

Resurrectional Apolytikion in the Grave Mode

Thou didst abolish death by Thy Cross; Thou didst open Paradise to the thief; Thou didst transform the myrrh-bearers' lamentation, and didst bid Thine Apostles to preach that Thou art risen, O Christ God, granting great mercy to the world.

Apolytikion for Afterfeast of the Holy Cross in the First Mode

Save, O Lord, Thy people and bless Thine inheritance; grant Thou unto the faithful victory over adversaries. And by the power of Thy Cross do Thou preserve Thy commonwealth.

Apolytikion for Martyr Eustathius and His Companions in the Fourth Mode

Thy Martyrs, O Lord, in their courageous contest for Thee received as the prize the crowns of incorruption and life from Thee, our immortal God. For since they possessed Thy strength, they cast down the tyrants and wholly destroyed the demons' strengthless presumption. O Christ God, by their prayers, save our souls, since Thou art merciful.

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 Fourth Mode

Lifted up on the Cross by Your free will, Christ God, grant mercies to the new commonwealth that bears Your name. Gladden our faithful rulers by Your power, giving them victories over their adversaries. May Your alliance be for them a weapon for peace, an invincible standard.

The Reading is from St. Paul's Letter to the Galatians 2:16-20

BRETHREN, you know that a man is not justified by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, in order to be justified by faith in Christ, and not by works of the law, because by works of the law shall no one be justified. But if, in our endeavor to be justified in Christ, we ourselves were found to be sinners, is Christ then an agent of sin? Certainly not! But if I build up again those things which I tore down, then I prove myself a transgressor. For I through the law died to the law, that I might live to God. I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me; and the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

The Reading is from Mark 8:34-38; 9:1

The Lord said: "If anyone wishes to come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it; and whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel's will save it. For what does it profit a man, to gain the whole world and forfeit his life? For what can a man give in return for his life? For whoever is ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him will the Son of man also be ashamed, when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels." And he said to them, "Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the kingdom of God come with power."

Ascension of Our Lord Greek Orthodox Church



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WEEKLY PARISH BULLETIN

Sep 20-26, 2015

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

Sophia Metropulos and Patricia Filley
Faye Kopplin
Nick Papastratakos
Nick Marino, Peter Venetos, Carol Stamas, Tom Papastefan,
Tom Kiriakos, Alex Marx, Steve Demet

SPIRITUAL REFLECTION A Christian's . . . duty is to "take up his cross." The word cross means sufferings, sorrows and adversities. To take up one's cross means to bear without grumblings everything unpleasant, painful, sad, difficult and oppressive that may happen to us in life. . . without expecting any earthly reward in return, but bear it all with love, with joy and with courageous strength.

St. Innocent of Alaska

Ascension of Our Lord Greek Orthodox Church
Sep 20 - 26, 2015

<u>Sunday</u>	<u>September 20</u> <u>Sunday after Holy Cross</u>
8:15 a.m.	Orthros
9:10 a.m.	Sunday Church School
9:30 a.m.	Divine Liturgy Coffee hosted by our Parish
12:30 p.m.	Baptism: Emmanuela, daughter of Helen Caparos. Sponsors: David & Maria Wallach
<u>Monday</u>	<u>September 21</u>
5:45 p.m.	JOY/Jr. GOYA
7:30 p.m.	GOYA
<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>September 22</u>
10:00 a.m.	Clergy Syndesmos at St. George, Chicago
4:45 p.m.	Greek School
<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>September 23</u>
10:00 a.m.	HOPE
<u>Thursday</u>	<u>September 24</u>
6:15 p.m.	Adult Beginner Greek School
7:00 p.m.	Philoptochos Kick-Off Meeting
7:45 p.m.	Adult Intermediate/ Advanced Greek School
<u>Saturday</u>	<u>September 26</u> <u>Falling Asleep of St. John the Theologian</u>
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

+ **OUR YOUTH MINISTRY PROGRAMS ARE UNDERWAY! REGISTER TODAY!** 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.

+ **THERE'S STILL TIME TO REGISTER FOR 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.

+ **ADULT/ADOLESCENT GREEK LANGUAGE CLASS** enrollment ongoing. Registration forms are available on the Church's website (www.ascensiongoc.com) or at the Church Office. If you have any questions contact Greek School Director, Maria Theodoropulu at mariathead@hotmail.com or the Church Office at 847.482.1200.

+ **PHILOPTOCHOS KICK-OFF MEETING** will take place this 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.

+ **LIFE IN CHRIST:** Keynote Speaker: V. Rev. Abbot James (Corazza), abbot of the Old Cathedral of the Holy Virgin, "Joy of All Who Sorrow," where St. John Maximovitch served for the first two of his four years as Archbishop of San Francisco in the 1960's and where the mantiya is kept. Dates: 10/2 & 10/3 at St. John the Baptist, Des Plaines. Please RSVP by 9/30 at 847.827.5510.

+ **WE NEED YOUR HELP** – No one has signed up to host a coffee hour for most of the Sundays until the end of the year. If you have not hosted a Sunday Coffee Fellowship before, it is simple to do! You may do so either within your family or with another family. The sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall. Please sign-up today and call the Church office if you have any questions. Thank you!

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, Panagiotis and Christina.