

**Apolytikion for Holy Transfiguration in the Grave Mode**

Thou wast transfigured on the mountain, O Christ our God, showing to Thy disciples Thy glory as each one could endure. Shine forth Thou on us, who are sinners all, Thy light ever-unending, through the prayers of the Theotokos. Light-bestower, glory be to Thee.

**Seasonal Kontakion in the Grave Mode**

You were transfigured upon the mount, O Christ our God, and Your disciples, in so far as they could bear, beheld Your glory. Thus, when they see You crucified, they may understand Your voluntary passion, and proclaim to the world that You are truly the effulgence of the Father.

**The reading is from St. Peter's Second Universal Letter 1:10-19.**

BRETHREN, be more zealous to confirm your call and election, for if you do this you will never fall; so there will be richly provided for you an entrance into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Therefore I intend always to remind you of these things, though you know them and are established in the truth that you have. I think it right, as long as I am in this body, to arouse you by way of reminder, since I know that the putting off of my body will be soon, as our Lord Jesus Christ showed me. And I will see to it that after my departure you may be able at any time to recall these things. For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of His majesty. For when He received honor and glory from God the Father and the voice was borne to Him by the Majestic Glory, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased," we heard this voice borne from heaven, for we were with Him on the holy mountain. And we have the prophetic word made more sure. You will do well to pay attention to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts.

**The Reading is from Matthew 17:1-9**



At that time, Jesus took with Him Peter and James and John his brother, and led them up a high mountain apart. And He was transfigured before them, and His face shone like the sun, and His garments became white as light. And behold, there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with Him. And Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is well that we are here; if you wish, I will make three booths here, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah." He was still speaking, when lo, a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to Him." When the disciples heard this, they fell on their faces, and were filled with awe. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Rise, and have no fear." And when they lifted up their eyes, they saw no one but Jesus only. And as they were coming down the mountain, Jesus commanded them, "Tell no one the vision, until the Son of man is raised from the dead."

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Ascension of Our Lord  
Greek Orthodox Church



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**WEEKLY PARISH BULLETIN**  
**August 6 - 13, 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

*"It is therefore possible for the same Lord not to appear in the same way to all who stand before Him, but to appear to some in one way and to others in another way, according to the measure of each person's faith."*

**St. Maximos the Confessor**

## Announcements

## Weekly Calendar

<b>Sunday</b> 8:15 a.m. 9:30 a.m.	<b>August 6</b> Orthros Divine Liturgy Artoclasia offered by Fr. Sotiri and Presvytera Stefanie Coffee Fellowship hosted by Fr. Sotiri and Presvytera Stefanie	<b>Transfiguration of Our Lord</b> <i>Fish is permitted today</i>
<b>Monday</b> 7 p.m. 8 p.m.	<b>August 7</b> Small Paraklesis GOYA Fireside Chat	
<b>Tuesday</b> 7 p.m.	<b>August 8</b> Great Paraklesis	
<b>Wednesday</b> 7 p.m.	<b>August 9</b> Small Paraklesis	
<b>Thursday</b> 7 p.m.	<b>August 10</b> Great Paraklesis	
<b>Friday</b> 6:30 p.m.	<b>August 11</b> Holy Unction	
<b>Saturday</b> 5 p.m.	<b>August 12</b> Vespers	
<b>Sunday</b> 8:15 a.m. 9:30 a.m.	<b>August 13</b> Orthros Divine Liturgy Coffee Fellowship	<b>10<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Matthew</b>

+ **FAST OF THEOTOKOS** began August 1st. We fast for the first 15 days of August to honor the Mother of God prior to her Falling Asleep (August 15th). A fast is followed on most of the days (no meat, dairy, or fish). On today's Feast of the Transfiguration, fish is allowed. Just as Jesus fasted, so did the early Christians, and we follow that tradition today. Fasting is a means of disciplining the body and overcoming the passions. This fast is also accompanied by the Supplication Canons, (Paraklesis) chanted almost every evening that are full of beautiful melodies with rich meaning and also fortify the prayers of Christians. The Sacrament of Holy Unction will be offered this Friday, August 11th, at 6:30 p.m. Please see the insert and join us for these beautiful services.

## Our Sunday Volunteers

**Prospora Bakers:** Mary Kakavas & Maria Karalis

**Epistle Reader:** Mark Rader

**Ministry Greeters:** Elaine & Harry Metropoulos

**Ushers:** Bill Athenson (UIC), Doug Hugdahl, Peter Venetos, Alex Marx, Bob Mantzoros, Jeannie Thomas, Chris Chatzidakis

## 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

## Vigil Lights

**VIGIL LIGHTS OFFERED** by The Tsarwhas Family for the good health of Gary Burris

+ **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 82% 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) AND GREEK SCHOOL PROGRAMS** Visit the ministry tab on our website at [www.ascensiongoc.com](http://www.ascensiongoc.com), or call the office for more information and registration materials. The first day of SCS is Sunday, September 10, 2017 and the Greek School program begins the week of September 11<sup>th</sup>. We encourage you to register as soon as possible to secure enrollment so we can adequately prepare for classes prior to the first day. Also, tuition payments should be made on or before the first day of class (payment details are set forth in the registration material).

+ **GOYA FIRESIDE CHAT TOMORROW:** This Monday, immediately following the Paraklesis service, GOYA will be having a fireside chat at Church.

+ **LOCATION CHANGE: SENIOR SYNAXIS 9th ANNUAL PICNIC** will now take place *at Ascension* on Thursday, August 17<sup>th</sup> from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Please contact Elaine Beck at 847.367.5227 if you plan to attend.

+ **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). Register by Aug. 18 for best rate.

+ **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!

+ **MID-SUMMER SOCIAL A GREAT SUCCESS!** The Koinonia Men's Ministry would like to acknowledge the following donations which helped make our second annual summer fellowship gathering in mid-July a great success: Maria Vlahos donated her homemade treats; Tom Kiriakos donated the cookies and water; Steve Sintetas supplied the ice cream; Nick Marino the chips; Fr. Sotiri and Alpha Bakery the buns, and Georgeanne Marx, who donated the hot dogs and fixings. Thanks, also, to our team of servers: The Hugdahl family, Bill Athenson, Tom Vabakos, Hunter Duitsman, Tom Kiriakos, Steve Sintetas, Nick Marino and Alex & Georgeanne Marx. Next Up - the Family Picnic, September 10th following the Divine Liturgy. Stay tuned for details!

+ **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