

Resurrectional Apolytikion in the Third Mode

Let the Heavens rejoice; let earthly things be glad; for the Lord hath wrought might with His arm, He hath trampled upon death by death. The first-born of the dead hath He become. From the belly of Hades hath He delivered us, and hath granted great mercy to the world.

Apolytikion for Afterfeast of the Nativity of the Theotokos in the Fourth Mode

Thy Nativity, O Theotokos, hath proclaimed joy to the whole world; for from thee hath dawned the Sun of Righteousness, Christ our God, annulling the curse and bestowing the blessing, abolishing death and granting us life everlasting.

Memorial Hymn

Remember, O Lord, as You are good, Your servant, and forgive every sin he has committed in this life. For no one is sinless except You, Who have power to grant rest to those who have fallen asleep.

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.

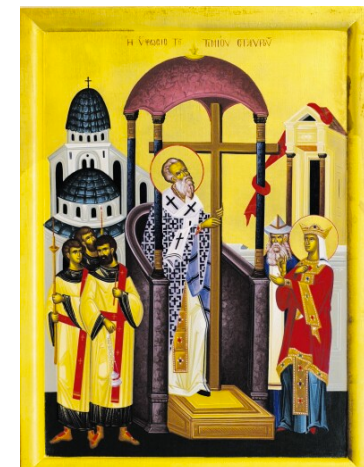
Seasonal Kontakion in the Fourth Mode

In your holy birth, Immaculate One, Joachim and Anna were rid of the shame of childlessness; Adam and Eve of the corruption of death. And so your people, free of the guilt of their sins, celebrate crying: "The barren one gives birth to the Theotokos, who nourishes our life."

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 John 3:13-17



The Lord said, "No one has ascended into heaven but he who descended from heaven, the Son of man. And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God sent the Son into the world, not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him."

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 September 11 - 18

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

"Christians, have we understood the great responsibility that we have taken on before God through baptism? Have we come to know that we must conduct ourselves as children of God, that we must align our will with the will of God, that we must remain free from sin, that we must love God with all our hearts and always patiently await union with Him? Have we thought about the fact that our heart should be so filled with love that it should overflow to our neighbor? Do we have the feeling that we must become holy and perfect, children of God and heirs of the Kingdom of Heaven? We must struggle for this, so that we may not be shown unworthy and rejected. Let none of us lose our boldness, nor neglect our duties, nor be afraid of the difficulties of spiritual struggle. For we have God as a helper, who strengthens us in the difficult path of virtue."

+St. Nektarios of Aegina

Weekly Calendar

Sunday September 11

Sunday Before the Holy Cross

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,
Nicholas Anagnostopoulos (40 days)
Parish Family Picnic, Banner Day Camp

Monday September 12

5:45 p.m. JOY/Jr. GOYA
7:30 p.m. GOYA

Tuesday September 13

4:45 p.m. Greek School & Agiasmos
7 p.m. Great Vespers at Holy Cross, Justice, IL

Wednesday September 14 Exaltation of the Holy Cross

8:15 a.m. Orthros Strict Fast Day
9:15 a.m. Divine Liturgy
6:30 p.m. Paraklesis

Thursday September 15

6:15 p.m. Adult Beginner Greek School
7:45 p.m. Adult Intermediate/Advanced Greek School

Friday September 16 St. Euphemia the Great Martyr

7 p.m. Faith/Joy Bowling @ Brunswick Zone, Vernon Hills
Great Vespers @ St. Sophia, Elgin

Saturday September 17 SS Sophia, Faith, Hope & Agape

8:15 a.m. Orthros
9:15 a.m. Divine Liturgy
5 p.m. Vespers

Sunday September 18 Sunday After the Holy Cross

8:15 a.m. Orthros
9:15 a.m. Sunday Church School
9:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy

Ministry Sunday

Our Sunday Volunteers

Prospora: Sophia Beris & Mary Greub

Epistle Reader: Jim Anast

Ministry Greeters: Faye & Steven

Kopplin

Ushers: **UIC Tom Kiriakos**, Mia Connolly,

Robert Mantzoros, Thomas Papastefan

Andrea Rogers, Alex Marx

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

Condolences

+ OUR SINCERE SYMPATHIES TO Connie

(Doug) Hugdahl whose mother,

Stavroula Gekas, fell asleep in the Lord

this past Wednesday. Her visitation will

take place this evening at Kolssak

Funeral Home from 3 – 7 p.m., and then

tomorrow at Ascension of Our Lord at

9:30 a.m. until the time of her funeral

service at 10 a.m. May her memory be

eternal.

+ OUR PRAYERS THIS MORNING are for

the soul of the servant of God Nicholas

Anagnostopoulos. Brother of Dr. L.D.

