

### Resurrectional Apolytikion in the Fourth Mode

Having learned the joyful proclamation of the Resurrection from the Angel, and having cast off the ancestral condemnation, the women disciples of the Lord spake to the Apostles exultantly: Death is despoiled and Christ God is risen, granting great mercy to the world.

### Apolytikion for Sun. of St. John Climacus in the Plagal Fourth Mode

With the streams of thy tears, thou didst cultivate the barrenness of the desert; and by thy sighings from the depths, thou didst bear fruit a hundredfold in labours; and thou becamest a luminary, shining with miracles upon the world, O John our righteous Father. Intercede with Christ God that our souls be saved.

### 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 λυτρωτῆς τοῦ κόσμου.**

### Seasonal Kontakion in the Plagal Fourth Mode

To you, Theotokos, invincible Defender, having been delivered from peril, I, your city, dedicate the victory festival as a thank offering. In your irresistible might, keep me safe from all trials, that I may call out to you: "Hail, unwedded bride!"

### The reading is from St. Paul's Letter to the Hebrews 6:13-20.

BRETHREN, when God made a promise to Abraham, since he had no one greater by whom to swear, he swore to himself, saying, "Surely I will bless you and multiply you." And thus Abraham, having patiently endured, obtained the promise. Men indeed swear by a greater than themselves, and in all their disputes an oath is final for confirmation. So when God desired to show more convincingly to the heirs of the promise the unchangeable character of His purpose, He interposed with an oath, so that through two unchangeable things, in which it is impossible that God should prove false, we who have fled for refuge might have strong encouragement to seize the hope set before us. We have this as a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul, a hope that enters into the inner shrine behind the curtain, where Jesus has gone as a forerunner on our behalf, having become a high priest for ever after the order of Melchizedek.

### The Gospel of Mark 9:17-31

At that time, a man came to Jesus kneeling and saying: "Teacher, I brought my son to You, for he has a dumb spirit; and wherever it seizes him it dashes him down; and he foams and grinds his teeth and becomes rigid; and I asked your disciples to cast it out, and they were not able." And He answered them, "O faithless generation, how long am I to be with you? How long am I to bear with you? Bring him to Me." And they brought the boy to Him; and when the spirit saw Him, immediately it convulsed the boy, and he fell on the ground and rolled about, foaming at the mouth. And Jesus asked his father, "How long has he had this?" And he said, "From childhood. And it has often cast him into the fire and into the water, to destroy him; but if You can do anything, have pity on us and help us." And Jesus said to him, "If you can! All things are possible to him who believes." Immediately the father of the child cried out and said, "I believe; help my unbelief!" And when Jesus saw that a crowd came running together, He rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, "You dumb and deaf spirit, I command you, come out of him, and never enter him again." And after crying out and convulsing him terribly, it came out, and the boy was like a corpse; so that most of them said, "He is dead." But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he arose. And when He had entered the house, His disciples asked Him privately, "Why could we not cast it out?" And He said to them, "This kind cannot be driven out by anything but prayer and fasting." They went on from there and passed through Galilee. And He would not have any one know it; for He was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of Man will be delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill Him; and when He is killed, after three days He will rise.

## 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](http://www.ascensiongoc.com)

Office e-mail: [reneemaltezos@ascensiongoc.com](mailto:reneemaltezos@ascensiongoc.com)

### WEEKLY PARISH BULLETIN

**April 10 - 16**

**Prospora:**

Tasia Alexakos

**FOS Ministry Greeter:**

Kay James

**Epistle Reader:**

Nick Papastratakos

**Ushers:**

**UIC Peter Venetos**, Alex Marx, Nick Marino, David Rutkowski,  
Kathie Rutkowski, Mia Connolly, Doug Hugdahl, Bob Mantzoros

**SPIRITUAL REFLECTION** – *"If we wish to follow Him, than this life, too, with Christ is joy, even amid difficulties. As St. Paul says, 'I rejoice in my sufferings.' This is our religion, and that's the direction we must move in. It is not the outward formalities that count; it is living with Christ that matters. When you achieve this, what else do you want? You have gained everything. You live in Christ and Christ lives in you."*

