

## Holy Scripture Readings

### The reading is from Acts of the Apostles 16:16-34.

IN THOSE DAYS, as we apostles were going to the place of prayer, we were met by a slave girl who had a spirit of divination and brought her owners much gain by soothsaying. She followed Paul and us, crying, "These men are servants of the Most High God, who proclaim to you the way of salvation." And this she did for many days. But Paul was annoyed, and turned and said to the spirit, "I charge you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her." And it came out that very hour. But when her owners saw that their hope of gain was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the market place before the rulers; and when they had brought them to the magistrates they said, "These men are Jews and they are disturbing our city. They advocate customs which it is not lawful for us Romans to accept or practice." The crowd joined in attacking them; and the magistrates tore the garments off them and gave orders to beat them with rods. And when they had inflicted many blows upon them, they threw them into prison, charging the jailer to keep them safely. Having received this charge, he put them into the inner prison and fastened their feet in the stocks. But about midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them, and suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and every one's fetters were unfastened. When the jailer woke and saw that the prison doors were open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, supposing that the prisoners had escaped. But Paul cried with a loud voice, "Do not harm yourself, for we are all here." And he called for lights and rushed in, and trembling with fear he fell down before Paul and Silas, and brought them out and said, "Men, what must I do to be saved?" And they said, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household." And they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all that were in his house. And he took them the same hour of the night, and washed their wounds, and he was baptized at once, with all his family. Then he brought them up into his house, and set food before them; and he rejoiced with all his household that he had believed in God.

### The Gospel of John 9:1-38



At that time, as Jesus passed by, He saw a man blind from his birth. And His disciples asked Him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be made manifest in him. We must work the works of Him who sent me, while it is day; night comes, when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." As He said this, He spat on the ground and made clay of the spittle and anointed the man's eyes with the clay, saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). So he went and washed and came back seeing. The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar, said, "Is not this the man who used to sit and beg?" Some said, "It is he"; others said, "No, but he is like him." He said, "I am the man." They said to him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" He answered, "The man called Jesus made clay and anointed my eyes and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash'; so I went and washed and received my sight." They said to him, "Where is He?" He said, "I do not know."

They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the clay and opened his eyes. The Pharisees again asked him how he had received his sight. And he said to them, "He put clay on my eyes and I washed, and I see." Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for He does not keep the Sabbath." But others

said, "How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?" There was a division among them. So they again said to the blind man, "What do you say about Him, since He has opened your eyes?" He said, "He is a prophet." The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight, until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight, and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" His parents answered, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but how he now sees we do not know, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age, he will speak for himself." His parents said this because they feared the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that if anyone should confess Him to be Christ he was to be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, "He is of age, ask him." So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and said to him, "Give God the praise; we know that this man is a sinner." He answered, "Whether he is a sinner, I do not know; one thing I know, that though I was blind, now I see." They said to him, "What did He do to you? How did He open your eyes?" He answered them, "I have told you already and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you too want to become His disciples?" And they reviled him, saying, "You are His disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where He comes from." The man answered, "Why, this is a marvel! You do not know where He comes from, and yet He opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but if anyone is a worshiper of God and does His will, God listens to him. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a man born blind. If this man were not from God, He could do nothing." They answered him, "You were born in utter sin, and would you teach us?" And they cast him out. Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found him He said, "Do you believe in the Son of man?" He answered, "And who is He, sir, that I may believe in Him?" Jesus said to him, "You have seen Him, and it is He who speaks to you." He said, "Lord, I believe": and he worshiped Him.

## Ascension of Our Lord Greek Orthodox Church



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## WEEKLY PARISH BULLETIN

June 5 - 11

Χριστός Ανέστη! Αληθώς Ανέστη!  
Christ is Risen! Truly He is Risen!

