

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 for Forefeast of the Entry of the Theotokos in the Fourth Mode

By blossoming forth the only Ever-virgin as fruit, today holy Anna doth betroth us all unto joy, instead of our former grief; on this day she doth fulfil her vows to the Most High, leading her with joy into the Lord's holy temple, who truly is the temple and pure Mother of God the Word.

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.

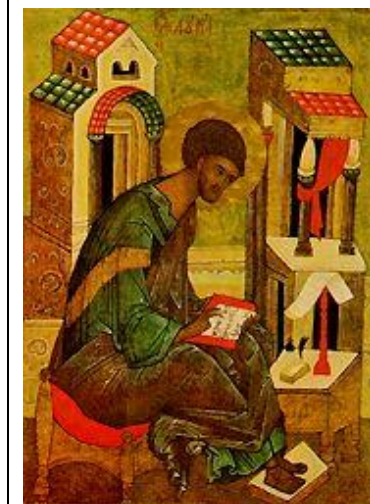
Seasonal Kontakion in the Fourth Mode

The whole world is filled today with joy and gladness on the Theotokos's auspicious and resplendent feast, whereon with great voice it crieth out: The heavenly tabernacle is she in truth.

The reading is from St. Paul's Letter to the Galatians 6:11-18.

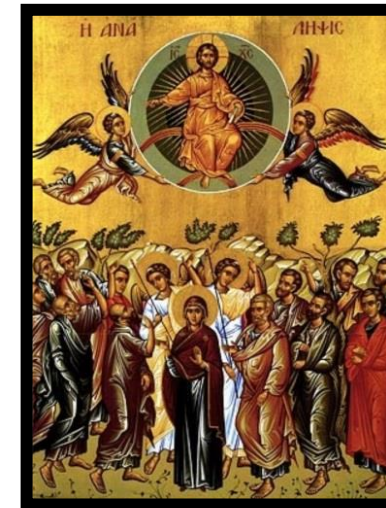
BRETHREN, see with what large letters I am writing to you with my own hand. It is those who want to make a good showing in the flesh that would compel you to be circumcised, and only in order that they may not be persecuted for the cross of Christ. For even those who receive circumcision do not themselves keep the law, but they desire to have you circumcised that they may glory in your flesh. But far be it from me to glory except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. For neither circumcision counts for anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creation. Peace and mercy be upon all who walk by this rule, upon the Israel of God. Henceforth let no man trouble me; for I bear on my body the marks of Jesus. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brethren. Amen.

The Gospel of Luke 12:16-21



The Lord said this parable: "The land of a rich man brought forth plentifully; and he thought to himself, 'What shall I do, for I have nowhere to store my crops?' And he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns, and build larger ones; and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, 'Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; take your ease, eat, drink, be merry.' But God said to him, 'Fool! This night your soul is required of you; and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?' So is he who lays up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God." As he said these things, he cried out: "He who has ears to hear, let him hear."

Ascension of Our Lord Greek Orthodox Church



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WEEKLY PARISH BULLETIN November 20 - 27

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

"When you sit down to eat, pray. When you eat bread, do so thanking Him for being so generous to you. If you drink wine, be mindful of Him who has given it to you for your pleasure and as a relief in sickness. When you dress, thank Him for His kindness in providing you with clothes. When you look at the sky and the beauty of the stars, throw yourself at God's feet and adore Him who in His wisdom has arranged things in this way. Similarly, when the sun goes down and when it rises, when you are asleep or awake, give thanks to God, who created and arranged all things for your benefit, to have you know, love and praise their Creator."

Weekly Calendar

Sunday	November 20	9th Sunday of Luke
8:15 a.m.	Orthros	
9:15 a.m.	Sunday Church School	
9:30 a.m.	Divine Liturgy Coffee Fellowship hosted by Nick & Arianna Stevens	
Monday	November 21	Entrance of the Theotokos
10 a.m.	Divine Liturgy at Entrance of the Theotokos Chapel at the Greek American Rehabilitation Center, Wheeling	
6:30 p.m.	Koinonia Men's Ministry Meeting	
Thursday	November 24	Thanksgiving Day
	CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	
9 a.m.	Pan Orthodox Thanksgiving Service @ Holy Virgin Protection Russian Orthodox Cathedral, Des Plaines	
Friday	November 25	St. Katherine the Great Martyr
	CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	
Saturday	November 26	
10:30 a.m.	Baptism: Nicholas, son of Peter & Effie Stevens <i>Sponsors: Giorgos & Bessie Papachristou</i>	
noon	Baptism: Sophia, daughter of Konstantinos & Denise Karousos <i>Sponsors: Erika & John Rekoumis</i>	
5 p.m.	Vespers	
Sunday	November 27	13th Sunday of Luke
8:15 a.m.	Orthros	
9:15 a.m.	Sunday Church School	
9:30 a.m.	Divine Liturgy Memorial for the Soul of the Servant of God, Chrysanthi Vouris (15 years)	
12:30 p.m.	Baptism: Evyenia, daughter of George and Jennifer Vlahos <i>Sponsors: Niko Safis and Jane Veracco</i>	

Our Sunday Volunteers

Prospora: Sophia Metropulos & Litsa Stamatis
Epistle Reader: Katherine Schreiber
Ministry Greeters: Diane & Frank Belmonte
Ushers: Tom Kiriakos, UIC, Bill Athenson, Diane Sigalos, Doug Hugdahl, Peter Venetos, Carol Stamas, 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, Janet

Condolences

+ Our deepest sympathies to Jeannie (John) Thomas, whose mother Anna Gouras, fell asleep in the Lord on November 10th. Her funeral service was held on November 14th in Jackson, Mississippi. May her memory be eternal.

