

## Hymns and Holy Scripture Readings

### 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 for Afterfeast of the Dormition in the First Mode

In giving birth, thou didst preserve thy virginity; in thy dormition, thou didst not forsake the world, O Theotokos. Thou wast translated unto life, since thou art the Mother of Life; and by thine intercessions dost thou redeem our souls from death.

### Memorial Hymn

Remember, O Lord, as You are good, Your servants, and forgive every sin they have 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 Second Mode

Neither the grave nor death could contain the Theotokos, the unshakable hope, ever vigilant in intercession and protection. As Mother of life, He who dwelt in the ever-virginal womb transposed her to life.

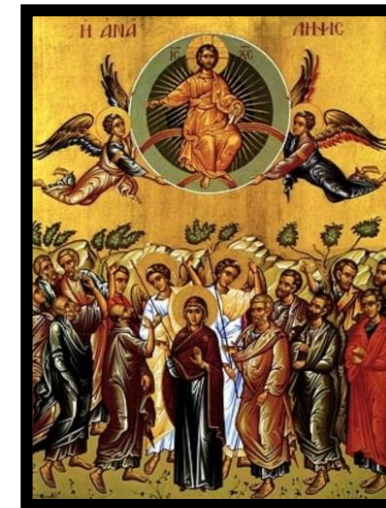
### The reading is from St. Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians 9:2-12.

Brethren, you are the seal of my apostleship in the Lord. This is my defense to those who would examine me. Do we not have the right to our food and drink? Do we not have the right to be accompanied by a sister as wife, as the other apostles and the brothers of the Lord and Cephas? Or is it only Barnabas and I who have no right to refrain from working for a living? Who serves as a soldier at his own expense? Who plants a vineyard without eating any of its fruit? Who tends a flock without getting some of the milk? Do I say this on human authority? Does not the law say the same? For it is written in the law of Moses, "You shall not muzzle an ox when it is treading out the grain." Is it for oxen that God is concerned? Does he not speak entirely for our sake? It was written for our sake, because the plowman should plow in hope and the thresher thresh in hope of a share in the crop. If we have sown spiritual good among you, is it too much if we reap your material benefits? If others share this rightful claim upon you, do not we still more? Nevertheless, we have not made use of this right, but we endure anything rather than put an obstacle in the way of the gospel of Christ.

### The Reading is from Matthew 18:23-35

The Lord said this parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants. When he began the reckoning, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents; and as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made. So the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, 'Lord, have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' And out of pity for him the lord of that servant released him and forgave him the debt. But that same servant, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat he said, 'Pay what you owe.' So his fellow servant fell down and besought him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' He refused and went and put him in prison till he should pay the debt. When his fellow servants saw what had taken place, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you besought me; and should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?' And in anger his lord delivered him to the torturers, till he should pay all his debt. So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart."

## Ascension of Our Lord Greek Orthodox Church



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## WEEKLY PARISH BULLETIN

### August 20 - 27, 2017

## Welcome to Our Visitors

**WELCOME TO THE ASCENSION PARISH.** Your presence has brought us much joy. We hope your visit is 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

*"Do we forgive our neighbors their trespasses? God also forgives us in His mercy. Do we refuse to forgive? God, too, will refuse to forgive us. As we treat our neighbors, so also does God treat us. The forgiveness, then, of your sins or unforgiveness, and hence also your salvation or destruction, depend on you yourself, man. For without forgiveness of sins there is no salvation."*

**St. Tikhon of Zadonsk**

## Weekly Calendar

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>August 20</b>	<b>11<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Matthew</b>
8:15 a.m.	Orthros	
9:30 a.m.	Divine Liturgy	Memorial for the Soul of the Servants of God John Kokinis (6 mo); Nicholas Phillips (20 yrs) Penelope Spirrisson (25 yrs), Coffee Fellowship hosted by the Phillips/Petros Family
12:30 p.m.	Baptism: John, son of Richard and Karrie Raschillo	Sponsor: Tina Venetos
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>August 26</b>	
5 p.m.	Vespers	
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>August 27</b>	<b>12<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Matthew</b>
8:15 a.m.	Orthros	<b>St. Phanourios the Great</b>
9:30 a.m.	Divine Liturgy	Coffee Fellowship

## Our Sunday Volunteers

**Prospora Bakers:** Elaine Stevens & Despina Taranko  
**Epistle Reader:** Katherine Schreiber  
**Ministry Greeters:** The Saric Family  
**Ushers:** Peter Venetos, (UIC) Doug Hugdahl, Alex Marx, Bill Athenson, Nick Marino, Tom Kiriakos, Steve Demet

## Prayer Requests for Health

**PLEASE INCLUDE IN YOUR PERSONAL PRAYERS** the servants of God: Georgia, John, Eleni, George, Louise, Anastasia, Stella, Mitchell, Joanne, Panagiotis, Christina, Dee, Helen, James, Sophia, Connie, Janet, Anthony, Fred, James, Katerini

## Announcements

+ **THE CAPITAL CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE** has identified additional major donor naming opportunities and has re-worked others: the foyer (\$150,000), the gallery (\$150,000), and the Adult Baptismal Font (\$75,000). These, together with our remaining major donor naming opportunities, which include the Nave (\$500,000), the kitchen (\$250,000), landscaping (\$150,000), and a classroom (\$75,000), are now shown on an updated board located in the Narthex. Also, our other remaining donation opportunities are Pews (\$10,000), but there are only three Pews yet to be donated, and Personalized Brick Pavers (\$1,000). Please act fast as we are now approximately 80% of the way to our goal of remaining debt-free and building without any borrowing. If you would like to avail yourself of one of the remaining major donor naming opportunities or to donate towards any of these other remaining Donation Opportunities, please contact Fr. Sotirios in the church office at 847-482-1200 or email at [frsotirios@ascensiongoc.com](mailto:frsotirios@ascensiongoc.com)

