

Holy Assumption Orthodox Church
Celebrating 125 years witnessing to the Apostolic Faith

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Marblehead, OH 43440

V. Rev. Archpriest Peter Tomas, Rector

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*Holy Assumption Orthodox Church is a parish of the Orthodox Church in America,
Diocese of the Midwest*

NOVEMBER 24, 2024

TWENTY SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Thanksgiving Day Prayer

Heavenly Father, on Thanksgiving Day
we bow our hearts to You and pray.
We give You thanks for all You've done,
especially for the gift of Jesus, Your Son.
For beauty in nature, Your glory we see.
For joy and health, friends, and family.
For daily provision, your mercy and care
—these are the blessings You graciously share.
So today we offer this response of praise
with a promise to follow You all our days.
Mary Fairchild



St. Andrew the Apostle
Feast Day – November 30th

EPISTLE: Galatians 6:11-18

Brethren: See with what large letters I have written to you with my own hand! As many as desire to make a good showing in the flesh, these would compel you to be circumcised, only that they may not suffer persecution for the cross of Christ. For not even those who are circumcised keep the law, but they desire to have you circumcised that they may boast in your flesh. But God forbid that I should boast

except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision avails anything, but a new creation. And as many as walk according to this rule, peace and mercy be upon them, and upon the Israel of God. From now on let no one trouble me, for I bear in my body the marks of the Lord Jesus. Brethren, the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit. Amen.

GOSPEL: Lk 13:10-17

At that time Jesus was teaching in one of the synagogues on the Sabbath. And behold, there was a woman who had a spirit of infirmity eighteen years, and was bent over and could in no way raise herself up. But when Jesus saw her, He called her to Him and said to her, "Woman, you are loosed from your infirmity." And He laid His hands on her, and immediately she was made straight, and glorified God. But the ruler of the synagogue answered with indignation, because Jesus had healed on the Sabbath; and he said to the crowd, "There are six days on which men ought to work; therefore come and be healed on them, and not on the Sabbath day." The Lord then answered him and said, "Hypocrite! Does not each one of you on the Sabbath loose his ox or donkey from the stall, and lead it away to water it? So ought not this woman, being a daughter of Abraham, whom Satan has bound – think of it – for eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the Sabbath?" And when He said these things, all His adversaries were put to shame; and all the multitude rejoiced for all the glorious things that were done by Him.

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK

MON. Nov 25	Leavetaking of the Entry; Hieromartyr Clement; 1 Thess 1:1-5, Lk 19:37-44
TUE. Nov 26	Venerable Alypius the Stylite; 1 Thess 1:6-10, Lk 19:45-48
WED. Nov 27	Greatmartyr James the Persian; 1 Thess 2:1-8, Lk 20:1-8
6:00 PM	Choir practice in the Hall
THU. Nov 28	Monastic Martyr and Confessor Stephen the New: 1 Thess 2:9-14, Lk 20:9-18
FRI. Nov 29	Martyr Paramon and 370 Martyrs in Bithynia; 1 Thess 2:14-19, Lk 20:19-26
6:00 PM	AKATHIST in Preparation for the Nativity
SAT. Nov 30	Holy Apostle Andrew, the First-Called; 2 Cor 8:1-5, Lk 12:32-40
4:00 PM	VESPERS
SUN. Dec 1	23rd SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST, <i>Tone 6</i>
9:10 AM	HOURS
9:30 AM	DIVINE LITURGY Followed by Coffee Social



FOR YOUR PRAYERS

Patti Owens, 311 Woodbridge Road, Vermilion, OH 44089; **Basil Glovinsky**, 1007 Glendale Drive, Port Clinton, OH 43452; **Subdeacon Roger Pinta**, P.O. Box 39, Middle Bass, OH 43446; **Ed & Irene Vangeloff**, 454 Strouse Lane, Sandusky, OH 44870

