

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.

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 First Mode

Your birth sanctified a Virgin's womb and properly blessed the hands of Symeon. Having now come and saved us O Christ our God, give peace to Your commonwealth in troubled times and strengthen those in authority, whom You love, as only the loving One.

The reading is from St. Paul's First Letter to Timothy 1:15-17

Timothy, my son, the saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. And I am the foremost of sinners; but I received mercy for this reason, that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display His perfect patience for an example to those who were to believe in Him for eternal life. To the King of Ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory to the ages of ages. Amen.

The Gospel of Luke 18:35-43

At that time, as Jesus drew near to Jericho, a blind man was sitting by the roadside begging; and hearing a multitude going by, he inquired what this meant. They told him, "Jesus of Nazareth is passing by." And he cried, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" And those who were in front rebuked him, telling him to be silent; but he cried out all the more, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" And Jesus stopped, and commanded him to be brought to him; and when he came near, he asked him, "What do you want me to do for you?" He said, "Lord, let me receive my sight." And Jesus said to him, "Receive your sight; your faith has made you well." And immediately he received his sight and followed him, glorifying God; and all the people, when they saw it, gave praise to God.

Ascension of Our Lord Greek Orthodox Church



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WEEKLY PARISH BULLETIN

January 24 - 31, 2016

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Epistle Reader:

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Ushers:

Davd Rutkowski, Kathie Rutkowski, Peter Venetos, Mike Sutherland,
Tom Papastefan, Bill Athenson

SPIRITUAL REFLECTION – *“We may learn from this that when we ask with faith, God does not give something other than what we ask for, but the very same thing. However, when we ask for one thing and receive something else, it is clear that either we did not make a good request or we did not ask with faith.”*

- Blessed Theophylact, Archbishop of Ochrid and Bulgaria

**Ascension of Our Lord Greek Orthodox Church
January 24 - 31, 2016**

<u>Sunday</u>	<u>January 24</u>	<u>14th Sunday of Luke</u>
8:15 a.m.	Orthros	
9:15 a.m.	Sunday Church School	
9:30 a.m.	Divine Liturgy Coffee Fellowship hosted by Sunday Church School Grades 1 & 2	
<u>Monday</u>	<u>January 25</u>	<u>St. Gregory the Theologian</u>
8:15 a.m.	Orthros	
9:15 a.m.	Divine Liturgy	
5:45 p.m.	JOY/Jr. GOYA	
7:30 p.m.	GOYA	
<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>January 26</u>	
4:45 p.m.	Greek School	
<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>January 27</u>	
10 a.m.	HOPE	
6:30 p.m.	Paraklesis & LOGOS	
<u>Thursday</u>	<u>January 28</u>	
6:15 p.m.	Adult Beginner Greek School	
7:45 p.m.	Adult Intermediate/Advanced Greek School	
<u>Friday</u>	<u>January 29</u>	
7 p.m.	Great Vespers for Three Hierarchs @ SS. Constantine & Helen, Palos Hills	
<u>Saturday</u>	<u>January 30</u>	<u>Three Hierarchs</u>
8:15 a.m.	Orthros	
9:15 a.m.	Divine Liturgy	
11:30 a.m.	Baptism: Arianna Maria, daughter of Elias and Sophia Kontos Sponsors: Konstantinos and Jennifer Stathopoulos	
5 p.m.	Vespers	
<u>Sunday</u>	<u>January 31</u>	<u>15th Sunday of Luke</u>
8:15 a.m.	Orthros	
9:15 a.m.	Sunday Church School	
9:30 a.m.	Divine Liturgy	
2:00 p.m.	Hellenic Letters Luncheon @ Chateau Ritz	
5:30 p.m.	Capital Campaign Informational Meeting at Demetri's Restaurant 660 Lake Cook Rd. Deerfield	

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.

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 proceed forward. If you are standing in the back of the nave, please wait until an usher directs you.
- + 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.

CHURCH NEWS

- + **OUR CAPITAL CAMPAIGN "OUR FAITH...OUR CHURCH...OUR LEGACY" IS NOW UNDERWAY!** – Interested in learning more about our fundraising plans? Sign up for one of three informational meetings. The sign up table will be in the fellowship area following church services. You may also contact Fr. Sotiri at the Church office 847.482.1200; or Mia Connolly at 727.415.6277 / Miaps@aol.com. Please note that space may be limited.
- + **WE HUMBL Y ASK YOU TO PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR 2016 STEWARDSHIP PLEDGE CARD** either by mail, or by dropping it off at the Church office. This year's theme is: ***Open Your Heart: Giving time, talent, treasure for the Glory of God.*** We ask for God's blessings as we prayerfully consider the time, talents and treasures we can share to sustain and enhance the spiritual and bountiful Parish life at Ascension in 2016. Pledge cards are available at the Pangari.
- + **STEWARDS: PLEASE TAKE HOME YOUR 2016 CALENDARS AND SCRIPTURE CARDS** on your way out of Church today.
- + **THE 8TH ANNUAL SANCTITY OF LIFE PAN ORTHODOX PRAYER SERVICE** will take place this evening, January 24. The service will begin at 6:00 pm and be hosted by the St. Peter and St. Paul Ukrainian Orthodox Church, 8410 West 131st Street, Palos Park, Illinois.
- + **NURSING HOME RESIDENTS AND HOME-BOUND PARISHIONERS:** If you know someone who is in a nursing home or is home-bound, and they would like Fr. Sotiri to visit them, please contact the church office.
- + **OUR FIRST-EVER ASCENSION DIVE FOR THE CROSS** event was a great success. Twenty children dove into the waters of the Highland Park Rec Center in pursuit of retrieving the cross following a short lesson from Father Sotiri who relayed the spiritual and historical significance of this special Theophany tradition. Be sure to check out the pictures on our website photo gallery at www.ascensiongoc.com.
- + **SAVE THE DATE! ASCENSION OF OUR LORD'S ANNUAL APOKREATIKO GLENDI** will be held on **Sunday March 6, 2016** at the *Concorde Banquets in Kildeer, IL*. There will be dinner, dancing, games and fun for all!
- + **2016 METROPOLIS OF CHICAGO-WESTERN REGION FAMILY BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT** will be hosted *February 12, 13, and 14* by St. Demetrios in Libertyville, IL. Interested in participating? More information will be available in next Sunday's bulletin.

PRAYER REQUESTS FOR HEALTH

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