-St. Porphyrios

**Ascension of Our Lord Greek Orthodox Church**  
**April 10 - 16, 2016**

|                  |   |  |
|------------------|---|--|
| <b>Sunday</b>    | <b>April 10</b>   | <b>Sunday of St. John Climacus</b>   |
| 8:15 a.m.        | Orthros   |  |
| 9:10 a.m.        | Sunday Church School                                      |  |
| 9:30 a.m.        | Divine Liturgy  | Coffee Fellowship hosted by the Connolly Family  |
|                  |   | Memorial Service for the soul of the servant of God: Theoni Karadjias (1 yr)                 |
| 7 p.m.           | Solemn Vespers @ St. John the Baptist Church, Des Plaines |  |
| <b>Monday</b>    | <b>April 11</b>   |  |
| 5 p.m.           | Great Compline  |  |
| 5:45 p.m.        | JOY/Jr. GOYA  |  |
| 7:15 p.m.        | Choir practice for Holy Week Chanting                     |  |
| <b>Tuesday</b>   | <b>April 12</b>   |  |
| 4:45 p.m.        | Greek School  |  |
| 7 p.m.           | Parish Council Meeting                                    |  |
| <b>Wednesday</b> | <b>April 13</b>   |  |
| 10 a.m.          | HOPE  |  |
| 5:30 p.m.        | 9 <sup>th</sup> Hour and Pre-Sanctified Liturgy           | Lenten Supper hosted by Sunday Church School   Lecture Series featuring Fr. Sotirios Malamis |
| <b>Thursday</b>  | <b>April 14</b>   |  |
| 6 p.m.           | Great Canon of St. Andrew                                 |  |
| 6:15 p.m.        | Adult Beginner Greek School                               |  |
| 7:45 p.m.        | Adult Intermediate/Advanced Greek School                  |  |
| <b>Friday</b>    | <b>April 15</b>   |  |
| 7 p.m.           | The Akathist Hymn   |  |
| <b>Saturday</b>  | <b>April 16</b>   |  |
| 10 a.m.          | Fill the Bag Lenten Project                               |  |
| 5 p.m.           | Vespers   |  |

**WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS**

+ **OUR WARMEST WELCOME** to Fr. Nick Greanais who is celebrating the Divine Liturgy with us today. May God grant you many years.

+ **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 NEWS**

+ **OUR PRAYERS THIS MORNING** are for the soul of the servant of God, Theoni Karadjias, beloved wife of Vassos Karadjias, and beloved mother of Solomis (Connie) Karadjias and Laoura (Gus) Horemis. May her memory be eternal.

+ **CONFESSIONS:** Fr. Sotiri will hear confessions throughout Lent up until the week before Holy Week. Please call the Church office to make an appointment.

+ **THE HOLY WEEK SERVICE BOOK** is available for purchase from the bookstore.

+ **THIS WEDNESDAY, 4/13, AFTER THE PRE-SANCTIFIED LITURGY** our popular Lenten Lecture Series continues with Fr. Sotiri presenting how "Our Thoughts Determine Our Lives." Please join us!

+ **KOINONIA MEN'S MINISTRY PACHAL GREETING CARD DEADLINE THIS THURSDAY 4/14:** If you'd like to participate in the 2016 Parish Paschal greeting card, please see information under the television in the fellowship hall.

+ **OUR CAPITAL CAMPAIGN "OUR FAITH...OUR CHURCH...OUR LEGACY":** As we successfully continue to pursue our fundraising goals, we cannot emphasize our need for support from each and every one of our Parish Families. If you have not contacted Fr. Sotiri, or any of the Capital Campaign committee members regarding your family's pledge, we encourage you to do so, by Palm Sunday. We know this is a very personal decision and serious commitment for our families so please feel free to contact Fr. Sotiri regarding your support and participation at [frsotirios@ascensiongoc.com](mailto:frsotirios@ascensiongoc.com)/847.482.1200.

