

WELCOME TO ASCENSION

SAVE YOUR PEOPLE, OH GOD, AND BLESS YOUR INHERITANCE

"NOTHING EMBITTERS A PERSON MORE THAN SUFFERING. BUT WHEN IT IS CONSECRATED TO GOD, IT BECOMES HOLY"
THOMAS MERTON

Sun May 4 **Sunday of the Ointment - Bearers**

Acts 6:1-7 MK 15:43-16:8 Festal Tone

11:00 Typika For Our Parish After –Hospitality-Put Luck

12:30 Young Adults spiritual studies

Tue May 6 8:30 Moleben to the Theotokos -Special Intentions-For Peace in Our Country

Wed May 7 8:30 Moleben to the Theotokos -Special Intentions-For Peace in Our Country

Thu May 8 8:30 Divine Liturgy For Our Parish by Fr. Alex

6:00pm – ROSARY- Prayer For Peace in Our Country & for Protection and Healing of all illnesses by Men's Club

Sat May 10 1:00pm Church Cleaning Hours

Sun May 11 **Sunday of the Paralytic Man MOTHER'S DAY**

Acts 9:32-42 Jn 5:1-15 Festal Tone

11:00 Divine Liturgy For Our Parish and Our MOTHERS

After –Hospitality- and Advisory Board Meeting

DEAR GOD, BLESS ALL MOTHERS...

"Dear God, we thank you for the gift of mothers and for the unique love and care they offer. On this Mother's Day, we lift up our mothers and all mothers to you, asking for your blessings of strength, peace, and joy. May they feel your love and grace as we celebrate their dedication and sacrifice. Help us to honor them with love and gratitude, and to show them the depth of our appreciation for all they do. We ask for your guidance and support for them as they navigate the challenges of motherhood. In your name, we pray. Amen."

The Automatic External Defibrillator (AED) is fully operational and located on the wall above the fire extinguisher in St. Phillips Hall. Eight parishioners were certified on the use of the AED on Oct 8, 2023 and other parishioners have been certified in the past. Periodic updates will follow.

Dr. Michael Lechman

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

Help support our church

scan this code



To make a donation

FINANCIALS, April 27, 2025

Monthly Dues -450.00; Offertory -366.00; Candles-10.50; Holyday - 100.00;
In - 926.50; Out- 491.59

Candles for April

Sanctuary Lamp...+ Drago Margan by Peter Margan
Tetrapod... + Steven Margan by Peter Margan
Theotokos & Child... For Family by Oksana Makowiec
John Baptist... For Our Parishioners
St Nicholas... For Nicholas Yacknich by Evelyn Yackanich
Protection Theotokos... For Our Parishioners
Christ Teacher... + Katharina Margan by Peter Margan

Offertory Recorders are needed for tracking contributions to the parish. Volunteers would work with the bookkeeper, Patty Duttry, after Divine Liturgy to organize and record donations each Sunday. Volunteer for the Sundays you want; multiple volunteers can be put into a schedule to spread the work. Computer data entry experience welcome but it's possible to help with no computer data entry required.

Thank you, Patty

To Be a Saint - Sede Vacante, The Throne of Peter is Vacant

The death of Pope Francis has brought with it a wave of emotion and comment both pro and con. One person said they had left the Catholic faith because of Francis. Excuse me, no one MAKES you leave the faith except yourself. Come home. Rather than focus on Francis' legacy, I thought I would go over the procedure in the coming days as it is steeped in history and occurs only a few times in our life time.

After the Death of Pope Francis, the Holy See enters a period of *sede vacante*. It begins the moment a pope dies or resigns and concludes when his successor accepts his election as pope. The College of Cardinals is entrusted with governing the Church during the sede vacante, but only for ordinary business and matters that cannot be postponed. In this case the particular church is the Diocese of Rome and the "vacant seat" is Saint John Lateran, the cathedral church of the Bishop of Rome.

During the interim of Pope Francis' death and the selection of the new Pope, Cardinal Kevin Farrell, who holds the role of "camerlengo," or chamberlain, will take care of the day-to-day activities within the Vatican. This includes overseeing the funeral of Pope Francis, destroying the Fisherman's Ring which served as a seal for papal document during Francis' papacy, and importantly, preparing for the papal conclave.

