

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 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 Third Mode

O Father, foolishly I ran away from Your glory, and in sin, squandered the riches You gave me. Wherefore, I cry out to You with the voice of the Prodigal, "I have sinned before You Compassionate Father. Receive me in repentance and take me as one of Your hired servants."

The reading is from St. Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians 6:12-20.

Brethren, "all things are lawful for me," but not all things are helpful. "All things are lawful for me," but I will not be enslaved by anything. "Food is meant for the stomach and the stomach for food" -- and God will destroy both one and the other. The body is not meant for immorality, but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. And God raised the Lord and will also raise us up by his power. Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I therefore take the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? Never! Do you not know that he who joins himself to a prostitute becomes one body with her? For, as it is written, "The two shall become one flesh." But he who is united to the Lord becomes one spirit with him. Shun immorality. Every other sin which a man commits is outside the body; but the immoral man sins against his own body. Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God? You are not your own; you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body and in your spirit which belong to God.

The Gospel of Luke 15:11-32

The Lord said this parable: "There was a man who had two sons; and the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the property that falls to me.' And he divided his living between them. Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took his journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in loose living. And when he had spent everything, a great famine arose in that country, and he began to be in want. So he went and joined himself to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed swine. And he would gladly have fed on the pods that the swine ate; and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have bread enough and to spare, but I perish here with hunger! I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me as one of your hired servants.' And he arose and came to his father. But while he was yet at a distance, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' But the father said to his servants, 'Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet; and bring the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and make merry; for this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.' And they began to make merry. Now his elder son was in the field; and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. And he called one of the servants and asked what this meant. And he said to him, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has received him safe and sound.' But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, but he answered his father, 'Lo, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command; yet you never gave me a kid, that I might make merry with my friends. But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your living with harlots, you killed for him the fatted calf!' And he said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. It was fitting to make merry and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.'"

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

February 28 – March 6, 2016

Prospora Bakers:

FOS Ministry Greeters:

Epistle Reader:

Ushers:

Mary Greub & Patricia Filley

Mary and Tom Gough

Caity Anast

Peter Venetos, Tom Kiriakos, Bob Mantzoros, Steve Demet,
David Rutkowski, Kathie Rutkowski

SPIRITUAL REFLECTION – *"Behold, let no one say: I have committed many sins – there can be no forgiveness for me. He who says this does not know that God is a God of the penitent. That He came to earth not to save the righteous, but to call sinners to repentance, and that when someone repents the heavens rejoice over him...Let us also run to Him, for all sinners who have run to Him have found salvation."*

St. Ephraim the Syrian

**Ascension of Our Lord Greek Orthodox Church
February 28 – March 6, 2016**

Sunday **February 28** **The Prodigal Son**
8:15 a.m. Orthros
9:15 a.m. Sunday Church School
9:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy
Memorial Service for the soul of the servant of God, Panayiota Katsiropoulos (40 days)
Coffee Fellowship hosted by Pre-K and K Sunday Church School families
Capital Campaign Informational Meeting following Divine Liturgy

Monday **February 29**
5:45 p.m. JOY/Jr. GOYA
7:30 p.m. GOYA

Tuesday **March 1**
4:45 p.m. Greek School
7 p.m. Vigil for St. Nicholas Planas (Vespers, Orthros and Divine Liturgy)

Wednesday **March 2** **Feast Day of St. Nicholas Planas**
10 a.m. HOPE
7 p.m. Koinonia Men's Ministry meeting

Thursday **March 3**
6:15 p.m. Adult Beginner Greek School
7:45 p.m. Adult Intermediate/Advanced Greek School

Saturday **March 5** **1st Saturday of Souls** **Psychosavato**
8:15 a.m. Orthros
9:15 a.m. Divine Liturgy

Sunday **March 6** **Judgement Sunday - Meatfare Sunday**
8:15 a.m. Orthros
9:15 a.m. Sunday Church School
9:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy
4:30 p.m. Glendi @ Concorde Banquet Hall in Kildeer

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.

+ **OUR PRAYERS THIS MORNING** are for the soul of the servant of God, Panayiota Katsiropoulos, beloved aunt of Bob (Kristen) Mantzoros. May her memory be eternal.