+ **THE ASCENSION CHOIR WILL BE CHANTING HYMNS** for Holy Week. If you are interested in participating, please contact Georgia Mitchell, [yiyajagsm13@aol.com](mailto:yiyajagsm13@aol.com). You need not read music, just have the desire to sing! Practices will take place at Ascension every Monday evening until Holy Week at 7:15 p.m.

+ **PHILOPTOCHOS "FILL THE BAG" PROJECT-** We will be assembling bags for the Annunciation Feed the Hungry Program on Saturday, April 16 at 10 a.m. @ Ascension. We are asking for donations of Men's white crew socks (size 10-13), Boxes of Band-Aids (60 Count), Granola Bars, Chapsticks, and bags of Hard Candies. Monetary donations are also welcome. Make checks to: Ascension Philoptochos and mark "Lenten Project/Chapter Challenge" in the memo. All donations are needed by April 11th. You may contact Kathie Rutkowski @847-421-8267 with questions.

+ **"FEED THE HUNGRY" PROGRAM @ ANNUNCIATION CATHEDRAL** - Our Philoptochos will "Feed the Hungry" on Tuesday, April 26th at the Annunciation Cathedral in Chicago. We are planning to feed 175+ hungry men and women, most of whom are homeless. Please contact Kathie Rutkowski @ 847-421-8267, to volunteer or donate. Philoptochos will also be distributing the filled bags from the "Fill the Bag" program to everyone being fed that day.

+ **MARTYRS FOR CHRIST**, an ecumenical prayer service offering intercessory prayers for the Holy Martyrs of the Armenian Genocide will take place at Assumption Greek Orthodox Church in Chicago, on April 16. The service and musical program begins at 3 p.m., with a reception to follow. Contact Assumption for more info: (773) 626-3114.

+ **AN EVENING WITH EIKONA, a three-sister ensemble**, will take place on Saturday, April 16 at 7:30 p.m. at St. Demetrios Church in Elmhurst. The event will feature Byzantine-styled hymns and contemporary Christian music sung by these sisters known throughout the world for their talent. For reservations, please call: 630.834.7010.

+ **THE CHICAGO PAN-ORTHODOX AKATHIST HYMN** will take place on Tuesday, April 19<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. at New Gracanica Serbian Orthodox Monastery of the Protection of the Theotokos, Grayslake.

+ **FAITH AND JOY LENTEN MINI-RETREAT:** Please join us on Friday, April 22nd from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. at Ascension for our Lenten Mini-Retreat where K-5th graders will be "journeying" through Holy Week. We will discuss each evening of Holy Week starting from when Christ raised Lazarus all the way through His triumphant Resurrection. Children will actively participate through hands-on lessons, crafts, and hymns. There is no cost for the retreat, but a free-will offering is appreciated for craft materials. Please RSVP to [faithjoyascension@gmail.com](mailto:faithjoyascension@gmail.com) to reserve your child's spot.

+ **THE EASTER BAKE SALE WILL BE HERE APRIL 23rd & 24th!** The Easter Bake Sale will be here April 23rd & 24th! Pre-order so we don't run out of your favorites! Fill out the enclosed order form and turn it in after church today. Pre-orders will be accepted until April 17th and will be available for pickup following the Saturday of Lazarus service on Saturday, April 23rd and the Palm Sunday service on April 24th. Questions? Contact Debbie Katsulis 847-573-8233, [debrakatsulis@yahoo.com](mailto:debrakatsulis@yahoo.com) or Patricia Filley 312-320-4062, [pfilley@sbcglobal.net](mailto:pfilley@sbcglobal.net).

+ **JR. OLYMPICS MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND:** Team Ascension is recruiting players and coaches! Interested? Contact Esther Tegel at [etegel2@gmail.com](mailto:etegel2@gmail.com), or visit our website for more information.

**PRAYER REQUESTS FOR HEALTH**

+ **PLEASE INCLUDE IN YOUR PERSONAL PRAYERS** the servants of God: Georgia, John, Eleni, George, Nicholas, Christine, Louise, John, Anastasia, Stella, Mitchell, Ioanne, Panagiotis, Christina, Helen, James, Sophia, Connie, Vasilios