NOVEMBER REPOSED

Mary Hritsko (1948) No date provided; Anna Holodnak (1951) No date provided; John Danchisen (1951) No date provided; Michael Guzy (1927) No date provided; Mary Lou Hobson (2015) No date provided; **1-**Peter Felenchak (1974); **2-** Donald Sennich (1994); **3-** Marian Glovinsky (2001); **5-** Margaret Pietropolo (2009); **5-** Dan Opritza (2021) **5-** Joseph Guzy (1974); **6-** William Rentz (2018); **6-** Michael Chemorov (2019); **8-** Ann G Stretchberry (2003); **8-** Anne Catherine Glovinsky (2004); **9-** Ann Golob (No year recorded); **9-** Robley Blackford (2021); **18-** Archpriest George Timko (2000) Former Pastor; **19-** Evelyn Biecheler (2002); **19-** Frances (Nancy B. mom) (2019); **19-** Orestes Mihaly No year provided; **21-** Ann S. Ratica (1991); **22-** Joann Carender No year provided; **23-** George Michael Elchisco (2016); **23-** Violet Bargdill (1995); **26-** Janet Elchisko (2018); **28-** Anna Grabonsky (1972); **29-**Alexander Mazur (2003)



NOVEMBER CANDLE SPONSORS

Altar Candles: Fr. Peter and Mat. Michelle, For Health and God's Blessings for Barbara Wroblewski, and Michal & Helena Tomáš (**\$50**); **Chandelier:** Available (**\$50**); **Eternal Light & Icon Screen:** Available (**\$25**); **Candles at the Cross:** Laura Kovach, Birthday blessings to Madelyn, Amanda, Andrew, and Betty; and in memory of Uncle Alex (**\$20**); **Candles at St. Tikhon Icon:** For Safety and Health of Nicholas, Tikhon, Gleice, Sophie & Chloe (**\$20**)



VIGILS FOR NOVEMBER 17

Angela Bricker 2 Family, Parents

Susan Guzy 1 Special intentions

Laura Kovach 3 For health and/or healing of Jerry P., Matushka Melania, Ron R., Betty K., Margaret M., David M., Hannah S., Mark M., Dana M., Bodhi C., Kathie J., Ed V., and Irene V. Birthday blessings to Roddie, Cole, Sophie, and Grandma Betty on her 95th birthday Safe travels

Sandy Martin 3 In loving memory of Butch, For the health and recovery of Mary, Special intentions

Roddie & David Mazurik 2 Health & recovery of Rodney and Carol (Mom & Dad), In memory of sister Debbie on her birthday

Natalie Twarek 8 95th Birthday blessing to Betty, For health and recovery of Mary, For the health Fr Peter & Matushka Michelle, For the health & recovery of Matushka Melania, For the health and recovery on Ron, Rodney, Betty, Carol, Kayla, Bill, Ruth, Pam, Jim, Jerry, Heidi, Father Emilian, Barbara Heffernan, Health and healing for Father's parents Michal & Helena and Matushka's mom Barbara, and Walter, For the health of Jen, Tony, Bev, Ed, Irene, Father David, Judy, Tina, Carole, Gary, Sharon, Tina's dad, Earl, Sonya, Margi & Joe, Jackie, MaryAnn & Bob, Bodhi, Stella, Jake, Pat, special intentions

PRAYER LIST

Parishioners & Family: Ron & Bobbie Royhab / Rodney Clevenger / Jennifer Heffernan / Tom Hileman / Pam / Jim Twarek / Ed Garrity / Patti Owens / Barbara Wroblewski / Michal Tomáš / Helena Tomášova / Ruth Sheller / Basil Glovinsky / Dale / Sophie / Carol / David Martin / Fred Soski / Chris Hannon / Subdeacon Roger Pinta / Ed Vangeloff / Irene Vangeloff / Sonja Rose / Ron Royhab / James Bargdill / John Beadle / Carole Conaway / Gary Conaway / Sharon Dietrich / Michael Glovinsky / Shirley Gresh / Joseph Habegger / Elaine Hileman / Betty Kovach / Child Stella Miller / William Pipenur / Earl Rindfleisch / Helen Jean Rofkar / George Royhab / Marianne Royhab / Kathy Jacob / the child Bodhi Cassell / Clifford / Gleice, Sophie & Chloe / Carol / Nora.