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

*"Our journey to God must be our main focus in this life, and the Church, being the hospital of the soul, is the vehicle by which that journey reaches the ultimate goal, which is the Acquisition of the Holy Spirit. The grace that flows out upon us within the walls of the Orthodox Church, brings about the transformation of the soul, and our ultimate union with God. The joy that we who have joined ourselves to the Church cannot be matched by any other decision we could possibly make. Bottom line: how can we have God as our Father, if we do not also have the Church as our mother?"*

**Abbot Tryphon of All Merciful Savior Orthodox Monastery**

## Weekly Calendar

<b>Sunday</b> 8:15 a.m. 9:30 a.m.	<b>June 5</b> Orthros Divine Liturgy No Coffee Fellowship host at this time	<b>Sunday of the Blind Man</b>
<b>Monday</b> 7 p.m.	<b>June 6</b> Meeting with Ministry Leaders	
<b>Tuesday</b> 10 a.m.	<b>June 7</b> Senior Synaxis Removing flowers from Kouvouklion	
<b>Wednesday</b> 7 p.m.	<b>June 8</b> Ascension of Our Lord Great Vespers Coffee Fellowship hosted by Philoptochos	<b>Apodosis of Pascha</b> <i>Fish is allowed</i>
<b>Thursday</b> 8:15 a.m. 9:30 a.m.	<b>June 9</b> Orthros Divine Liturgy Coffee Fellowship hosted by Senior Synaxis	<b>Ascension of Our Lord Feastday</b>
<b>Saturday</b> 5 p.m.:	<b>June 11</b> Vespers	
<b>Sunday</b> 8:15 a.m. 9:30 a.m.	<b>June 12</b> Orthros Divine Liturgy Graduate Sunday Coffee Fellowship	<b>Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council</b>

## Our Sunday Volunteers

**Prospora:** Sophia Metropulos & Sophia Beris

**FOS Ministry Greeters:** Katherine Schreiber and Elaine Stevens

**Epistle Reader:** James Facklis

**Ushers:** **UIC Alex Marx**, Peter Venetos, Mike Sutherland, Doug Hugdahl, Kathie Rutkowski, Bill Athenson

## 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

## Condolences

+ **OUR SYMPATHIES** to Annette (Mike) Sutherland on the death of her beloved brother, Jerry Andreakis, who recently fell asleep in the Lord. His funeral took place at Holy Apostles on Friday. May his memory be eternal.

## Announcements

+ **CELEBRATE OUR FEASTDAY THIS WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY:** Ascension's Great Vespers which will take place this Wednesday, June 8th at 7 p.m. A reception will follow the Service hosted by our Philoptochos. Please make every effort to attend. On Thursday, June 9th, the day of our Feastday, Orthros will be at 8:15 a.m. followed by the Divine Liturgy at 9:30 a.m. Fellowship, hosted by our Senior Synaxis, will follow. We look forward to gathering in prayer as a Parish Family.

+ **DONATIONS FOR OUR FEASTDAY** – If anyone wishes to donate the flowers that will decorate the Icon of the Ascension, or the loaves for the Artoclasia, please contact the Church office at 847.482.1200. The cost of the flowers for the two Ascension Icons is \$150.00 and the bread for the Artoclasia for our Great Vespers amounts to \$190.00, and for our actual Feastday \$95.00. Your generosity is always appreciated.

+ **CAPITAL CAMPAIGN "Our Faith...Our Church...Our Legacy"** Our Capital Campaign committee continues to make wonderful progress. 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 consider submitting your pledge card to the church office as soon as you are able. We are still working towards, and hoping for, 100% participation from our Parish. Please contact Fr. Sotiri with any questions at [frsotirios@ascensiongoc.com](mailto:frsotirios@ascensiongoc.com), or the Church Office at 847-482-1200.

