

Resurrectional Apolytikion in the Plagal Second Mode

Angelic powers were above Thy tomb, and they that guarded Thee became as dead. And Mary stood by the grave seeking Thine immaculate Body. Thou hast despoiled Hades and wast not tried thereby. Thou didst meet the Virgin and didst grant us life. O Thou Who didst arise from the dead, Lord, glory be to Thee.

Apolytikion for Forefeast of the Exaltation in the Second Mode

We offer Thee in mediation the life-giving Cross which, of Thy goodness, Thou hast given unto us, the unworthy, O Lord. Save Thy hierarchs and Thy flock, and grant Thou peace through the Theotokos, O only friend of man.

Apolytikion for Temple of the Resurrection in the Fourth Mode

Thou hast shown the earthly beauty of the holy tabernacle of Thy glory to be like unto the splendour of the heavenly firmament, O Lord. Strengthen it for ever and ever, and accept our prayers which we unceasingly offer therein unto Thee, through the Theotokos, O Thou Who art the Life and Resurrection of all.

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, Χριστὲ 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 Fourth Mode

The Church is shown to be a many-lighted heaven that doth shine a guiding light upon all them that do believe; wherein while standing we cry aloud: Do Thou Thyself now establish this house, O Lord.

The Reading is from St. Paul's Letter to the Galatians 6:11-18

BRETHREN, see with what large letters I am writing to you with my own hand. It is those who want to make a good showing in the flesh that would compel you to be circumcised, and only in order that they may not be persecuted for the cross of Christ. For even those who receive circumcision do not themselves keep the law, but they desire to have you circumcised that they may glory in your flesh. But far be it from me to glory except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. For neither circumcision counts for anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creation. Peace and mercy be upon all who walk by this rule, upon the Israel of God. Henceforth let no man trouble me; for I bear on my body the marks of Jesus. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brethren. Amen.

The Reading is from John 3:13-17

The Lord said, "No one has ascended into heaven but he who descended from heaven, the Son of man. And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God sent the Son into the world, not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him."

Ascension of Our Lord Greek Orthodox Church



1207 Riverwoods Road – Lincolnshire, Illinois 60069

Fr. Sotirios P. Malamis, Proistamenos

TEL: (847) 482-1200 | FAX: (847) 482-9566 | www.ascensiongoc.com

Office e-mail: reneemaltezos@ascensiongoc.com

WEEKLY PARISH BULLETIN

Sep 13 - 19, 2015

Prospora Baker:
FOS Ministry Greeter:
Epistle Reader:
Ushers:

Tasia Alexakos and Maria Papagianis
Julie & Lee Ioannides
David Rutkowski
Tom Kiriakos, Carol Stamas, Peter Venetos, Mike Sutherland,
Doug Hugdahl, Bob Mantzoros, David Rutkowski, Kathy Rutkowski

SPIRITUAL REFLECTION

*Many of us may recall seeing fans holding poster boards in sports arenas with JOHN 3:16 written on it. This reference ties to today's Gospel reading and can be interpreted this way: **To show the reason the Son must be crucified, Jesus declares God's great love not only for Israel, but for the world. This single verse expresses the whole of the message of John's Gospel, and indeed, of salvation history.***

Ascension of Our Lord Greek Orthodox Church
Sep 13 - 19, 2015

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| Sunday | September 13 <u>Sunday before Holy Cross</u> |
| 8:15 a.m. | Orthros |
| 9:10 a.m. | Sunday Church School |
| 9:30 a.m. | Divine Liturgy Parish Family Picnic, sponsored by The Koinonia Men's Ministry. Please join us after Liturgy for great food, good fun and fellowship on the Church grounds. |
| 7:00 p.m. | Great Vespers @ Holy Cross, Justice |
| Monday | September 14 <u>Exaltation of the Holy Cross</u> <i>Strict Fast Day</i> |
| 8:15 a.m. | Orthros |
| 9:15 a.m. | Divine Liturgy with Procession of the Cross |
| Tuesday | September 15 |
| 4:45 p.m. | 1 st Day of Greek School and Agiasmos |
| Wednesday | September 16 |
| 7:00 p.m. | Great Vespers, St. Sophia, Elgin |
| Thursday | September 17 <u>SS Sophia, Faith, Hope & Agape, The Martyrs</u> |
| 10:00 a.m. | Fr. Sotirios serving Liturgy at Greek American Rehabilitation Center, Wheeling |
| 6:15 p.m. | 1 st day of Adult Beginners Greek School |
| 7:45 p.m. | 1 st day of Intermediate- Advanced Greek School |
| FRIDAY | SEPTEMBER 18 |
| 7:00 p.m. | FAITH/JOY Kick-Off Meeting @ Brunswick Zone Hawthorn |
| Saturday | September 19 |
| 11:00 a.m. | Metropolis Philoptochos Luncheon, Café La Cave, DesPlaines |
| 5:00 p.m. | Vespers |

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

+ **REGISTER NOW FOR OUR YOUTH MINISTRY PROGRAMS!** Information and registration for all of our youth ministries -- **HOPE, Faith/Joy, JOY/Jr. GOYA, GOYA, Acolytes, Sunday Church School and Greek School** -- can be found on our website, under the television screen in the fellowship hall; or, by calling the Church office at 847.482.1200.

+ **GREEK SCHOOL BEGINS THIS WEEK:** 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. Please phone the Church Office with questions at 847-482-1200; or, contact Greek School Director, Maria Theodoropulu, at mariatheod@hotmail.com

+ **TODAY IS THE FIRST DAY OF SUNDAY CHURCH SCHOOL:** *If you haven't registered your child(ren) yet, please do so as soon as possible.* The on-line form is available on our Church's website on the Sunday Church School Ministries webpage. It is simple and user friendly – we encourage everyone to use it to enroll your children grades Pre-K (age 4 by 9/1/15) through 8th. The SCS calendar is also available on-line. 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.

+ **FAITH/JOY** - All K-5th graders are invited to join us for our kick-off bowling event this Friday, September 18th from 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. at Brunswick Zone Hawthorn in Vernon Hills. The cost is \$15 per child and includes shoes, soft drinks and two hours of bowling. For more information and to RSVP please contact Desiree Petros or Presvytera Stefanie at faithjoyascension@gmail.com.

+ **PHILOPTOCHOS NEWS:** The Metropolis of Chicago Philoptochos is having its annual Luncheon, *Our Faith and Our Foundation is Our Future*, this Saturday, September 19, 2015, at Cafe La Cave restaurant in Des Plaines. If you would like to attend, please leave a check made out to *Ascension Philoptochos* with the names of the attendees in the church office. The cost is \$50 per person. Please contact Anna Duros at 847-918-1106, or anna.duros@gmail.com with any questions, or if you would like to reserve seats. We hope you can join us at our Ascension table!

+ **PHILOPTOCHOS KICK-OFF MEETING** will take place on Thursday, September 24th from 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. at the Church. Join us on "Our Stairway to Heaven" for fellowship, food, fun and door prizes. RSVP to Anna Duros via email at ascensionphilo@gmail.com or by phone 847-918-1106.

PRAYER REQUESTS FOR HEALTH

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

UPCOMING SUMMER FESTIVALS

SEPTEMBER 12-13 SS Peter & Paul Church, Glenview