Other Requests: Catechumen Blake Shoemaker / Catechumen Nickolas Dawenport / Matushka Melania / Sharyn Osborne / Christine Zahm / Amy / Bill Byrnes / Michael Heffernan / Susanne / Barbara Heffernan / Charles Schlett / Kathy Debevits / Maxwell Chaney / Sidharth Bijilani – friend of Subdeacon Roger and Debbie Pinta / Anthony / Archpriest Ján Čizmár / Archpriest David Lis / Archpriest Emilian & Matushka Laryssa Hutnyan / Donald Gresh / Mark Ludvik / Robert Piznar / Mark Masica / Valerie Ritzenthaler / William / Rick Rowe / Chris.

Military: Craig Cassell / Jake Ellithorpe / Jordon Fulton / Justin Issler / Tikhon / Nicholas / & All Military



NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

30 – Victoria Voloschuk



ATTENDANCE

11/15 Akathist, **11** attending; **11/16** Vespers, **4** attending; **11/17** Divine Liturgy, **29** attending (8 guests); **11/20** Vespers, **5** attending; **11/21** Divine Liturgy, **12** attending; **11/22** Akathist, **9** attending



READERS LIST

Sunday Nov 24 – Tim
Sunday Dec 1 – Jake
Sunday Dec 8 – Tim

UP-COMING EVENTS IN OUR PARISH – MARK YOUR CALENDARS



- Nov. 28th** Thanksgiving – Civil Holiday (*Thursday*)
- Dec 6th** St. Nicholas the Wonderworker (*Friday*)
- Dec. 9th** Conception by Righteous Anna of the Most Holy Theotokos (*Monday*)
- Dec. 21st** Holidays pre-orders pick up 9:00 – 10:30 am (*Saturday*)
- Dec. 24th** Christmas Eve - GREAT COMPLINE with Litya at 4:00 PM (*Tuesday*)
- Dec. 25th** NATIVITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST (*Wednesday*)
- Dec. 31st** New Year's Eve (*Tuesday*)



SUNDAY OFFERING

Sunday, November 17, 2024

Tithe	\$1,515.00
Donations	\$ 35.00
Candles	\$ 26.00
Vigils	\$ 95.00
Holy Day Donation	\$ 175.00
Altar Candles	\$ 50.00
Memorial Donation	<u>\$5,000.00</u>
Total:	\$6,896.00

May the Lord reward you for your financial and spiritual support!



CLEANING SCHEDULE

Nov 25, Jean
Dec 2, Stephanie
Dec 9, Sandy
Dec 16, Greg



COFFEE HOUR SPONSOR LIST

Nov 24 – Donna
Dec 1 – Matushka Michelle
Dec 8 – Natalia, Ryan & Sebastian
Dec 15 – Available

Please sign up to host coffee hour. Signup sheet is located in the Social Hall



CHARITY OF THE MONTH

“St. Herman House” is the charity we donate to for the month of November.



THANKSGIVING SALE – THANK YOU!

We would like to express our sincere thanks to Natalie, Roddie and Matushka Michelle for braving the weather and helping with the orders for our Thanksgiving Sale. The income from the sale was **\$1,471.19**. May Our Lord reward you all for your time and energy with good health, peace, and happiness for Many Happy and Blessed Years!

Our Christmas sale will take place on Saturday, December 21st between 9:00 AM and 10:30AM. All orders must be pre-ordered!



NEW “2025” LITURGICAL CALENDARS

We wish to express our sincere thanks to **Tom Priesman of Neidecker, Crosser & Priesman Funeral Home** for sponsoring our liturgical calendars. The new calendars are located in the vestibule of the church.



THANKSGIVING 2024

Please Note: Dispensation from abstinence from meat on **Friday, November 29th** for all the parishioners of Holy Assumption Parish is granted by Rector - Fr. Peter



CHRISTMAS POINSETTIA PLANTS

As we entered the time for preparation for the glorious feast of the Nativity of Our Lord, we would like to offer you an opportunity to sponsor the poinsettia plants which will beautify our church for the Nativity Season. We also kindly ask for your prayerful consideration to sponsor liturgical wine, incense, and charcoal that we use during the celebration of the Divine Liturgy. The forms for sponsoring are located in the vestibule of the church. Thank you in advance for your generosity and care!