+ **CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE JR. OLYMPICS** on Memorial Day weekend! In all, our athletes represented Ascension in 16 individual and team events and brought home 5 medals! Team Bowling (Ted Tapas, Joseph Connolly, Jimmy Angelos, Eleni Angelos) received a bronze medal; Ted Tapas received a gold medal in Individual Bowling; Peter Anast won a Gold medal in Checkers; Nick Tegel brought home a Bronze Medal in the 1 Mile; and, Chris Svigos received a Bronze medal in Checkers. We will be acknowledging the participants after the Divine Liturgy next week on June 12th. A special thank you to Esther Tegel, who did an excellent job organizing this event for our Parish, and to all of the coaches/advisors who helped make this a wonderful weekend of fellowship and great sportsmanship.

+ **WE NEED COFFEE FELLOWSHIP HOSTS IN JUNE AND THROUGHOUT THE SUMMER:** Please consider hosting coffee fellowship after Liturgy with your family, or together with another family, so that we may continue our fellowship throughout the summer. Never done it before? Call the office or check our website for some simple ideas. A 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 in advance.

+ **CALL IN YOUR GRADUATES BY THIS WEDNESDAY, JUNE 8<sup>th</sup> SO WE CAN HONOR THEM ON GRADUATE SUNDAY, JUNE 12<sup>th</sup>!** Is someone in your house reaching a graduation milestone this year? Ascension's annual graduate tribute will take place on Sunday, June 12<sup>th</sup>, following the Divine Liturgy. Please call the church office no later than Wednesday, June 8<sup>th</sup> to submit the name(s) of your graduate(s) from Elementary School, High School, College, Graduate or Post-Graduate programs so they may be recognized on that day. Thank you.

+ **THE ANNUAL PHILOPTOCHOS CELEBRATION OF GIVING DINNER TOOK PLACE THIS PAST THURSDAY** and this year, Philoptochos honored Olga Kalis, Emelia Karkazis and Vicki Douvli for their loving service and devotion that enhanced the giving efforts of Ascension's Philoptochos chapter. We viewed the premiere video presentation of our *Fill the Bag* program and enjoyed a wonderful dinner at Dover Straits. Thank you all for another successful year!

+ **THE PANHELLENIC SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION** will host its annual gala on Saturday, June 18<sup>th</sup> at the Ritz Carlton, Chicago. For more information, or to purchase your tickets online, visit [www.panhellenicsf.org](http://www.panhellenicsf.org), or call 312.357.6432. In addition to presenting \$250,000 in scholarships, the Foundation will be recognizing its Paradigm Award recipient.

+ **DON'T MISS THE 2016 ASCENSION GOLF OUTING:** The Koinonia Men's Ministry will be hosting the annual Ascension Golf Outing and Family Dinner on Friday, June 24<sup>th</sup>, at the Deerfield Golf Course. Please stop by the registration table during coffee hour or go to the Men's Ministry webpage @ [www.ascensiongoc.com](http://www.ascensiongoc.com) to register.

## Hymns

### Resurrectional Apolytikion in the Plagal First Mode

Let us worship the Word, O ye faithful, praising Him that with the Father and the Spirit is co-beginningless God, Who was born of a pure Virgin that we all be saved; for He was pleased to mount the Cross in the flesh that He assumed, accepting thus to endure death. And by His glorious rising, He also willed to resurrect the dead.

### 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.

Ανελήφθης 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 Plagal Fourth Mode

Though You went down into the tomb, You destroyed Hades' power, and You rose the victor, Christ God, saying to the myrrh-bearing women, "Hail!" and granting peace to Your disciples, You who raise up the fallen.

## Resurrection Hymn

Christ is risen from the dead, by death, trampling down upon death, and to those in the tombs, He has granted life.

Χριστὸς ἀνέστη ἐκ νεκρῶν, θανάτῳ θάνατον πατήσας, καὶ τοὺς ἐν τοῖς μνήμασι ζῶν ἡμῶν χαρισάμενος.

Christos anesti eknekron, thanato thanaton patisas, ke tis en tis mnimasi, zoin charisamenos.