Anagnostopoulos, George

Anagnostopoulos and family. May their

memory be eternal.

Announcements

+ JOIN US TODAY AT ASCENSION'S ANNUAL FAMILY PICNIC After Liturgy, please head over to Banner Camp, just north of the Church, to kick off the new Ecclesiastical Year with parish family & friends, while enjoying the delicious menu served by our hosts, the Koinonia Men's Ministry. The ministry will be accepting a free-will donation for lunch.

+ MANY OF OUR YOUTH MINISTRIES BEGIN THIS WEEK! Today is the first day of Sunday Church School. If you haven't registered your children yet, Christine Perakis will be available to assist you today; or, you can visit our website and register online this week. Greek School, GOYA, JOY/Jr. GOYA and FAITH/JOY also start this week. Registration forms are available under the television screen in the fellowship hall. Please call the Church office with any questions.

+ FAITH/JOY STARTS THIS FRIDAY! All K-5th graders are invited to join us for our kick-off bowling event this Friday, September 16th from 7-9 p.m. at Brunswick Zone Hawthorn in Vernon Hills. The cost is \$20 per child and includes shoes and two hours of bowling. For more information and to RSVP, please contact Desiree Petros or Presvytera Stefanie at faithjoyascension@gmail.com.

+ PLUG INTO OUR MINISTRIES: Next Sunday, immediately following the Divine Liturgy, there will be an overview of all of the dynamic ministries in motion at Ascension. The new Ecclesiastical Year offers us all an opportunity to become truly engaged in the philanthropic, spiritual and energetic work we do as a parish family through our many flourishing ministries. Find out how you and your family can get involved on Ministry Sunday, September 18th!

+ STEWARDSHIP IS OUR RESPONSE TO GOD'S GRACE and moves us from grace to gratitude. We thank the 280 stewards who have pledged for 2016. If you have not pledged or fulfilled your pledge for 2016, please express your love to God and to the growth of our Parish Ministries today.

+ VASILIKO FOR FEAST OF THE CROSS: If you have vasiliko (basil) to decorate the tray on Wednesday, September 14th for the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, it would be a blessing for you to bring it to the Church by Tuesday, September 13th.

+ MARK YOUR CALENDAR THE ASCENSION LEGACY GALA, a groundbreaking celebration and momentous event in the life of our church, will be held Saturday, February 4, 2017 at the Lincolnshire Marriott Resort. The exciting details will be revealed in coming weeks at www.ascensiongoc.com/gala. Want to get involved? Your help is appreciated. Contact co-chairs Marcia Moore (Marcia.moore1780@gmail.com) or Amy Tsarwhas (tsarwhas@sbcglobal.net).

+ LOOK WHAT'S NEW IN THE PEW! Thanks to generous donations from our parishioners, Ascension purchased new Liturgy books recently published with an updated English translation of the Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom. In producing this book, The Holy Eparchial Synod of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America sought to create a new English translation in order to foster greater Liturgical unity throughout our Archdiocese and enable parishioners to pray fervently in unison with the Clergy. You are encouraged to enhance your prayerful participation in the Divine Liturgy by using this book. *Please note that the section typeset in a shaded box on p. 23, "The Prayers for the Catechumens", is read inaudibly by the priest. Also, we will continue to use the white card in the pew when reciting the Creed.*

+ SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE TO HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS, COLLEGE AND GRAD STUDENTS OF HELLENIC DESCENT through the Hellenic Link-Midwest Board (due November 1st); the Hellenic Society of Constantinople (due September 26); and the PanHellenic Scholarship Foundation (due January 31, 2017). For more information and a link to the applications, visit Ascension's website and click on the Orthodox Christian Fellowship link within the Ministry section.

+ SS PETER AND PAUL'S DIVORCE REBUILDERS offers support, guidance and hope to those who are separated and divorced. Meetings will begin this fall on Mondays, October 3 through November 14th, from 7:30 – 9 p.m. in the church library at SS Peter and Paul Greek Orthodox Church, Glenview. This group provides a place where you can learn and heal from the hurt of divorce. New insights and perspectives will help you create new understandings towards developing new personal, relational and spiritual goals in your life. Discussion, feedback and support are integral components of this program. Leader: Maria Boyle, MA Counseling. To enroll in this program please email: mariaharduvel@aol.com. Please note in the subject heading: Divorce Rebuilders. No Christian should walk through the pain of divorce alone.

+ THE LAST OF THE LOCAL GREEK FESTIVALS TAKE PLACE THIS WEEKEND: September 9–11 at SS. Athanasios & John, Chicago; and, September 10-11 at SS Peter and Paul in Glenview.

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, we will recite together the *Prayers Before Receiving Holy Communion* on page 61 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 73.

+ 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.