

WELCOME TO ASCENSION

SAVE YOUR PEOPLE, OH GOD, AND BLESS YOUR INHERITANCE

PLEASE KEEP SOCIAL DISTANCE

SUN DEC 4 26TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. Saint Nicholas visit.

Eph 5:9-19 Lk 17:12-19 Tone 1

11:00 Divine Liturgy For All Our Parishioners and +Mike & Avanelle Bross by Angela Bross
Following new hall addition will also be blessed and named the St. John the Baptist Hall in loving memory of John Labanish by Betta Labanish.

Mon Dec 5 6:00pm Advisory Board Meeting.

Tue Dec 6 St. Nicholas of Myra Archbishop
8: 30am For Our Parishioners and For + Professor John Williams by Fr. Alex

Wed Dec 7 8:30am For Our Parishioners and HGB Heather Peltier & Family by Paula Peltier
MOLEBEN TO THE THEOTOKOS -Special Intention

Thu Dec 8 Maternity of the Holy Anna
8:30am For Our Parishioners and HGB Taras, Maria Mark, Camila, Volodymyr, Lesya, Andrii, Sofia Tetyana by Maria Martsiyash
After - Bible Study
6:00pm - ROSARY - Prayer for Protection and Healing of the coronavirus and all serious illnesses by Men's Club

SUN DEC 11 SUNDAY OF THE FOREFATHERS

Col 3:4-11 Lk 14:16-24 Tone 2

11:00 Divine Liturgy For All Our Parishioners and +Mike Bross by Angela Bross
After – Hospitality

+

On Wednesday November 30, 2022 Dr. John Williams, our long-time parishioner has been called home to our Lord. A memorial service will be held in the near future.

Eternal Memory

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

Some of those who need special prayer are:

Frank and Chris Janke, Mary Grace Dorsey, Ben Pawers, Betta Labanish, Betty May Hertz, Emma Bernier, Lolly Vinson, William McGraw, June McGraw, Darren and June Hall, Aurora & Jaime Daquilanea, Mary Ann Drumtra, Katharina and Steven Margan
Thank you. Fr. A

Candles for Novemberr:

Sanctuary Lamp... + John Labanish by Betta Labanish
Tetrapod... + Elvira & Anthony DeGaspari by Ann Kelly
Theotokos & Child... + Anna Oberhauser by Elisabeth Branden
John Baptist... HGB Morgan Kelly by Ann Kelly
St Nicholas... HGB Merle & Teresa Phillips by MaryAnn Drumtra
Protection Theotokos... For Our Parishioners
Christ Teacher... + Anthony DeGaspari by Ann Kelly

IN THIS CHURCH, WE BELIEVE

IN THE HOLY SPIRIT; THE HOLY CATHOLIC CHURCH; THE COMMUNION OF SAITS; THE FORGIVENESS OF SINS; THE RESURRECTION OF THE BODY; AND LIFE EVERLASTING

If any parishioners plan to visit Edmonton, Canada, please speak with Father Alex regarding picking up a needed item for faith formation.

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, local honey.

SPECIAL ORDERS WELCOMED.

FINANCIALS, November 27 2022

Monthly Dues –0.00; Offertory –0.00; Candles-0.00; Holyday - 0.00
In – 2,535.00; Out –0.00

Happy NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

1st Eric Hunter; 3rd Daisy Olson; 7th Walter Picconi; 16th Ann Kelly;
16th Delores Clinton; 18th Natalie Collions; 20th Michael Yackanich;
22nd Morgan Kelly;

The Williamsburg **House of Mercy feed and shelter your neighbors?**
This summer, Williamsburg House of Mercy gave food to 208 families in a single a day and has moved 25 households into stable housing. For more information on how to donate or our shopping list, please visit WilliamsburgHouseOfMercy.org. Will you help? Thank you for being the hands and feed of Christ to our community!
Thank you. God Bless, Larissa

We will still collect donations for the Ukrainian Humanitarian Cause. You may place your generous gift in the basket with the Ukrainian Flag. You will find it at the Icon Screen. Thank you for your gift of hope! Fr. Alex

Our Children's Formation program has open enrollment. If you would like your child to learn about the faith and have space to have thoughtful conversations about God with peers, reach out to Sasha Kusno, 660-287-1003. Upcoming dates include: December 4, 11, & 18.
Sasha Kusno

God bless America!!!

Pierogi - There will be one more pierogi production run this year on 9-10 December. We will make the filling on the 9th of December starting at 9am, and we will make the pierogi on the 10th of December. also starting at 9am. There will be a potluck after the session on the 10th. Volunteers are needed please. All proceeds go to the Ukrainian war relief through the Eparchy of Passaic.

