

Hymns and Holy Scripture Readings

Apolytikion for Palm Sunday in the First Mode

In confirming the common Resurrection, O Christ God, Thou didst raise up Lazarus from the dead before Thy Passion. Wherefore, we also, like the children, bearing the symbols of victory, cry to Thee, the Vanquisher of death: Hosanna in the highest; blessed is He that cometh in the Name of the Lord.

Apolytikion for Palm Sunday in the Fourth Mode

As by baptism we were buried with Thee, O Christ our God, so by Thy Resurrection we were deemed worthy of immortal life; and praising Thee, we cry: Hosanna in the highest; blessed is He that cometh in the Name of the Lord.

Seasonal Kontakion in the Plagal Second Mode

In Heaven, He is seated upon a Throne and on earth He rides upon a foal. O Christ our God, accept the praise of the Angels and the hymn of the Children who cry out to You, "Blessed are You who comes to recall Adam."

The reading is from St. Paul's Letter to the Philippians 4:4-9.

BRETHREN, rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let all men know your forbearance. The Lord is at hand. Have no anxiety about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which passes all understanding, will keep your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is gracious, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, do; and the God of peace will be with you.

The Gospel of John 12:1-18

Six days before Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, where Lazaros was, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. There they made him a supper; Martha served, and Lazaros was one of those at table with him. Mary took a pound of costly ointment of pure nard and anointed the feet of Jesus and wiped His feet with her hair; and the house was filled with the fragrance of the ointment. But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (he who was to betray him), said, "Why was this ointment not sold for three hundred denarii and given to the poor?" This he said, not that he cared for the poor but because he was a thief, and as he had the money box he used to take what was put into it. Jesus said, "Let her alone, let her keep it for the day of my burial. The poor you always have with you, but you do not always have Me."

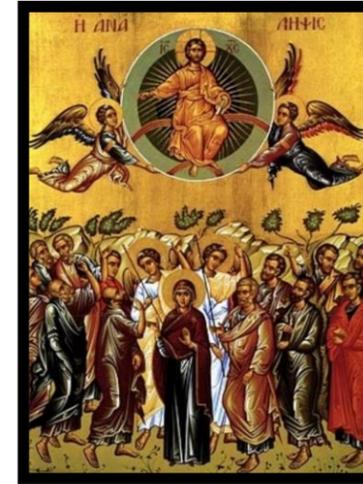
When the great crowd of the Jews learned that He was there, they came, not only on account of Jesus but also to see Lazaros, whom He had raised from the dead. So the chief priests planned to put Lazaros also to death, because on account of him many of the Jews were going away and believing in Jesus.

The next day a great crowd who had come to the feast heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet Him, crying, "Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord, even the King of Israel!" And Jesus found a young donkey and sat upon it; as it is written, "Fear not, daughter of Zion; behold, your king is coming, sitting on a donkey's colt!" His disciples did not understand this at first; but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that this had been written of Him and had been done to Him. The crowd that had been with Him when He called Lazaros out of the tomb and raised him from the dead bore witness. The reason why the crowd went to meet Him was that they heard He had done this sign.



On behalf of Fr. Sotirios Malamis, the Parish Council and the Ascension of Our Lord Parish Family, we wish you a blessed and merciful Holy Week. Please join us for our services this week as we walk with our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ during his Passion and ultimately experience His life-giving Resurrection.

Ascension of Our Lord Greek Orthodox Church



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WEEKLY PARISH BULLETIN April 24 – May 7

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.

Spiritual Reflection

"Palm Sunday summons us to behold our king: the Word of God made flesh. We are called to behold Him not simply as the One who came to us once riding on a colt, but as the One who is always present in His Church, coming ceaselessly to us in power and glory at every Eucharist, in every prayer and sacrament, and in every act of love, kindness and mercy. He comes to free us from all our fears and insecurities, 'to take solemn possession of our soul, and to be enthroned in our heart,' as someone has said. He comes not only to deliver us from our deaths by His death and resurrection, but also to make us capable of attaining the most perfect fellowship or union with Him."

- Fr. Alkiviades Calivas

Holy Communion Etiquette

- + If you are either baptized and/or confirmed as an Orthodox Christian and have spiritually prepared to receive Holy Communion, please come up with reverence and humility, row by row, and depart as directed by the ushers. Please remain in your rows until an usher indicates your row should move forward. If you are standing in the back of the nave, please wait until an usher directs you.
- + Prior to receiving Holy Communion, you may read the *Prayers Before Receiving Holy Communion* on page 37 in the Divine Liturgy book found in the pew. Following Holy Communion, it is customary for the faithful to silently recite the *Prayers of Thanksgiving*, on page 55.
- + In receiving Communion, you should place the cloth under your chin, recite your CHRISTIAN NAME, and wipe your mouth after receiving. If you are wearing lipstick please remove it prior to receiving Communion.
- + Whether you are an Orthodox Christian or not, please come forward at the dismissal to receive the blessed bread which is offered to everyone who worships with us. May the blessings of Christ be with you.

