

Resurrectional Apolytikion in the Third Mode

Let the Heavens rejoice; let earthly things be glad; for the Lord hath wrought might with His arm, He hath trampled upon death by death. The first-born of the dead hath He become. From the belly of Hades hath He delivered us, and hath granted great mercy to the world.

Apolytikion for Apodosis of the Dormition in the First Mode

In giving birth, thou didst preserve thy virginity; in thy dormition, thou didst not forsake the world, O Theotokos. Thou wast translated unto life, since thou art the Mother of Life; and by thine intercessions dost thou redeem our souls from death.

Apolytikion of the Church in the First Mode

Thou hast ascended in glory, O Christ our God, and gladdened Thy disciples with the promise of the Holy Spirit; and they were assured by the blessing that Thou are the Son of God and Redeemer of the world.

Ἀνελήφθης ἐν δόξῃ, Χριστέ ὁ Θεὸς ἡμῶν, χαροποιήσας τοὺς Μαθητάς, τῇ ἐπαγγελίᾳ τοῦ ἁγίου Πνεύματος· βεβαιωθέντων αὐτῶν διὰ τῆς εὐλογίας, ὅτι σὺ εἶ ὁ Υἱὸς τοῦ Θεοῦ, ὁ λυτρωτὴς τοῦ κόσμου.

Seasonal Kontakion in the Second Mode

Neither the grave nor death could contain the Theotokos, the unshakable hope, ever vigilant in intercession and protection. As Mother of life, He who dwelt in the ever-virginal womb transposed her to life.

The Reading is from St. Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians 15:1-11

BRETHREN, I would remind you in what terms I preached to you the gospel, which you received, in which you stand, by which you are saved, if you hold it fast - unless you believed in vain. For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. Then he appeared to more than five hundred brethren at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me was not in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them, though it was not I, but the grace of God which is with me. Whether then it was I or they, so we preach and so you believed.

The Reading is from Matthew 19:16-26

At that time, a young man came up to Jesus, kneeling and saying, "Good Teacher, what good deed must I do, to have eternal life?" And he said to him, "Why do you call me good? One there is who is good. If you would enter life, keep the commandments." He said to him, "Which?" And Jesus said, "You shall not kill, You shall not commit adultery, You shall not steal, You shall not bear false witness, Honor your father and mother, and You shall love your neighbor as yourself." The young man said to him, "All these I have observed; what do I still lack?" Jesus said to him, "If you would be perfect, go, sell what you possess and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me." When the young man heard this he went away sorrowful; for he had great possessions.

And Jesus said to his disciples, "Truly, I say to you, it will be hard for a rich man to enter the kingdom of heaven. Again I tell you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God." When the disciples heard this they were greatly astonished, saying, "Who then can be saved?" But Jesus looked at them and said to them, "With men this is impossible, but with God all things are possible."

Ascension of Our Lord Greek Orthodox Church



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WEEKLY PARISH BULLETIN

Aug 23 – 29, 2015

Prospora Baker:

Helen Pissios

FOS Ministry Greeter:

Julia Economy

Epistle Reader:

Jim Anast

Ushers:

Carol Stamas, Peter Venetos, Alex Marx, Bob Mantzoros, Steve Demet, Tom Papastefan

SPIRITUAL REFLECTION – *But I say to you,' the Lord says, 'love your enemies; do good to those who hate you, pray for those who persecute you.' Why did he command these things? So that he might free you from hatred, sadness, anger and grudges, and might grant you the greatest possession of all, perfect love, which is impossible to possess except by the one you loves all equally in imitation of God.*

St. Maximos the Confessor

Ascension of Our Lord Greek Orthodox Church
Aug 23 – Aug 29, 2015

Sunday August 23

8:15 a.m. Orthros
9:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy

Memorials: 40 Day for Stafford Machas
 1 Year for Patricia Vabakos

Coffee Fellowship hosted by Tom & Paul Vabakos

12:30 p.m. Baptism Chloe Herbst
 Parents: Nathan & Kimberly Sponsor: Gregory Zurek

Thursday August 27 ST. PHANOURIOS THE GREAT

Saturday August 29 BEHEADING OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST
Strict Fast Day

WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

+ **WE ARE GLAD** *you came to our Church.* We hope your visit was memorable and meaningful in every way. Our doors and hearts are always open to you. Please join us for fellowship following the Divine Liturgy and visit with Fr. Sotiri and with members of the Parish Council. They will answer questions and provide you with information regarding the programs and life at the Ascension.

CHURCH HAPPENINGS

+ **SAVE THE DATE** *Sunday, September 13th Family Picnic Details (see insert) The Koinonia Men's Ministry* would greatly appreciate any monetary donations to help offset the cost, including: tent (\$2,300), hot dogs & buns (\$200), hamburgers & buns (\$200), soda pop (\$200), bottled water (\$200). Checks should be made out to Ascension with "family picnic" in the memo. In addition, we are looking for men to help grill, serve and clean up at the event. If interested, please email Conrad Theodore (cltheodore@aol.com) or Jim Anast (janast80@gmail.com).

+ **LABOR DAY WEEKEND FAMILY RETREAT** *Join other Orthodox families* at the St. Iakovos Retreat Center in Wisconsin over Labor Day Weekend for a fun-filled time reconnecting with your family and reconnecting with God. Retreat leader Fr. Joseph Copeland will present workshops on the theme *The Church in the Home: Finding Salvation in Family Life.* Children's workshops will also be provided, as well as child-care for babies. Find more information and register online at www.GOCFamilySynaxis.org or email Chicago.Family.Synaxis@gmail.com. Register by Aug. 17 for the best rate.

+ **NOW OPEN** *Sunday Church School Registration for 2015-2016 is available on-line!* Please visit our Church's website and locate the registration link within the Sunday Church School Ministries tab. The On-line form is simple and user friendly – we encourage everyone to use it and enroll your children grades Pre-K (age 4 by 9/1/15) through 8th. The SCS calendar is also available on-line. Key dates: 1st day of SCS classes is Sunday, September 13th; Open house is Sunday, October 4th. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact SCS Director, Christine Perakis, at cperakis@comcast.net or (847) 220-1036. Christine Perakis will be available for registration and questions during coffee fellowship hour.

+ **GREEK SCHOOL REGISTRATION** forms for the 2015-2016 School Year for both our Tuesday Greek School Program and our Thursday Adult/Adolescent Program are available in the Fellowship Hall. For any questions please phone the Church Office at 847-482-1200 or contact Greek School Director, Maria Theodoropulu, at mariathead@hotmail.com (see insert for further details).

+ **YOUTH REGISTRATION FORMS** available under television screen. Please take a moment and sign your children up for our exciting Youth Ministries:

• HOPE • FAITH/JOY • JOY/Jr. GOYA • GOYA • ACOLYTES •

PRAYER REQUESTS FOR HEALTH

+ **PRAYER REQUESTS** – *Please include in your personal prayers* the servants of God: Georgia, John, Eleni, George, Nicholas, Ethel, Louise, Paraskevi, John, Panagiota, Anastasia, Stella, Athanasia, Mitchell, Joanne and Augustine.

UPCOMING SUMMER FESTIVALS

AUGUST 21-23	St. Demetrios Church, Chicago
AUGUST 22-23	SS Constantine & Helen Church, Palos Hills
SEPTEMBER 5-7	Hellenic American Academy, Deerfield
SEPTEMBER 12-13	SS Peter & Paul Church, Glenview