CHURCH NEWS

+ **OUR CAPITAL CAMPAIGN "OUR FAITH...OUR CHURCH...OUR LEGACY"**: There will be a capital campaign informational meeting directly following the Divine Liturgy today. If you haven't attended one to date, please stay to learn more about this important initiative and the momentum that is already building in our Parish. We realize that this capital campaign is a very personal commitment for each of our families. Please feel free to contact Fr. Sotiri regarding your support and participation at frsotirios@ascensiongoc.com/847.482.1200.

+ **GLENDI RESERVATIONS TAKEN TODAY:** It's not too late to celebrate with our Ascension Parish at the Apokriatiko Glendi to be held at Concorde Banquets on Sunday, March 6th!! Please stop by the Glendi table after Divine Liturgy to make your reservations. We hope to see you there!

+ **ADULT GREEK SCHOOL TUTORING OPPORTUNITY:** There is a time slot available within the Adult Greek School program *for tutoring* (Thursdays, from 7:45 to 9:00 pm). If you, or somebody you know may be interested, please contact our Greek School Director, mariatheod@hotmail.com, as soon as possible.

+ **THE NEXT KOINONIA MEN'S MINISTRY MEETING** will take place on Wednesday, March 2nd at 7 p.m. at Doug Hugdahl's office, Lightsource Unlimited, 980 Corporate Woods Parkway, Vernon Hills. The meeting will feature an informational presentation by the Capital Campaign committee. Gentleman, please bring your spouses. We are still recruiting new members to this thriving ministry. For more information, contact Doug Hugdahl at dhugdahl@lightsourceunlimited.com.

+ **THE FIRST SATURDAY OF SOULS** will be celebrated this Saturday, March 5th. Names of your deceased loved ones and koliva should be prepared, so through your presence at the Divine Liturgy, you may offer prayers for your departed loved ones' souls.

+ **MISSION TEAM CHICAGO – Orthodox Christian Mission Center (OCMC)** will hold its Annual Benefit Banquet on Thursday, March 10th at St. John's Church, Des Plaines at 6:30 p.m. Donation of \$35.00 requested per person. For more information, please visit <http://www.missionteamchicago.org>, or call 317.709.0168. The keynote speaker will be the Very Rev. Dr. Chad Hatfield, Chancellor, CEO & Professor of Missiology at St. Vladimir's Orthodox Seminary.

+ **"FROM ROCK STAR ATHEIST TO ORTHODOX MISSIONARY PRIEST"**: Don't miss this presentation by Father Themis Adamopoulos on Saturday, March 12th at 7 p.m. at St. Demetrios in Elmhurst. The evening will begin at 5 p.m. with Great Vespers, followed by dinner and the presentation. RSVP by March 11th. Proceeds will benefit The Holy Orthodox Mission in Sierra Leone. Visit www.st-demetrios.org for more information.

+ **FR. DEMETRIOS CARELLAS**, a noted retreat master in the USA and Canada will be speaking at St. John the Baptist on March 11th (for high schoolers and young adults) and March 12th on the Beatitudes. For more information and to RSVP, contact St. John's at 847.827.5510.

+ **SENIOR SYNAXIS FIELD TRIP TO FIELD MUSEUM** will take place on March 31st. We invite family and friends to join us. Please RSVP by March 1st to Elaine Beck, 847.367.5227.

+ **A WONDERFUL FAMILY LENTEN OPPORTUNITY IS OPEN TO US** on April 2nd at the Metropolis of Chicago Family Synaxis Retreat, which will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. at St. Spyridon Church in Palos Heights. This year's theme is: *Family Forgiveness*. For more information, and to register by the early-bird deadline of 3/23, visit www.gocfamilysynaxis.org.

+ **THE 2016 ORATORICAL FESTIVAL** is gaining momentum at Ascension! If you are in 7th – 12th grade, you are encouraged to participate in this program, which gives you the opportunity to express your faith either through writing, speaking, drawing or poetry. All of the details are on the Youth Pages of our website. For more information, contact Dr. Dean Tsarwhas at tsarwhas1@gmail.com

+ **JR. OLYMPICS MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND:** Team Ascension is recruiting players and coaches! Interested? Fill out the insert and leave it in the Church office; or, contact Esther Tegel at etegel2@gmail.com.

PRAYER REQUESTS FOR HEALTH

+ **PRAYER REQUESTS** – *Please include in your personal prayers* the servants of God: Georgia, John, Eleni, George, Nicholas, Christine, Louise, John, Panagiota, Anastasia, Stella, Mitchell, Joanne, Panagiotis, Christina, Helen, James, Sophia