<b>FEB 21</b>	<b>1<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST</b> Heb 11:24-26.32-12:2 Jn 1:43-51 <b>Divine Liturgy for Our Parishioners and</b> <b>HGB Betta Labanish by Fr. Alex</b>
	<b>11:00</b>	
Tue	Feb 22	8:30am Divine Liturgy for Our Parishioners and + Anna and Ivan Shuter by Rev. Alex <b>4:15 -6:00pm Office hours in Church (Fr. Alex)</b>
Wed	Feb 23	8:30am Divine Liturgy for Our Parishioners and + Paulette Ghaly by Ann Kelly After Moleben to the Theotokos -Special Intentions-For Peace in Our Country
Thu	Feb 24	8:30am Divine Liturgy for Our Parishioners and + Cecelia Kokinda (wife) by Eugene Kokinda After <u>Short Bible Reflection</u> 6:00pm <b>“ROSARY”</b> Prayer for Protection and Healing of the coronavirus and all serious illnesses by Men’s Club
Fri	Feb 25	<b>5:30pm</b> Divine Liturgy of the <b>Presanctified Gifts</b> for Our Parishioners and + Cecelia Kokinda (wife) by Eugene Kokinda
<b>SUN</b>	<b>FEB 28</b>	<b>2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST (2<sup>ND</sup> ALL SOULS)</b> Heb 1:10-2:3 Mk 2:1-12 <b>Divine Liturgy for Our Parishioners and</b> <b>+ Rush Limbaugh by MaryJean Sotack</b>
	<b>11:00</b>	

**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

**FINANCIALS Feb. 14, 2021**

**Total Contributions: Monthly Dues -13.00 Offertory -569.00 Fuel -30.00  
Candles -13.00 ECL - 24.00 Tag/yard Sale - 50.00 IN - \$ 675.00; OUT- \$  
2,168.75**

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

## BIBLE STUDY

1. The Liturgical Bible Study ministry surveying the weekly readings, led by Michael Bracelin, will resume starting March 21st at 9:30 am in the Hall. All are welcome to participate as one is able. Simply bring yourself and a bible if you have one!
2. Beginning later this Spring we will launch a new bible study following the Adventure Bible Series created by Ascension Press. It will take place during a weekday on a manageable semi-monthly basis. We hope to offer food, community, and of course an easy to understand exploration of the Holy Scriptures! If interested please contact Michael Bracelin ([michael.bracelin@gmail.com](mailto:michael.bracelin@gmail.com)) or Dr. Mike Lechman ([maclech@aol.com](mailto:maclech@aol.com)) via email or at Church.

## 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.

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*  
Thank you. Fr. Alex

## JANUARY Candles:

Sanctuary...HGB Margan Family...Requested by Katarina Margan  
Tetrapod...HGB Morgan and Kevin Kelly...Requested by Ann Kelly  
Theotokos & Child...HGB...Kyra Noonan Requested by Chris Noonan  
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...Helen & Merrill LeBlanc by Peter & Lisa Margan

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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.*

**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**

### Living with Wooly Bears.

Ah; the Wooly Bear. The fuzzy little caterpillar you see before winter that is either black, or a shade of reddish brown. Old timers in this area love to sit in back of the barn and discuss what kind of winter we are going to have based on the color of the wooly bears they see. Old timers including me.

One fellow will say; "I saw one that was jet black; you better buckle in for a long hard winter." Another will reply; "Well, I saw one that was light bronze. Nothing to worry about this year." So it goes. Most of the time you can see several wooly bears in a season and no two are the same. I got one that's hold up in my barn right now. It looks to be round and very fuzzy; it looks to be dark brown, but most of all, it looks cold.

We tend to look for things that give us insight into the future and predict what is going to happen. Temperature, barometric pressure, wind speed and direction, these are some useful tools developed over time to help us. Groundhogs, Wooly Bears, and how a cow swats flies with its tail; well, not so much; but they are more fun to talk about then the temperature.

I suspect we've done that throughout history. It's not just questions about the weather. We always like to know what is going to happen; what's going to affect us and our family. We seemingly are ready to get our information from just about anyone that claims to know, especially sources that we have trusted in the past. Like the wooly bear, we especially like to get our information from those that we tend to agree with.

Right now, there are all shapes and sizes of "Wooly Bears" on the news, social media, in politics, those in Hollywood, pop stars and even sport figures. They claim to know what is going on and why. They also claim to know what we should think about it, and do about it. More importantly these Wooly Bears claim that we should not listen to anyone with a different opinion.

These two-legged Wooly Bears are skilled and persuasive. They present facts in just a certain way that conforms to their own opinion, seeking to make it your opinion. In the final analysis though, what they

are presenting is their opinion only. Unlike their smaller version, these Wooly Bears have an agenda.

There's nothing wrong with coming to a decision on what the weather might be, or what will happen in the future that affects you and your family. It is important that you do, so as to best prepare yourself and your family. There is a responsibility there.

Unless you grew up in a bubble, completely sheltered from reality, you have probably developed a fairly good instinct about what you see going on, and how it will impact you and your loved ones. Don't worry if you see things differently from what the two-legged Wooly Bears are saying. Don't worry if your decision is different from herd instinct. Seek truth, seek reality. God gave you tremendous talent and gifts so that you may take care of yourself and your loved ones. Use them and don't depend on the Wooly Bears.

Love Dad

***"A Christianity without a liturgy, I dare say, is perhaps a Christianity without Christ. Without the Total Christ. Even in the barest of rites, such as the one some Christians have celebrated and continue to celebrate in places of incarceration, or in the hiddenness of a house in times of persecution, Christ is truly present and gives Himself to his faithful."***

**"Prayer is always alive in our lives, like embers, even when the mouth does not speak, but the heart speaks. Every thought, even apparently "profane" ones, can be permeated by prayer. There is even a prayerful aspect in human intelligence; it is, in fact, a window peering into the mystery: it illuminates the few steps in front of us and then opens up to the entire reality, this reality that precedes it and surpasses it."**

*Pope Francis*