

Resurrectional Apolytikion in the Plagal Fourth Mode

From on high didst Thou descend, O Compassionate One; to burial of three days hast Thou submitted that Thou mightest free us from our passions. O our Life and Resurrection, Lord, glory be to Thee.

Apolytikion for All Saints in the Fourth Mode

Adorned in the blood of Thy Martyrs throughout all the world as in purple and fine linen, Thy Church, though them, doth cry unto Thee, O Christ God: Send down Thy compassions upon Thy people; grant peace to Thy commonwealth, and great mercy to our souls.

Apolytikion for Apostle Bartholomew in the Third Mode

O Holy Apostles, intercede with the merciful God that He grant unto our souls forgiveness of offenses.

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.

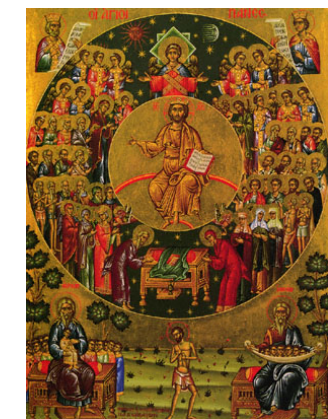
Seasonal Kontakion in the Plagal Fourth Mode

As the first-fruits of our nature to the Planter of created things, the world presenteth the God-bearing martyred Saints in off'ring unto Thee, O Lord. Through their earnest entreaties, keep Thy Church in deep peace and divine tranquillity, through the pure Theotokos, O Thou Who art greatly merciful.

The reading is from St. Paul's Letter to the Hebrews 11:33-40; 12:1-2.

BRETHREN, all the saints through faith conquered kingdoms, enforced justice, received promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Some were tortured, refusing to accept release, that they might rise again to a better life. Others suffered mocking and scourging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were tempted, they were killed with the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, afflicted, ill-treated - of whom the world was not worthy - wandering over deserts and mountains and in dens and caves of the earth. And all these, though well attested by their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had foreseen something better for us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect. Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith.

The Gospel of Matthew 10:32-33; 37-38; 19:27-30



The Lord said to his disciples, "Every one who acknowledges me before men, I also will acknowledge before my Father who is in heaven; but whoever denies me before men, I also will deny him before my Father who is in heaven. He who loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and he who loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; and he who does not take his cross and follow me is not worthy of me." Then Peter said in reply, "Lo, we have left everything and followed you. What then shall we have?" Jesus said to them, "Truly, I say to you, in the new world, when the Son of man shall sit on his glorious throne, you who have followed me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. And every one who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or lands, for my name's sake, will receive a hundredfold, and inherit eternal life. But many that are first will be last, and the last first."

Ascension of Our Lord Greek Orthodox Church



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WEEKLY PARISH BULLETIN June 11 - 18, 2017

Welcome to Our Visitors

WE ARE GLAD you joined us in worship today. We hope your visit to Ascension 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

"If I benefit those who do me harm, this brings me peace. Because, in the end, everybody makes stumbling-blocks for us. With a word, a look, the way they walk, their joy, their sorrow, they interfere with our own progress. This is why it requires fear and trembling so as not to react to these stumbling-blocks which disturb the peace of our mind and heart, in case they become the cause of us being separated from God."

Elder Aimilianos Simonopetritis

Weekly Calendar

Sunday **June 11** **All Saints**

8:15 a.m. Orthros
9:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy
 Coffee Fellowship

Monday **June 12** **Apostles Fast Begins**

Sunday **June 18** **2nd Sunday of Matthew** **Father's Day**

8:15 a.m. Orthros
9:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy
 Coffee Fellowship

+ We mourn the loss of our Shepherd, His Eminence Metropolitan Iakovos, a devout man of dignity, uncompromising faith and love for his flock. Archbishop Demetrios of America presided at his funeral service this past Friday, June 9th, at Annunciation Cathedral in Chicago.

+ On this day, June 11th, the Church commemorates the Apostle Bartholomew, which happens to be the Feastday of His All-Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew. We wish his All-Holiness a blessed Feastday and pray our Lord grant him many years as he leads our Church.

Our Sunday Volunteers

Prospora: Anastasia Anton & Sophie Beris

Epistle Reader: James Facklis

Ministry Greeters: Catherine and Mary Greub

Ushers: Bill Athenson (UIC), Bob Mantzoros, Diane Sigalos, Peter Venetos, Doug Hugdahl, Alex Marx, Andrea Rogers, Jeannie Thomas

Prayer Requests for Health

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

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.

Announcements

+ **WE ARE IN NEED OF 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.

+ **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 five Pews yet to be donated, and Personalized Brick Pavers (\$1,000). Please act fast as we are now approximately 86% 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 him at frsotirios@ascensiongoc.com.

+ **STEWARDSHIP** We are stewards of all God's blessings, including His Gospel Message. We don't bury our blessings in the ground, but as in the parable of the stewards, we strive to multiply our gifts and offer them back to God. As with our financial blessings, so it is with our stewardship of our families, the environment, the Gospel Message and all of God's gifts. To date, the total pledged for Ascension in 2017 is \$281,424 by 243 families. If you have not submitted your 2017 pledge, please do so today!

+ **THE MEN'S MINISTRY WILL ANNOUNCE THE NEW DATE FOR THE PARISH GOLF OUTING** as soon as it is rescheduled. The ministry is working diligently to coordinate with our Church calendar as well as the Deerfield Golf Club to find a suitable date. Stay tuned!

+ **JUNE 22nd SENIOR SYNAXIS TRIP TO GOLD PYRAMID HOUSE:** Please RSVP To Elaine Beck ASAP if you are able to join the Seniors on June 22nd to tour the Gold Pyramid House in Wadsworth, IL, a mysterious, unusual and powerful home built with more gold than any other! Cost is \$20/person and friends and family are welcome! Details were sent to seniors a few weeks ago. After the tour, arrangements are being made to meet at a nearby restaurant for lunch. For more information and to reserve your spot, please call Elaine ASAP at 847.367.5227.

+ **BOOKSTORE NEWS:** If you've been thinking about buying something from our bookstore, now is the time! We will soon be packing up all our books, icons, cards, etc. and putting them in storage until our new building is completed. So stop on by after Liturgy.

+ **THE PANHELLENIC SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION** will host its annual gala next Saturday, June 17th at the Hilton, Chicago. For more information, or to purchase your tickets online, visit www.panhellenicsf.org, or call 312.357.6432.

+ **UPCOMING GREEK FESTIVALS:** Support our local Metropolis Churches and celebrate summer Greek-style!
June 16-18: St. Demetrios, Elmhurst
June 16-18: St. Nicholas, Oak Lawn
June 23-25: Annunciation Cathedral, Chicago
June 23-25: St. Nectarios, Palatine