Great Martyr Katherine of Alexandria

Commemorated on November 24

The Holy Great Martyr Katherine was the daughter of Konstos, the governor of Alexandria, Egypt during the reign of Emperor Maximian (305-313). Living in the capital, the center of Hellenistic knowledge, and possessed of a rare beauty and intellect, Katherine received an excellent education, studying the works of the greatest philosophers and teachers of antiquity. Young men from the most worthy

families of the empire sought the hand of the beautiful Katherine, but she was not interested in any of them. She told her parents that she would enter into marriage only with someone who surpassed her in nobility, wealth, comeliness and wisdom.

Katherine's mother, a secret Christian, sent her to her own Spiritual Father, a saintly Elder living in a cave outside the city, for advice. After listening to Katherine, the Elder said that he knew of someone who surpassed her in everything. "His countenance is more radiant than the shining of the sun, and all of creation is governed by His wisdom. His riches are given to all the nations of the world, yet they never diminish. His compassion is unequalled."

This description of the Heavenly Bridegroom produced an ardent desire in the soul of the holy maiden to see Him. "If you do as I tell you," said the monk, "you will gaze upon the countenance of this illustrious man." In parting, the Elder gave Katherine an icon of the Theotokos with the Divine Child on Her arm and told her to pray with faith to the Queen of Heaven, the Mother of the Heavenly Bridegroom, and she would hear Katherine and grant her heart's desire.

Katherine prayed all night and was permitted to see the Most Holy Virgin, Who said to her Divine Son, "Behold Thy handmaiden Katherine, how fair and virtuous she is." But the Child turned His face away from her saying, "No, she is ugly and unbelieving. She is a foolish pauper, and I cannot bear to look at her until she forsakes her impiety."

Katherine returned again to the Elder deeply saddened, and told him what she had seen in the dream. He received her, instructed her in the faith of Christ, admonished her to preserve her purity and integrity and to pray unceasingly. She then received the Mystery of Holy Baptism from him. Again Saint Katherine had a vision of the Most Holy Theotokos with her Child. Now the Lord looked at her tenderly and gave her a beautiful ring, a wondrous token of her betrothal to the Heavenly Bridegroom (this ring is still on her hand).

At that time Emperor Maximian was in Alexandria for a pagan festival. Therefore, the celebration was especially splendid and crowded. The cries of the sacrificial animals, the smoke and the smell of the sacrifices, the endless blaze of fires, and the bustling crowds at the arenas defiled the city of Alexandria. Human victims also were brought, the confessors of Christ, who would not deny Him under torture. They were condemned to death in the fire. Katherine's love for the Christian martyrs, and her fervent desire to ease their sufferings, compelled her to speak to the pagan priest and to Emperor Maximian.

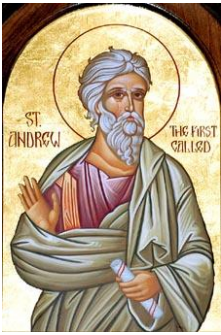
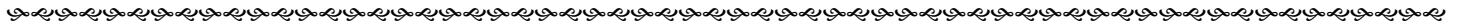
Introducing herself, the Saint confessed her faith in the One True God, and exposed the errors of the pagans. The beauty of the maiden captivated the Emperor. In order to convince her of the superiority of pagan wisdom, the Emperor ordered fifty of the most learned philosophers and rhetoricians of the Empire to dispute with her, but the Saint got the better of the wise men, so that they came to believe in Christ themselves. Saint Katherine made the Sign of the Cross over the martyrs, and they bravely accepted death for Christ and were burnt alive by order of the Emperor.

Unable to persuade the Saint, Maximian tried to entice her with the promise of riches and fame. Hearing her angry refusal, the Emperor ordered his men to subject the Saint to terrible tortures, and then throw her in prison. The Empress Augusta, who had heard much about the Saint, wanted to see her. She prevailed upon the military commander Porphyrios to accompany her to the prison with a detachment of soldiers. The Empress was impressed by Katherine's strong spirit, and her face was radiant with divine grace. The holy martyr explained the Christian Faith to them, and they were converted to Christ. On the following day, they again brought the martyr to the judgment court where, under the threat of being broken on the wheel, she was urged to renounce the Christian Faith and to offer sacrifice to the "gods." The Saint steadfastly confessed Christ and she was taken to be tortured on four wheels with sharp iron spikes, but an Angel smashed the instruments of execution, which shattered into pieces with many pagans standing nearby.

