

### Resurrectional Apolytikion in the First Mode

When the stone had been sealed by the Jews and the soldiers were guarding Thine immaculate Body, Thou didst arise on the third day, O Saviour, granting life unto the world. Wherefore, the powers of the Heavens cried out to Thee, O Lifegiver: Glory to Thy Resurrection, O Christ. Glory to Thy Kingdom. Glory to Thy dispensation, O only Friend of man.

### Memorial Hymn

Remember, O Lord, as You are good, Your servant, and forgive every sin she has committed in this life. For no one is sinless except You, Who have power to grant rest to those who have fallen asleep.

### Apolytikion of the Church in the Fourth 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

In your holy birth, Immaculate One, Joachim and Anna were rid of the shame of childlessness; Adam and Eve of the corruption of death. And so your people, free of the guilt of their sins, celebrate crying: "The barren one gives birth to the Theotokos, who nourishes our life."

### The reading is from St. Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians 4:9-16.

BRETHREN, God has exhibited us apostles as last of all, like men sentenced to death; because we have become a spectacle to the world, to angels and to men. We are fools for Christ's sake, but you are wise in Christ. We are weak, but you are strong. You are held in honor, but we in disrepute. To the present hour we hunger and thirst, we are ill-clad and buffeted and homeless, and we labor, working with our own hands. When reviled, we bless; when persecuted, we endure; when slandered, we try to conciliate; we have become, and are now, as the refuse of the world, the off-scouring of all things. I do not write this to make you ashamed, but to admonish you as my beloved children. For though you have countless guides in Christ, you do not have many fathers. For I became your father in Christ Jesus through the gospel. I urge you, then, be imitators of me.

### The Gospel of Matthew 17:14-23



At that time, a man came up to Him and kneeling before Him said, "Lord, have mercy on my son, for he is an epileptic and he suffers terribly; for often he falls into the fire, and often into the water. And I brought him to Your disciples, and they could not heal him." And Jesus answered, "O faithless and perverse generation, how long am I to be with you? How long am I to bear with you? Bring him here to me." And Jesus rebuked him, and the demon came out of him, and the boy was cured instantly. Then the disciples came to Jesus privately and said, "Why could we not cast it out?" He said to them, "Because of your little faith. For truly I say to you, if you have faith as a grain of mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move hence to yonder place,' and it will move; and nothing will be impossible to you. But this kind never comes out except by prayer and fasting." As they were gathering in Galilee, Jesus said to them, "The Son of man is to be delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill Him, and He will be raised on the third day."

## Ascension of Our Lord Greek Orthodox Church



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## WEEKLY PARISH BULLETIN August 28 – September 4

### Beginning of the Ecclesiastical Year – Sep 1<sup>st</sup>

**The First Ecumenical Council [Nicaea, 325]** decreed that the Church year should begin on September 1. The month of September was, for the Hebrews, the beginning of the civil year (Exodus 23:16), the month of gathering the harvest and of the offering of thanks to God. It was on this feast that the Lord Jesus entered the synagogue in Nazareth (Luke 4:16-21), opened the book of the Prophet Isaiah and read the words; *The Spirit of the Lord God is upon Me; because the Lord hath anointed Me to preach good tidings unto the meek; He hath sent Me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound; to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all that mourn* (Isaiah 61:1-2). The month of September is also important in the history of Christianity, because Emperor Constantine the Great was victorious over Maxentius, the enemy of the Christian Faith, in September. Following this victory, Constantine granted freedom of confession to the Christian Faith throughout the Roman Empire. For a long time, the civil year in the Christian world followed the Church year, with its beginning on September 1. The civil year was later changed, and its beginning transferred to January 1. This occurred first in Western Europe, and later in Russian, under Peter the Great.

### Spiritual Reflection

*"To bear a grudge and pray, means to sow seed on the sea and expect a harvest."  
St. Isaac of Syria*

## Weekly Calendar

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>August 28</b>	<b>10<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Matthew</b>
8:15 a.m.	Orthros	
9:30 a.m.	Divine Liturgy Memorial for the Souls of the Servants of God, Georgia Balookas (10 years) and Panagiotis Sourligas (40 day) Coffee Fellowship Hosted by Tasia Alexakos & Family	
<b>Monday</b>	<b>August 29</b>	<b>Beheading of St. John the Baptist</b>
	Services at St. John the Baptist, Des Plaines	
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>August 31</b>	
7 p.m.	Great Vespers, Saints Peter and Paul, Glenview	
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>September 1</b>	<b>Beginning of the Ecclesiastical</b>
<b>Year</b>		
8:15 a.m.	Orthros	
9:15 a.m.	Divine Liturgy and Agiasmos	
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>September 3</b>	
5 p.m.	Vespers	
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>September 4</b>	<b>11<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Matthew</b>
8:15 a.m.	Orthros	
9:30 a.m.	Divine Liturgy	

## 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, we will recite together the *Prayers Before Receiving Holy Communion* on page 61 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 73.
- + 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.

