

Resurrectional Apolytikion in the Second Mode

When Thou didst descend unto death, O Life Immortal, then didst Thou slay Hades with the lightning of Thy Divinity. And when Thou didst also raise the dead out of the nethermost depths, all the powers in the Heavens cried out: O Life-giver, Christ our God, glory be to Thee.

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 Second Mode

O Protection of Christians that cannot be put to shame, mediation unto the creator most constant: O despise not the voices of those who have sinned; but be quick, O good one, to come unto our aid, who in faith cry unto thee: Hasten to intercession and speed thou to make supplication, O thou who dost ever protect, O Theotokos, them that honor thee.

The reading is from St. Paul's Letter to the Romans 5:1-10.

BRETHREN, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through him we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in our hope of sharing the glory of God. More than that, we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit which has been given to us. While we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Why, one will hardly die for a righteous man -- though perhaps for a good man one will dare even to die. But God shows his love for us in that while we were yet sinners Christ died for us. Since, therefore, we are now justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life.

The Gospel of Matthew 6:22-33



The Lord said, "The eye is the lamp of the body. So, if your eye is sound, your whole body will be full of light; but if your eye is not sound, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light in you is darkness, how great is the darkness! No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon. Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you shall eat or what you shall drink, nor about your body, what you shall put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And which of you by being anxious can add one cubit to his span of life? And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin; yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you, O men of little faith? Therefore do not be anxious, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we

drink?' or 'What shall we wear? For the Gentiles seek all these things; and your heavenly Father knows you need them all. But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things shall be yours as well."

Ascension of Our Lord Greek Orthodox Church



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WEEKLY PARISH BULLETIN July 10 - 17

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

"We advance toward humility by means of trials. He who rests on his virtue without suffering tribulation has the door of pride open before him."

St. Isaac of Syria

Weekly Calendar

Sunday	July 10	<u>3rd Sunday of Matthew</u>
8:15 a.m.	Orthros	
9:30 a.m.	Divine Liturgy	Coffee Fellowship hosted by Duros and Douvli Families
Tuesday	July 12	
7 p.m.	Parish Council Meeting	
Sunday	July 17	<u>Sunday of the Holy Fathers</u> <u>St. Marina</u>
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, 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.

Our Sunday Volunteers

Prosphora: Elaine Stevens
FOS Ministry Greeters: Kathie and David Rutkowski
Epistle Reader: Thomas Poulakidas
Ushers: **UIC Peter Venetos**, Tom Kirakos, Carol Stamas, Doug Hugdahl, Nick Marino, Tom Vabakos

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

Announcements

- + **CAPITAL CAMPAIGN "Our Faith...Our Church...Our Legacy"** Our Capital Campaign committee is pleased to announce that, as a Parish, we have successfully raised \$5.2M, in cash and pledges. With a Total Fundraising Goal of \$7.5M, we are almost 70% of the way there!! To date, 92 donors have pledged \$3,141,850 to our 2016 campaign goal of \$5.4M. This, along with the net amount donated by our 141 Parishioners in our prior campaign and the net amounts from prior dinner dances and other fundraising activities (which together aggregated approximately \$2.1 million at the start of our 2016 campaign), brings our grand total of cash on hand and pledges, to \$5.2M. With a remaining \$2.3M to raise, and a hopeful 100% participation from our Parishioners, our goal is within our reach. If you have not submitted your family's pledge card, we urge you to submit it, so that you can be recognized as a supporter of this project. Naming Opportunities continue to be donated, and there are still opportunities available, such as the:
 - Community Center: \$1,000,000
 - Nave and Dome: \$500,000/each
 - Fellowship Hall, Gallery and Kitchen: \$250,000/each
 - Landscaping: \$150,000
 - Berms: \$50,000
 All contributions are equally needed and appreciated, and will help our Parish meet our fundraising goal. Please contact Fr. Sotiri with any questions at frsotirios@ascensiongoc.com, or the Church Office at 847-482-1200.
- + **STEWARDSHIP 2016 UPDATE:** *Open Your Heart: Giving time, talents and treasure for the Glory of God.* Stewardship is our response to God's grace and moves us from grace to gratitude. We thank the 258 stewards who have pledged \$320,192.00 for 2016. Individual quarterly contribution statements are being mailed this week. If you have not yet filled in your pledge card for 2016, please express your love to God and your Church today. Pledge cards are available at the Pangari.
- + **COFFEE FELLOWSHIP HOSTS STILL NEEDED:** Thank you to all who have signed up and hosted coffee fellowship hour. *The following two dates are still open this summer: August 7 and August 14.* Please consider hosting after Liturgy with your family, or together with another family, so that we may continue our fellowship throughout the summer. Call the office or check our website for some simple ideas. The sign-up list is available on the bulletin board near the coffee. *PLEASE make sure that all items are NUT FREE due to allergies. Thank you!
- + **ASCENSION FAMILY LOOKING FOR NANNY** - one of our Ascension families is looking for a nanny to help for 2-3 days per week starting August 22nd. The family has a 4 year old and 10-month old and lives in the Barrington / Palatine area. Please call the church office if you're interested in helping.
- + **WE WISH ALL OF OUR YOUTH ATTENDING FANARI CAMP SESSIONS THIS SUMMER** an uplifting, safe, fun and blessed week. May God grant you safe travels and spiritually guide you while you are away from home.
- + **UPCOMING GREEK FESTIVALS:** Support our local Metropolis Churches and celebrate summer Greek-style!

July 8 – 10: St. Demetrios, Libertyville	July 8 – 10: St. Sophia, Elgin
July 9 – 10: St. Andrew, Chicago	July 9 – 10: St. Spyridon, Palos Heights
July 15 – 17: St. Haralambos, Niles	July 16 – 17: All Saints, Joliet
July 23 – 24: Assumption, Chicago	July 23 – 24: Assumption, Homer Glen
- + **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.
- + **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 the oil for each week's vigil lights is requested. Names will be acknowledged in the Sunday Bulletin. Call the Church Office to reserve your week.