

WELCOME TO ASCENSION

SAVE YOUR PEOPLE, OH GOD, AND BLESS YOUR INHERITANCE

PLEASE KEEP SOCIAL DISTANCE

SUN	APR 3	5ST SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST ST. MARY OF EGYPT Heb 6:13-20 Mk 9:17-31 Tone 4 10:40 3 rd Hour reading Divine Liturgy For All Our Parishioners and HGB Betta Labanish by Fr. Alex After – Hospitality - Potluck
Tue	Apr 5	8: 30am For Our Parishioners and for HGB Robert Hering by Linda and Dr. Michael Lechman 5:15pm ADULT BIBLE STUDY
Wed	Mar 6	8:30am For Our Parishioners and + Bill Kelly by Ann Kelly MOLEBEN TO THE THEOTOKOS -Special Intentions-For Peace in Our Country
Thu	Mar 7	8:30am For Our Parishioners and HGB Katharina Morgan and her Family by Fr. Alex After - Bible Study 6:00pm – ROSARY - Prayer for Protection and Healing of the coronavirus and all serious illnesses by Men's Club
Fri	Apr 8	5:30pm Divine Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts for Our Parishioners and + Eugene Kokinda by Fr. Alex
SUN	APR 10	PALM SUNDAY Phil 4:4-9 Jn 12:1-18 Festal Tone 10:40 3 rd Hour reading Divine Liturgy For All Our Parishioners and + Richard Falke by Hanh Falke After – Hospitality

"A BABY SHOWER WILL BE HELD FOR ANGELA AND MIKE BRACELIN **TODAY** AFTER LITURGY. THEY ARE REGISTERED AMAZON, AND WE LOOK FORWARD TO WELCOMING A NEW ADDITION TO THE PARISH!"

+

Ascension parish expresses our condolences to **Betty Mae Hertz** upon the loss of her brother **ANDREW HERTZ, JR.** He entered into his eternal life on Monday March 28, 2022, he was 85 years old. vichna pamyat

All Are WELCOME, PLEASE ATTEND:

On Wednesday, after Liturgy, Moleben to the Theotokos. On Thursday, after Liturgy, Bible Study, reflecting on Sunday's Gospel Reading

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

Happy APRIL BIRTHDAYS

2nd William Fetsko; 3rd Adriana Shockley; 5th Anya Bobrinskaya
Hunter; 22nd Jim Hoolan; 22nd Aurora DaQuilanea; 24th Nadia Hunter;
28th Betta Labanish

We have several faithful from Ascension who are in need of special prayer.

Some of those who need special prayer are:

Ann Harmeyer, Frank and Chris Janke, Mary Grace Dorsey, Ben Pawers, Betta Labanish, Betty May Hertz, Emma Bernier, Lolly Vinson, June McGraw, Darren Hall Thank you. Fr. Alex

PARISH ACTIVITIES: All activities should be recorded on the main calendar **2022** 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

ADULT BIBLE STUDY

Did you miss the Bible Study this Fall, but you want to still participate? It's not too late! The Bible Study will restart on Tuesday January 18th at 5:15 pm and we will do a complete review of everything we learned in Fall. Please join us for great food and a wonderful conversation-based journey through Scripture! See Dr. Michael Lechman and Michael Bracelin for questions.

Candles for April :

Sanctuary...For HGB Makoweic Family by Oksana Makoweic
Tetrapod... For Our Parishioners
Theotokos & Child... HGB Mark Noonan by Chris Noonan
John Baptist... For Our Parishioners
St Nicholas... For + Anna Marie Duttry by Patty Duttry
Protection Theotokos... HGB Adriana Shockley by Keith and Nadia Shockley
Christ Teacher...For HGB Doyle Duttry by Patty Duttry

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.

God bless America!!!

I would like to thank Snow-Wood, LLC for donating Parcel 10/10A to our parish. This is the piece of land that runs between our parking lot and the school and extends to the parking lot of Snow-Wood, LLC. This has been a long project and I would like to especially thank Mr. Robert Pfeifer, Esquire for his diligence in this matter. We are blessed to have our property increased in size and value.