Weekly Calendar

Sunday 8:15 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 7 p.m.	April 24 Orthros Divine Liturgy with Procession and Blessing of the Palms Philoptochos Bake Sale Service of the NYMPHIOS (Bridegroom)	Palm Sunday
Monday 8:30 a.m. 7 p.m.	April 25 9 th Hour & Pre-Sanctified Liturgy Service of the NYMPHIOS (Bridegroom)	Holy Monday
Tuesday 8:30 a.m. 10 a.m. 7 p.m.	April 26 9 th Hour & Pre-Sanctified Liturgy Philoptochos Feed the Hungry Project @ Annunciation Cathedral, Chicago Service of the NYMPHIOS (Bridegroom) (Hymn of Kassiani)	Holy Tuesday
Wednesday 8:30 a.m. 3 p.m. 7 p.m.	April 27 9 th Hour & Pre-Sanctified Liturgy The Sacrament of Holy Unction Holy Thursday Matins (The anointing of the Faithful with Holy Unction following Services)	Holy Wednesday
Thursday 7 a.m. 7 p.m.	April 28 Divine Liturgy of the Mystical Supper The Reading of the 12 Gospels and Procession of the Crucified Christ	Holy Thursday
Friday 8 a.m. 3 p.m. 7 p.m.	April 29 Royal Hours <i>Apokathelosis</i> Service (Un-nailing of Christ from the Cross) Service of the Lamentations	Good Friday
Saturday 8 a.m. 10:45 p.m.	April 30 <i>Proti-Anastasi</i> (Vespertine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great) Resurrection Service and Paschal Divine Liturgy (Paschal Fellowship – following Services)	Holy Saturday
Sunday 11 a.m.	May 1 AGAPE Vespers	Holy Pascha
Monday 8:15 a.m. 9:15 a.m.	May 2 Orthros Divine Liturgy	Bright Monday / St. George the Great Martyr
Tuesday 8:15 a.m. 9:15 a.m. 4:45 p.m.	May 3 Orthros Divine Liturgy Greek School	Bright Tuesday / SS Raphael, Nicholas, & Irene
Thursday 6:15 p.m. 7:45 p.m.	May 5 Adult Beginner Greek School Adult Intermediate/Advanced Greek School	Bright Thursday
Friday 9 a.m. 6:30 p.m.	May 6 <i>Services will be held at the St. Iakovos Retreat Center</i> GOYA Greek Night	Bright Friday / Theotokos of the Life-Giving Font
Saturday 10 a.m. 10:30 a.m. 3:30 p.m. 5 p.m.	May 7 St. John Chrysostom Oratorical and Arts Festival @ St. Nicholas Church, Oak Lawn Baptism: Anastasios, son of Loukas & Trisevgeni Rogaris. Sponsors: Christina and Andrew Tutnam Baptism: Marianthe, daughter of George & Joanna Logothetis Sponsors: Peter and Maria Contos Vespers	Bright Saturday

Our Sunday Volunteers

Prospora:
Elaine Stevens & Sophia Beris

FOS Ministry Greeters:
Debra & Dimitri Katsulis

Epistle Reader:
Kathie Rutkowski

Ushers:
UIC Peter Venetos, Nick Marino, Alex Marx, Carol Stamas, Tom Kiriakos, Tom Papastefan, Diane Sigalos, Mia Connolly, Doug Hugdahl, Bob Mantzoros, David Rutkowski, Bill Athenson, Tom Vabakos

Vigil Lights

Vigil Lights Offered for the health and well-being of Kyriake Pappas and family.