+ **REGISTRATION NOW OPEN FOR ASCENSION'S SUNDAY CHURCH SCHOOL (SCS), GREEK SCHOOL PROGRAM AND YOUTH MINISTRY PROGRAMS:** Information and registration for all of our youth ministries (HOPE, Faith/Joy, JOY/Jr. GOYA, GOYA, Acolytes, Sunday Church School and Greek School) can be found on our website at [www.ascensiongoc.com](http://www.ascensiongoc.com), or call the office for more information and registration materials. **Please note that the first day of SCS is now Sunday, September 17<sup>th</sup>**, and most of our other ministries commence the week of September 11th. In an effort to "go green" and reduce costs, registration forms will not be mailed again this year. We encourage you to visit the website and register as soon as possible to secure enrollment so we can adequately prepare for classes prior to the first day. Also, tuition payments (if applicable) should be made on or before the first day of class (payment details are set forth in the registration material).

+ **OLIVE OIL FUNDRAISING OPPORTUNITY** We at The Ascension have the opportunity to participate in a Metropolis initiated fundraising project to benefit our building fund, the Saint Iakovos Retreat Center and the Orthodox chapels on the island Strogili Megisti near the Turkish coast. We had a total of 504- ¾ liter very attractive bottles of cold pressed extra-virgin olive oil. It is pressed within 24 hours of harvesting at the Viannos Village in Crete. A bottle goes for a \$15.00 donation, 4 for \$50.00 and a case of 12 at \$150.00. The Ascension keeps \$6.00 a bottle; the importer donates \$1.00 a bottle to the Retreat Center; and, the producer undertakes the maintenance of the chapels on the island. The quantity is limited and we have sold over 60% of our allotted amount of 42 cases. Please contact the office or see Harold Anagnos or Diane Sigalos, who are managing this project for the community.

+ **LABOR DAY WEEKEND FAMILY RETREAT:** Join other Orthodox families at the St. Iakovos Retreat Center in Wisconsin, September 1-3, for a fun-filled time reconnecting with your family and reconnecting with God. Retreat leader Fr. Stephen Freeman, a priest, author, blogger and podcaster (learn more at [GloryToGodForAllThings.com](http://GloryToGodForAllThings.com)), will present workshops on the theme Living the Mystery. Children's workshops will also be provided, as will childcare for babies. Find more information and register online at [www.GOCFamilySynaxis.org](http://www.GOCFamilySynaxis.org) or email [Chicago.Family.Synaxis@gmail.com](mailto:Chicago.Family.Synaxis@gmail.com).

+ **SAVE THE DATE: ASCENSION'S ANNUAL FAMILY PICNIC** will take place on Sunday, September 10th, immediately following Liturgy on the grounds of Banner Camp, just north of the Church. Don't miss this wonderful way 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 ANNUAL PARISH GOLF OUTING & DINNER HAS BEEN RESCHEDULED** Ascension's 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Parish Golf Outing and Dinner has been rescheduled for *Friday, September 15 at Deerfield Golf Club*. Register now on the Koinonia Men's Ministry webpage on the Ascension website (hard copies of the registration form can also be downloaded from the webpage, printed and turned into the office). Please see insert and visit our website for more information. We look forward to seeing you!

+ **UPCOMING GREEK FESTIVALS:** Support our local Metropolis Churches and celebrate summer Greek-style! Upcoming festivals: August 18-20: St. Demetrios, Chicago, Aug. 18 – 20: SS. Constantine & Helen, Palos Hills, and Sept. 8 - 10: SS. Athanasios & John, Chicago

+ **ANNOUNCING OUR GROUNDBREAKING CEREMONY ON SEPTEMBER 10, 2017!** With great joy, we announce that on **Sunday, September 10, 2017**, immediately following the Divine Liturgy, we will be "breaking ground" and performing the *Agiasmos* (Blessing of the Waters) where our new church will be built. With the blessings of Metropolitan NICHOLAS of Detroit, *Locum Tenens* of Chicago, our Chancellor His Grace Bishop DEMETRIOS of Mokissos, will be presiding over the Divine Services. Orthros will begin at 8:15 a.m. followed by Divine Liturgy at 9:30 a.m. At the end of the service, we will process outside to the site where our new Parish home will be built and commence our groundbreaking ceremonies as a unified parish family. As we move to the start of our construction, we are informing you that **Sunday, September 10<sup>th</sup>, will be the last Divine Liturgy in our existing house of worship. Beginning on Sunday, September 17, 2017, our Divine Services, as well as Sunday Church School, will be held at Daniel Wright Junior High School** located at 1370 N. Riverwoods Road in Lincolnshire (just a few blocks south of our church). Please hold September 10<sup>th</sup> dear to your heart and make every effort to be part of this once-in-a-lifetime event, where the symbolic first step will be taken to break ground and begin cultivating our Parish's new foundation.

+ **ATTENTION: PLEASE STAY CONNECTED: If you are not receiving our electronic email blasts**, which are sent from time to time with important parish announcements, (such as the one which was released on Friday regarding the groundbreaking news above), please visit our home page and click the "Join Our Newsletter" logo on the right hand side of the page, then follow the prompts to join the email list. Announcements will still always be made after Liturgy, on the website, in the bulletin, and by mail; however, this electronic means for sending important, and sometimes "breaking, last minute" information, becomes especially vital this upcoming year when our parish has the privilege of being in transition as we anxiously await our new house of worship. If you aren't on the email list, it's imperative that you visit our website and join today. Thank you.