After seeing this miracle, the Empress Augusta and the imperial courtier Porphyrios and 200 soldiers confessed their faith in Christ before everyone, and they were beheaded. Maximian tried again to entice the holy martyr, offering to marry her, and again he was refused. Saint Katherine remained faithful to her heavenly Bridegroom Christ, and after praying to Him, she laid her head on the block beneath the executioner's sword.

The relics of Saint Katherine were taken by the Angels to Mount Sinai. In the VI century, the venerable head and left hand of the holy martyr were found through a revelation and transferred with honor to the newly-constructed church of the Monastery on Mount Sinai, built by the holy Emperor Justinian (November 14).

Saint Katherine is called upon for relief and assistance during a difficult childbirth. Pilgrims to her monastery on Mount Sinai are given souvenir rings as a remembrance of their visit. Saint Katherine is commemorated on November 25 in Greek usage.



Apostle Andrew, the Holy and All-Praised First-Called

Commemorated on November 30

The Holy Apostle Andrew the First-Called was the first of the Apostles to follow Christ, and he later brought his own brother, the holy Apostle Peter, to Christ (John 1:35-42). The future apostle was from Bethsaida, and from his youth he turned with all his soul to God. He did not enter into marriage, and he worked with his brother as a fisherman. When the holy Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist John began to preach, Saint Andrew became his closest disciple. Declaring Christ to be the Lamb of God, Saint John the Baptist himself sent to Christ his own two disciples, the future Apostles Andrew and

John the Theologian.

After the Descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles, Saint Andrew went to the Eastern lands preaching the Word of God. He went through Asia Minor, Thrace, Macedonia, he reached the River Danube, went along the coast of the Black Sea, through Crimea, the Black Sea region and along the River Dniepr he climbed to the place where the city of Kiev now stands.

He stopped overnight on the hills of Kiev. Rising in the morning, he said to those disciples that were with him: "See these hills? Upon these hills shall shine forth the beneficence of God, and there will be a great city here, and God shall raise up many churches." The apostle went up around the hills, blessed them and set up a cross. Having prayed, he went up even further along the Dniepr and reached a settlement of the Slavs, where Novgorod was built. From here the apostle went through the land of the Varangians towards Rome for preaching, and again he returned to Thrace, where in the small village of Byzantium, the future Constantinople, he founded the Church of Christ. The name of the holy Apostle Andrew links the mother, the Church of Constantinople, with her daughter, the Russian Church.

On his journeys the First-Called Apostle endured many sufferings and torments from pagans: they cast him out of their cities and they beat him. In Sinope they pelted him with stones, but remaining unharmed, the persistent disciple of Christ continued to preach to people about the Savior. Through the prayers of the Apostle, the Lord worked miracles. By the labors of the holy Apostle Andrew, Christian Churches were established, for which he provided bishops and clergy. The final city to which the Apostle came was the city of Patra, where he was destined to suffer martyrdom.

The Lord worked many miracles through His disciple in Patra. The infirm were made whole, and the blind received their sight. Through the prayers of the Apostle, the illustrious citizen Sosios recovered from serious illness and Maximilla and Stratokles, the wife and brother of the governor of Patra, were healed. The miracles accomplished by the Apostle and his fiery speech enlightened almost all the citizens of the city of Patra with the true Faith.

Few pagans remained at Patra, but among them was the prefect of the city, Aegeatos. The Apostle Andrew repeatedly turned to him with the words of the Gospel. But even the miracles of the Apostle did not convince Aegeatos. The holy Apostle with love and humility appealed to his soul, striving to reveal to him the Christian mystery of life eternal, through the wonderworking power of the Holy Cross of the Lord. The angry Aegeatos gave orders to crucify the apostle. The pagan thought he might undo Saint Andrew's preaching if he were to put him to death on the cross.