Prayer Requests for Health

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



Announcements

- + **WE THANK YOU MOST SINCERELY FOR ALL DONATIONS** made for our Great Lent and Holy Week. May God bless you and your families for the devotion you show to our beloved Parish.
- + **THE HOLY WEEK SERVICE BOOK** is available for purchase from the bookstore along with a beautiful collection of icons and books.
- + **CAPITAL CAMPAIGN GOAL PROGRESS REPORT.** There will be progress charts displayed in the Narthex, which will be updated with current information periodically. We have a goal to be reached, and it cannot be reached without full participation and commitment from the entire Parish at every donor level. Even if you have pledged in the prior 2007 campaign, we ask that you submit a new 2016 pledge card, confirming the 2007 information. Once all pledge cards have been submitted to the Church office, we will then be better able to measure the progress of our campaign and determine our subsequent actions for completion of the campaign and attainment of our goal. We understand that this is a serious family commitment, but we ask that you look into your hearts and make a pledge to the best of your ability. Please contact Fr. Sotiri at the Church office at 847.482.1200, or by email at frsotirios@ascensiongoc.com
- + **JOY/JR. GOYA EASTER PLANT SALE** – Pre-paid orders for your plants are ready for pick-up TODAY - Palm Sunday, following services. They will be in the back Sunday School classroom. Thank you for your support!
- + **THE JOY/JR. GOYA AND GOYA VISITATION TO THE GREEK AMERICAN REHABILITATION CENTER** will be on Monday, May 9th. We will gather on the first floor at 5:30 p.m. and visit the residents on each floor singing "Christos Anesti" and then have dinner together.
- + **THE PASCHA BAKE SALE IS TODAY!** Please stop by our tables immediately after the Divine Liturgy and select Easter treats for your Paschal celebration. Pre-orders may also be picked up today. Once again, we thank you for your generosity and appreciate your continued support!
- + **"FEED THE HUNGRY" PROGRAM @ ANNUNCIATION CATHEDRAL** - Our Philoptochos will "Feed the Hungry" this Holy Tuesday, April 26th at the Annunciation Cathedral in Chicago. We are planning to feed 175+ hungry men and women, most of whom are homeless. The Philoptochos will also be distributing the filled bags from the "Fill the Bag" program to everyone being fed that day. We wish to thank everyone that donated the many items or gave a monetary donation.
- + **FREE SHUTTLE BUS SERVICE WILL BE AVAILABLE** on Holy Wednesday afternoon, Good Friday & Holy Saturday evenings. On Good Friday & Holy Saturday evenings, shuttle service will run between Ascension and Daniel Wright School, which is just ¼ mile south of the Church. If our lot is full, please park in the Administration Lot (north lot) at Daniel Wright School and take advantage of the free shuttle bus. On Holy Wednesday, we have arranged a free shuttle bus to take overflow parkers back and forth from the Banner Day parking lot and the church during and after the Sacrament of Holy Unction service on Holy Wednesday afternoon.
- + **PARKING IN OUR FIRE LANE AND IN THE CHURCH DRIVEWAY IS ILLEGAL!** The entrance to the Church parking lot is a NO PARKING ZONE. Emergency vehicles must be able to enter the Church without obstructions. Illegally parked cars will be ticketed. Double-parking in the parking lot is also prohibited. We further request that you please avoid parking on the grass of our Church property, and be courteous and respectful of our neighbors' property. Aside from wanting to avoid having our stewards' cars towed or ticketed for illegal parking, we want to continue the Ascension tradition of being good neighbors. Thank you.
- + **THE ST. DEMETRIOS SPRING GREEK FEST** will take place on May 14th and 15th from noon-8 in the Church Hall, 1400 N. O'Plaine Rd., Libertyville. Enjoy traditional Greek cuisine and homemade Greek pastries. For more information, contact St. Demetrios at (224) 513-5530.
- + **THE NEXT GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING WILL TAKE PLACE ON MAY 15th.** Please mark your calendars and plan to attend this important meeting immediately following the Divine Liturgy.
- + **JR. OLYMPICS MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND:** Team Ascension is recruiting players and coaches! Stop by the table after church; or, for more information and to download registration forms, visit www.ascensiongoc.com. Please contact Esther Tegel at etegel2@gmail.com with questions and interest.
- + **2016 ASCENSION GOLF OUTING:** The Koinonia Men's Ministry will be hosting the annual Ascension Golf Outing and Family Dinner on Friday, June 24th, at the Deerfield Golf Course. Please go to the Men's Ministry webpage @ www.ascensiongoc.com to register.
- + **ASCENSION IS ON SOCIAL MEDIA!** In addition to our Parish's website (www.ascensiongoc.com), please visit our Facebook page (www.facebook.com/AscensionGOC) and our new Twitter account (@Ascension_GOC) for events, news, and photos from our Parish and Metropolis, as well as other relevant and interesting Orthodox-related content. Are you receiving the email blasts we send from time to time with Parish updates? If not, visit our homepage and follow the prompts to join the email list.
- + **HOSPITAL CALLS, NURSING HOME & HOME-BOUND PARISHIONER VISITS.** If you know someone who is hospitalized, in a nursing home or is home-bound, and they would like Fr. Sotiri to visit them, please contact our office.
- + **CHURCH RIDE SHARING:** Do you need a ride to church or are you able to provide a ride for someone else? Philoptochos can help facilitate a match between drivers and riders so everyone who would like to attend church or church meetings is able. Contact Annette Sutherland (847-224-7126/ambusuther@comcast.net) to sign up. Thank you!
- + **WEEKLY "SANCTUARY VIGIL LIGHT" DONATIONS** may be offered for the health of individuals, family members or in memory of departed loved ones. A \$75.00 donation for each week's vigil lights is requested. Names will be acknowledged in the Sunday Bulletin. Call the Church Office to reserve your week.