Thank you, Lee

Ascension's Young Adult Fellowship. Anyone age 18 to 40 is invited. After liturgy **TODAY, December 4 from 1 PM to 3 PM.** The topic will be an introduction to Philokalia and Christ Our Pascha Catechism. Lunch will be provided. Come and learn together! "If you comprehend, it is not God. If you are able to comprehend, it is because you mistook something else for God. If you almost comprehend, it is again because you allowed your own thoughts to deceive you." St. Augustine of Hippo, Sermon 52, 16.

IN THIS CHURCH, WE BELIEVE

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SAITS; THE FORGIVENESS OF SINS; THE RESURRECTION OF THE BODY; AND
LIFE EVERLASTING

HOSPITALITY - is in need of volunteers for 2023. Please see
Chris Noonan if interested.

**AS YOU ARE SHIFTING YOU WILL BEGIN TO REALIZE YOU ARE NOT THE SAME
PERSON YOU USE TO BE.**

**THE THINGS YOU USED TO TOLERATE HAVE NOW BECOME INTOLERABLE.
WHERE YOU ONCE REMAINED QUITE YOU ARE NOW SPEAKING TRUTH. WHERE
YOU ONCE BATTLED AND ARGUED YOU ARE NOW CHOOSING TO REMAIN
SILENT. YOU ARE BEGINNING TO UNDERSTAND THE VALUE OF YOUR VOICE AND
THERE ARE SOME SITUATIONS THAT NO LONGER DESERVE YOUR TIME,
ENERGY AND FOCUS**

Our Daily Bread – Finding God - A letter for Advent

The seasons change quickly, without regard for man and his schemes. Winter, spring, summer and fall, all answer to a higher authority. It would be well if we were to do likewise; for we will surely do so later. *****

Thanksgiving has passed, and Christmas is before us. We are in a time of preparation for a very important and sacred event. A time of great anticipation; for we are soon to see our Savior Jesus Christ enter this world as a babe in a manger.

During this age of indulgence, the term “preparation” has come to mean something else. Christmas preparation today comes in the form of rituals that have nothing to do with the nativity of God Incarnate. For oh so many, their preparations are limited to decorating, buying gifts, holiday parties and events. A social calendar that is full, and that in the end leaves them empty. They run about frantically, seeking to get everything in place, just right. Then they tell themselves they will be happy. They will find peace. Except they don’t. They end up exhausted, often frustrated and feeling empty. There is something missing.

Then there is the constant drumbeat of bad news. The economy, mass shootings, wars, a coming food and fuel shortage; and oh yes, everything political. A daily feeding of worldly negativism. Is it any wonder that with each succeeding year we become a little more disillusioned, fearful and angry with it all. Some use their fear and anger to substitute for what is missing. They seemingly live on it, and like a drug or alcohol addiction, need their daily dose of it. Yet their fears and anger do not fill the emptiness within. What’s more, fear and anger is contagious, especially to the young. Oh yes, how quickly the children learn.

So, we strive to find God. For we know instinctively that what is missing is God in our life. It is the way we are created. We must seek our God. But how? How do we begin?

We know that God will not be found on a store shelf, or wrapped up in a package under a tree. We will not find Him in seasonal extravagance. For those who are completely surrounded by self-absorption and self-indulgence, there will be little room for God.

We know well that God will not be found where there is hatred and injustice. He

will not be found among the prideful with their envy and jealousy. He will not abide avarice in any form. In these places we will only find the hand of Satan. Many seek to interpret the mark of the beast referred to in Revelation. What is it? What does it mean? How to keep from getting it? I would worry far more about these deadly sins, they manifest themselves openly amongst us today, and in them we can lose our very soul. So, how do we find God?

Blessed are the pure of Heart, for they shall see God. Mt. 5:8

Where you will start to find God is in humility. For to be pure of heart is to be humble of heart. Humility is the foundation upon which all other virtues are built upon, and the pure in life walk in the ways of humility.

The chief concern of the humble isn't about what they are going to buy, what they wear or what is on their social agenda. They do not dwell unduly on what others think of them or the problems of the world. They’re chief concern isn’t about themselves; it is about God. And in this state, they will find God.

The pure of heart have no hypocrisy, no guile or hidden motives. They do not seek recognition or the limelight. They only have an uncompromising desire to please God in all things. And in this state, God will be made manifest to them.

To be pure of heart is a lifelong struggle against flesh and worldly desires, which blocks us from the sight of God. But the journey is difficult. Opening myself to God through humility, coming so close, only to fall back. Yet the struggle goes on. All who strive to “see God” have this struggle, and it is in this struggle, we are made strong. The struggle is important for it becomes the key to the preparation not only for advent but for eternity.

If we want our Christmas to be peaceful and fulfilling, make preparations now, starting today. Like the seasons of the year, humble ourselves before our Creator and ask God to purify our heart, so that we may find Him this Christmas season.

Love Dad

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.

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 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.

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.

Psalm 15

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.

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.

Psalms 85

The Lord speaks of peace to his people.

I will hear what God proclaims;
the LORD—for he proclaims peace