A pope's burial typically occurs four to six days after death. For Francis it occurred on April 26. The funeral is held in St. Peter's Square, led by the dean of the College of Cardinals, with thousands of mourners in attendance. Most popes are interred in the Vatican Grottoes beneath St. Peter's Basilica, though some have chosen different resting places. Pope Francis expressed his wish to be buried at Santa Maria Maggiore in Rome.

Centuries ago it would take several months to elect a new Pope, as it would take that long to gather the Cardinals of the Church together in Rome. Its different today, as the conclave normally begins 15-20 days after the death of the pontiff. The upcoming conclave is expected to begin sometime between 6 - 11 May.

The conclave is held in the Sistine Chapel. The cardinals gather for discussions and prayerful deliberation before entering the conclave, they are also sworn to secrecy. During these discussions, they consider the needs and challenges facing the Catholic Church globally, including theological issues, political concerns and pastoral priorities. Only cardinals under age 80 are eligible to vote, and the election continues until a candidate secures a two-thirds majority. The election process can take days. In previous centuries, it has gone on for weeks or months, and some cardinals have even died during conclaves.

During the voting process, ballots are counted and burned after each round. If a candidate is selected and accepts, then ballots are burned as is, which sends up a white smoke. If the count is inconclusive then chemicals (cole-tar and sulphur) are mixed into the ballots and the resulting smoke is black. Once elected, the new pope selects a papal name and is formally introduced to the world from the balcony of St. Peter's Basilica. Pay attention to the name selected, as it often will give an indication of the mindset of the new pontiff.

The only specifications listed in the Code of Canon Law, state that any bishop who accepts a legitimate papal election becomes pope immediately. If the individual is not a bishop, they have to be made a bishop immediately in order to accept the election.

In theory, for a papal election, any male who has been baptized as Catholic can be named a bishop — meaning that any man who has been baptized in the Catholic Church is technically eligible to be elected pope. For instance, although surrounded with intrigue and controversy, a member of the powerful Medici Family, Giovanni di Lorenzo de Medici, was elected as Pope Leo X on 9 March 1513. Although he had been named a Cardinal-deacon through political intrigue at the age of 13, he had not been ordained. So, on 15 March 1513, he was ordained priest, and consecrated as bishop on 17 March. He was crowned Pope on 19 March 1513 at the age of 37.

Rumors will abound, front runners identified amongst the Cardinals, and the votes taken. With each inconclusive vote though, the frontrunners may be set aside, and a dark horse emerge. The conclave that elected Saint Pope John Paul II lasted through three days and eight ballots.

For the faithful? This is a time for prayer, prayers for the conclave, and that the Holy Spirit will guide them to elect the next pontiff to wear the shoes of the fisherman and lead the church.

Yours in Christ
Brother Joseph

Hospitality - One of the many things that makes Ascension special is our coffee and hospitality service after Liturgy's on Sunday. The parish would have a completely different feel and character without this time of community. Chris Noonan and her volunteers do an amazing job in the set up and operation. Take a moment to let them know how much they are appreciated.

Men's Club!! Thanks to our volunteers and customers. The men will be at the grill again for our potluck on the 4th of May. **TODAY**

Italian Dinner!! CELEBRARE LA VITA! The Club together with the Carpathian Kitchen will be hosting our annual Parish Italian Dinner on 24 May. Tickets go on sale next week!

Carpathian Kitchen - We still have small quantities of pierogi and piroshki for sale. There is enough pierogi and piroshki to forgo the 2-3 May production run so that will be cancelled. Our next production run will be June 27-28

Ascension Young Adults will continue Byzantine spiritual studies Spring 2025: TODAY May 4. at 12:30 pm. Come and pray together. In Christ Adi

Young Adults, Children, Adult Bible Study Comity: Subdeacon Adithia Kusno, Dr. Michael Lechman, Lisa Edwards. Special Event/Retreat Speakers Comity: David Efimetz, Don Merkley, Dr. Mary Jean Sotack

Bible Study: the Book of Genesis

The next Adult Bible Study will be held on Tuesday, **May 13** from 5:15 to 6:30 PM. The session will cover Genesis, Chapter 31: Jacob and Laban, Lesson 18 in the workbook. Respectfully submitted, Dr. Michael Lechman

Please Join us on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday Evening Bible Study of St. John Hall at 5:15pm. in the Social Hall.