2021 – 2022 Bishop's Appeal Monthly Update March

Goal - \$6,800 Total. Collected - \$ 3,040. Needed to meet goal - \$3,760

Parishioner Synod Survey

Please return your completed survey to Ascension of Our Lord Church on or before Sunday, April 3, 2022. You are welcome to contact one of the following facilitators if you would like to join a small group to help articulate your ideas and thoughts on the Synod Survey

Sasha Kusno – 660-287-1003 Don Merkley – 258-5650

Ron Ruszkowski – 362-1323 Mary Jean Sotack – 234-1980

FINANCIALS, Mar 27, 2022

Monthly Dues – 100.00; Offertory – 519.01; Candles-58.00; Holyday-310.00; Flowers – Ester –0.00; In –987.01; Out - 277.51

Is Your Faith Sitting Upon a Shelf?

“Faith is the art of holding on to things in spite of your changing moods and circumstances.” C.S. Lewis.

The famous author, C.S. Lewis, made many comments on Faith. He should know. He was a devout atheist during his youth in Northern Ireland. Through his own reason and intellect, he worked his way back to God. The more he studied his own physical existence, and the world around him, the more he became convinced of God’s presence. While he never formally joined the church, he developed his faith to a high degree, and in this there is a lesson for all of us.

Lewis knew from experience that faith is not just some emotion. Emotions are fleeting, and what we hold as true and good today, built merely on a foundation of emotion, will crumble away tomorrow as our emotions change.

This may be taken as a harsh statement, but those that are coming to the faith for the first time, based solely on emotions and feelings, and without guidance, may well drift away. How often have we’ve seen visitors come to a parish, become emersed in the beauty and spirituality of it all, only to drift away as their mood changes. The initial fire kindled within, is soon extinguished when faced with stark reality. Their faith has not developed sufficiently to hold them.

If not actively developed and continually fortified, there will be no rooting of faith. Consider a child being brought up in the faith. One week, one month, one year; it is not enough. A child requires constant attention and guidance to develop the values required to maintain a lifelong faith. To develop a faith that has the strength and perseverance to be passed along in turn to their own children. By this is the church kept fresh and viable.

The same is true for anyone of us, be it laity or clergy. If we are not continually developing, exercising and fortifying our faith, it will diminish, and at some point, we will lose it.

Coming to mass or divine liturgy, once or twice a year, will not be sufficient by itself to

hold, much less build your faith. Putting icons or statues up in your home and wearing holy medals by itself will not develop faith. Watching faith-based shows on television will not get it done either. Hanging a rosary on you rear view mirror, and putting religious bumper stickers on your car? I’m sorry, but in and of itself, that’s all show.

Faith requires knowledge. Faith requires practice. Faith requires deeds. What physician worth their wages does not have faith in the skills they have developed over time? That faith comes from knowledge, practice and experience. Like a physician, each of us are called to develop and practice our faith. Faith is not something to be set upon a shelf collecting dust, in the anticipation of pulling it down one day in dire need, only to find that it has passed its expiration date and has no value.

“You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trodden under foot by men.” Mt. 5:13. Thus did Jesus address the disciples, who were being prepared to preach the faith. Salt is essential for life, and is a preservative from corruption. It is our faith which preserves us from spiritual corruption. The stronger our faith, the better our protection. It is through living our faith and actively professing it through example and deed, that others in turn are brought to the faith.

We are entering a time now when faith is being tested. Our faith will need to be strong to withstand what is ahead. War and hostility will bring homelessness, hunger and refugees. The worsening economy will affect every family. The environment, health related issues, the corruption of moral values in our society; the list goes on. Everyday there is something tugging for our attention; testing our faith. Even holy church. We are now seeking the way ahead for the church, starting with questionnaires, surveys and focus groups. Everyone’s opinion to be considered. Expectations are across the board. Where will it all lead?

Despite the ebb and flow of emotions we will face, let us pray and have faith that God’s Plan will be accomplished. And in His Will, I will place my faith.

Yours in Christ

Brother Joseph

Nothing but a Number

Japanese mountain climber Yuichiro 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.

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.

Psalms 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.

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.