+ We also extend our sincere condolences to Jamie (Sophia) Childs whose mother, Helen Childs, fell asleep in the Lord last Sunday. Her funeral service was held on Thursday at SS Peter and Paul Church. May her memory be eternal.

Announcements

- + **NOVEMBER IS STEWARDSHIP MONTH** Please submit your 2017 pledge card in the next few weeks either by mail, or by dropping it off at the Church office. Our theme, which we will cultivate in the coming year, is: *As the Father has sent me, so I send you.* We ask for God's blessings as we prayerfully consider how we can serve as the *Voice of Christ in a Changing World* and offer our time, talents and treasures to sustain and enhance the spiritual and bountiful Parish life at Ascension in 2017.
- + **CAPITAL CAMPAIGN** As we focus on November as stewardship month, our Capital Campaign Committee testimonials will not resume again until December 4th and December 11th. As we look forward to those dates, and if you are interested in sharing with our Parish, your story as to your family's relationship with the Ascension, and what has led you to pledge to the Capital Campaign, please contact someone on the Committee, or Fr. Sotirios. If you have not yet submitted your Pledge card, please look into your hearts and support our fundraising effort. Our goal remains to achieve our financial target with 100% participation of our Parish. Thank you for your support, for a once in a lifetime sacred opportunity, to build a new House of Worship.
- + **KOINONIA MEN'S MINISTRY** will meet tomorrow, Monday, November 21st at 6:30 p.m. at LightSource Unlimited, 980 Corporate Woods Pkwy, Vernon Hills. For more information, contact Doug Hugdahl at dhugdahl@lightsourceunlimited.com (847) 910-6090. Hope to see you there!
- + **THE NATIVITY FAST** takes place November 15—December 24. Fish, wine and olive oil are permitted, except on Wednesdays and Fridays, until December 17. During the Nativity Fast, Ascension has added additional Liturgies and the Sacrament of Holy Unction to help us spiritually prepare for our Lord's birth. A special Nativity webpage is on our website with articles, calendars, and links to daily readings and devotions to help us prepare during this beautiful time period when we anticipate our Lord's birth and all of the blessings that come with it.
- + **DONATIONS FOR THE NATIVITY SEASON:** During the upcoming Nativity Fast, additional Ecclesiastical supplies, as well as poinsettia plants, will be purchased to use in worship and to adorn the Church. We humbly request any contributions to offset these costs. To make a donation, please contact Renee Maltezos in the Church office (847.482.1200) or renee.maltezos@ascension.com).
- + **THANKSGIVING DAY PAN-ORTHODOX DIVINE LITURGY** will be held at 9 a.m. on Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, November 24th, at the Holy Virgin Protection Russian Orthodox Cathedral, Des Plaines.
- + **GINGERBREAD EVENT:** Please join us on Saturday, December 3, 2016, for our 8th Annual Gingerbread Decorating event! See insert and visit the table in fellowship hall for more information!
- + **SAVE THE DATE: SENIOR SYNAXIS MINI BAZAAR!** Senior Synaxis is holding a mini Christmas Bazaar on December 11th! Stop by after Liturgy to browse and purchase beautiful homemade Christmas gifts and delicious pastries for family and friends.
- + **SAVE THE DATE: ASCENSION LEGACY GALA:** The time is now to invite family, friends and koumbari to the Ascension Legacy Gala to be held February 4. Invitations will be mailed in coming weeks and tickets will also be available for online purchase beginning December 4. To receive an email reminder when tickets are available, go to www.ascension.com/gala and click on "Tickets".
- + **GALA GOYA VIDEO PROJECT** An email was recently sent to **past and present GOYANs** and their parents about featuring our GOYANs in a video presentation at our February 4 Gala where they will have the opportunity to share their thoughts on their faith and our Ascension Parish. Please let Carol Stamas (cestamas@comcast.net) know if you have any questions, or if you did not receive the email (sent from goyavideos@gmail.com).
- + **OUR PARISH SERVICE PROJECT AT FMSC** - On Monday, November 7th, JOY, Jr. GOYA and GOYA members, along with their families and other groups present at Feed My Starving Children in Libertyville, assembled meals that will feed more than 80 children for a year. This is true Christian stewardship and philanthropy. Thank you for giving of your time and talents, especially in advance of the Nativity Season.