Happy MAY BIRTHDAYS
20th Larry Drumtra; 29th Jeffrey Sotack;

NEEDED!!! We will continue to ask for a few more volunteers to help out with photography needs. Please see Father Alex if you are interested in helping with this important ministry.

7 Spiritual Disciplines That Boost Your Mental Health

Your spiritual and mental health are connected. Practicing spiritual disciplines can deepen your faith and strengthen your mind.

Meditating on Scripture – Listening to God

SLIDE 2 OF 7

Biblical meditation lets you decide what matters to God.

Romans 12:2 encourages you: “Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.”

When you meditate on scripture, you replace lies with truth in your thoughts and emotions. So, schedule some time each day to reflect on God’s Word, letting it give you a fresh perspective. Meditating on scripture is different from secular mindfulness techniques. Rather than emptying your mind, biblical meditation involves filling your mind with God’s promises. You can memorize Bible verses especially helpful for you and repeat them in prayer. You may also consider journaling about their impact on your life. When you make this a habit, scripture will anchor your life, pointing you to God’s perspective. That will give you the guidance and encouragement you need in any situation. You can meditate in the morning to start your day with peace, in the evening to relax, or at any other time that works best in your schedule each day.

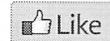
One powerful method of meditating on scripture is the “lectio divina” approach, which involves reading a passage slowly, reflecting on its meaning, praying about it, and thinking about how to apply it. As you meditate on scripture, you’ll develop a deep connection with God that will help you be mentally resilient. Meditation's beauty is that it allows you to pay attention to God’s voice in this noisy world. As you focus on God’s Word, the Holy Spirit will make the words come alive and show you how to apply them to your life.

ASCENSION OF OUR LORD BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

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V. Rev. Alex Shuter

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**INFORMATION REGARDING THE SACRAMENTS AND
SACRAMENTALS**

Father Alex is available for the Holy Mystery of Reconciliation before Diving Liturgy on Sunday (10:30 am) or half hour before weekly Liturgy (8:00 am) or by appointment.

MIROVANJA is a sacramental blessing with holy oil, which is applied to the forehead in the sign of the cross by the priest while proclaiming the appropriate greeting of the season. After kissing the hand cross, take a piece of the blessed bread. You may offer a donation.

Following the Risen Lord in All Things

Christ has redeemed us by giving Himself as our ransom; He is the price paid for every soul, and by redeeming us from death and giving us immortality He has made us His own. So now that we belong to the Lord we must follow His will in all things, not living for ourselves anymore but only for Him who has purchased us with His life. We are no longer autonomous but belong to the One who has bought us, and we must be ruled by His will. As long as death had power over us we were ruled by sin, but now that we belong to the Lord of life we must give our allegiance to our new Master. Sin must never again make us disobey Him, for that would bring us once more under the domination of the evil one and of death.

We feel bound to Christ when we know that He is, as Paul tells us, both victim and priest, that He was actually offered for us as our paschal sacrifice, and that He Himself was the priest

who made this offering to God. He gave himself up, says Paul, as a sacrifice to us. Those who realize that Christ gave himself up and became our Passover will in their turn offer themselves to God as living sacrifices, holy and acceptable. They will become spiritual oblations. Refusing to conform to the standards of the world, they will change their whole outlook so as to know the will of God, what is good, pleasing to Him, and best in every way ...

While our minds remain subject to our lower nature we are at enmity with God and refuse to obey His law ... Meditating on Christ's offering of His own blood in atonement for our sins should teach us to imitate Him and to make atonement for our own sins, mortifying our bodies in order to purify our souls.

St. Gregory of Nyssa