Saint Andrew the First-Called accepted the decision of the prefect with joy and with prayer to the Lord, and went willingly to the place of execution. In order to prolong the suffering of the saint, Aegeatos gave orders not to nail the saint's hands and feet, but to tie them to the cross. For two days the apostle taught the citizens who gathered about. The people, in listening to him, with all their souls pitied him and tried to take Saint Andrew down from the cross. Fearing a riot of the people, Aegeatos gave orders to stop the execution. But the holy apostle began to pray that the Lord would grant him death on the cross. Just as the soldiers tried to take hold of the Apostle Andrew, they lost control of their hands. The crucified apostle, having given glory to God, said: "Lord Jesus Christ, receive my spirit." Then a blazing ray of divine light illumined the cross and the martyr crucified upon it. When the light faded, the holy Apostle Andrew had already given up his holy soul to the Lord. Maximilla, the wife of the prefect, had the body of the saint taken down from the cross, and buried him with honor.

A few centuries later, under the emperor Constantine the Great, the relics of the holy Apostle Andrew were solemnly transferred to Constantinople and placed in the church of the Holy Apostles beside the relics of the holy Evangelist Luke and Saint Paul's disciple Saint Timothy.



About the Healing of a Woman Who Had a Spirit of Infirmity

by Bishop Mitrofan (Znosko-Borovskij)

(Luke 13:10-17).

We have heard in the today's Gospel reading about the healing of a woman who had a spirit of infirmity for eighteen years. The work of mercy performed in the synagogue on a Sabbath made the Pharisees murmur, and at the same time served as an occasion for the Savior to clarify the true intent behind the

holiday, the day dedicated to God.

The formalistic Pharisees grumbled. They believed that their pious behavior, which was manifested by their formal observance of the Law of Moses, made them entitled to God. The Pharisees squeezed the immensity of God's Love into their religious teachings and reduced it to their limited scope. The Pharisee teachers developed a sophisticated and meticulous casuistry related to the Sabbath. That's why the chief of the synagogue was outraged: "There are six days in which men ought to work: in them therefore come and be healed, and not on the Sabbath day."

The Pharisees' attitude towards the holidays was severely denounced by the prophet Isaiah. "Listen to the word of the Lord," Isaiah said, "Your new moons and your appointed feasts my soul hateth: they are a trouble unto me; I am weary to bear them. And when ye spread forth your hands, I will hide mine eyes from you: yea, when ye make many prayers, I will not hear: your hands are full of blood. Wash you, make you clean; put away the evil of your doings from before mine eyes; cease to do evil; Learn to do well; seek judgment, relieve the oppressed, judge the fatherless, plead for the widow."

Christ also rose up against the Pharisees' rigoristic formalism. "The sabbath was made for man, and not man for the sabbath: Therefore the Son of man is Lord also of the sabbath," Jesus declared. "Thou hypocrite, doth not each one of you on the sabbath loose his ox or his ass from the stall, and lead him away to watering? And ought not this woman, being a daughter of Abraham, whom Satan hath bound,

lo, these eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the sabbath day?" Jesus called the chief of the synagogue a hypocrite, and the Savior ranks mercy as the highest priority.

What is a holiday for us, Christians? Every holiday is the day of the Lord. In the Old Testament, the Lord said, Six days shall work be done: but the seventh day is the sabbath of rest, an holy convocation (I reiterate: holy!) ... ye shall do no work therein: it is the sabbath of the LORD in all your dwellings. (Leviticus 23). This is an eternal decree.

Do you hear, my friends, what is the Lord calling us to? Humble your souls on the holidays! The apostle Paul admonishes us in the New Testament, Therefore let us keep the feast, not with old leaven, neither with the leaven of malice and wickedness; but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth. (1 Corinthians 5:8).

Thus, on the day of the Lord, on the church feasts, in addition to leisure from work, it is necessary to ascend to the Light with double zeal, to ascend to God assiduously and fervently. How can we do it, you may ask. Through personal and public prayer at church as well as through works of love and mercy. I want mercy, not sacrifice, the Lord says. These words of the Lord must resonate with particular intensity and insistence in the minds and hearts of Christians during the holidays.

Therefore, may every Christian, on the days of the Lord, hurry to the church for the common prayer, and may he commit himself to conversations about faith and godliness in his family, and may he also direct his footsteps to those who are sick and suffering. Amen.