## Our Sunday Volunteers

**Prospora:** Elaine Stevens & Despina Taranko  
**Epistle Reader:** Tom Kiriakos  
**Ministry Greeters:** Elaine Beck  
**Ushers:** **UIC Tom Kiriakos**, Peter Venetos, Nick Marino, Mike Sutherland, Doug Hugdahl, Mia Connolly

## Prayer Requests for Health

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

## Condolences

**Mrs. Georgia Balookas ten year memorial** is offered by the members of the Buhler Family, who were her neighbors and friends. Mrs. Balookas was a faithful steward of the Ascension who remembered the Ascension upon her passing with a \$1 million gift that forms the cornerstone of the \$2.1 million we had in our Capital Fund at the start of the 2016 Capital Campaign. We remember her for her faith, her love of the Ascension, and her generosity. May her memory be eternal!

## Announcements

- + **REGISTER BY SEPTEMBER 8<sup>th</sup> 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. In an effort to "go green" and reduce costs, the enclosed registration form will not be mailed this year. Please visit the website to download or (in the case of Sunday Church School) complete the forms. Ministries would like to have solid registration lists by September 8<sup>th</sup> so communication can begin about the exciting programs before us!
- + **STEWARDSHIP IS OUR RESPONSE TO GOD'S GRACE** and moves us from grace to gratitude. We thank the 272 stewards who have pledged for 2016. If you have not pledged or fulfilled your pledge for 2016, please express your love to God and to the growth of our Parish Ministries today.
- + **VESPERS FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT TAKES PLACE THIS WEDNESDAY:** Many years ago, our Ecumenical Patriarchate pronounced September 1st, the Feast of the Indiction and Ecclesiastical New Year, as a commemoration for the Protection of the Environment. Our Spiritual Shepherd, Metropolitan Iakovos, has determined that we shall celebrate this day together annually with the service of Great Vespers on the evening of August 31. The service will be held at Saints Peter & Paul Church of Glenview beginning at 7 pm. Following Vespers, Dr. Gayle Woloschak will offer a presentation entitled, "Stewardship of the Environment."
- + **THERE'S STILL TIME TO REGISTER FOR THE LABOR DAY FAMILY RETREAT:** Join other Orthodox families at the St. Iakovos Retreat Center in Wisconsin over Labor Day Weekend, September 2 – 4, for a fun-filled time reconnecting with family and reconnecting with God. Retreat Leader Fr. Andrew Kearns will present workshops on the theme *Sacred Space, Sacred Time: Cultivating Orthodox Families*. Find more information and register online at [www.GOCFamilySynaxis.org](http://www.GOCFamilySynaxis.org); or, email [Chicago.Family.Synaxis@gmail.com](mailto:Chicago.Family.Synaxis@gmail.com)
- + **SAVE THE DATE: ASCENSION'S ANNUAL FAMILY PICNIC** will take place on Sunday, September 11<sup>th</sup>, immediately following Liturgy. This year, the picnic will take place on the grounds of Banner Camp, just north of the Church. Don't miss this wonderful way to kick off the new Ecclesiastical Year with parish family & friends, while enjoying the delicious menu served by our hosts, the Koinonia Men's Ministry. Visit Ascension's website for more information.
- + **PHILOPTOCHOS NEWS:** The Metropolis of Chicago Philoptochos is having its annual Luncheon, *Celebrating 85 Years of Philanthropy and Agape Past, Present and Future*, at 11 a.m. on Saturday, September 24, 2016, at The Carlisle in Lombard. 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](mailto: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!
- + **SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE TO HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS, COLLEGE AND GRAD STUDENTS OF HELLENIC DESCENT** through the Hellenic Link-Midwest Board (due November 1<sup>st</sup>) and the Hellenic Society of Constantinople (due September 26). For more information and a link to the applications, visit Ascension's website and click on the Orthodox Christian Fellowship link within the Ministry section.
- + **SS PETER AND PAUL'S DIVORCE REBUILDERS** offers support, guidance and hope to those who are separated and divorced. Meetings will begin this fall on Mondays, October 3 through November 14<sup>th</sup>, from 7:30 – 9 p.m. in the church library at SS Peter and Paul Greek Orthodox Church, Glenview. This group provides a place where you can learn and heal from the hurt of divorce. New insights and perspectives will help you create new understandings towards developing new personal, relational and spiritual goals in your life. Discussion, feedback and support are integral components of this program. Leader: Maria Boyle, MA Counseling. To enroll in this program please email: [mariaharduvel@aol.com](mailto:mariaharduvel@aol.com). Please note in the subject heading: Divorce Rebuilders. No Christian should walk through the pain of divorce alone.
- + **THE LAST OF THIS SUMMER'S GREEK FESTIVALS:** Support our local Metropolis Churches and celebrate the end of summer Greek-style!  
Sept. 3 – 5: Hellenic American Academy, Deerfield  
Sept. 9 - 11: SS. Athanasios & John, Chicago