## Hymns and Holy Scripture Readings

### **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 Robe of the Theotokos in the Plagal Fourth Mode

O Ever-Virgin Theotokos, shelter of mankind, thou hast bestowed upon thy people a mighty investure, even thine immaculate body's raiment and sash, which by thy seedless childbirth have remained incorrupt; for in thee nature and time are made new. Wherefore, we implore thee to grant peace to the world, and great mercy to our souls.

#### **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.

Άνελήφθης ἐν δόξῃ, Χριστὲ ὁ Θεὸς ἡμῶν, χαροποιήσας τοὺς Μαθητάς, τῇ ἐπαγγελίᾳ τοῦ ἀγίου Πνεύματος βεβαιωθέντων αὐτῶν διὰ τῆς εὐλογίας, ὅτι σὺ εἶ ὁ Υἰός τοῦ Θεοῦ, ὁ λυτρωτὴς τοῦ κόσμου.

### **Seasonal Kontakion in the Fourth Mode**

O godly shelter that dost cover all mankind, the sacred robe that covered thy sacred body hast thou bestowed on all the faithful graciously, O pure Virgin, as a robe of divine incorruption. As we celebrate with love its august deposition, we cry to thee with fear, O graced of God: Rejoice, O modest one, boast of the Christian race.

### The reading is from St. Paul's Letter to the Hebrews 9:1-7.

BRETHREN, the first covenant had regulations for worship and an earthly sanctuary. For a tent was prepared, the outer one, in which were the lampstand and the table and the bread of the Presence; it is called the Holy Place. Behind the second curtain stood a tent called the Holy of Holies, having the golden altar of incense and the ark of the covenant covered on all sides with gold, which contained a golden urn holding the manna, and Aaron's rod that budded, and the tables of the covenant; above it were the cherubim of glory overshadowing the mercy seat. Of these things we cannot now speak in detail. These preparations having thus been made, the priests go continually into the outer tent, performing their ritual duties; but into the second only the high priest goes, and he but once a year, and not without taking blood which he offers for himself and for the errors of the people.

### The Gospel of Matthew 8:5-13



At that time, as Jesus entered Capernaum, a centurion came forward to Him, beseeching Him and saying, "Lord, my servant is lying paralyzed at home, in terrible distress." And He said to him, "I will come and heal him." But the centurion answered Him, "Lord, I am not worthy to have You come under my roof; but only say the word, and my servant will be healed. For I am a man under authority, with soldiers under me; and I say to one, 'Go,' and he goes, and to another, 'Come,' and he comes, and to my slave, 'Do this,' and he does it." When Jesus heard him, He marveled, and said to those who followed him, "Truly, I say to you, not even in Israel have I found such faith. I tell you, many will come from east and west and sit at table with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven, while the sons of the kingdom will be thrown into the outer darkness; there men will weep and gnash their teeth." And to the centurion Jesus said, "Go; be it done for you as you have believed." And the servant was healed at that very moment.

# Ascension of Our Lord Greek Orthodox Church



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# WEEKLY PARISH BULLETIN July 2 - 9, 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

"We're far too concerned with the things of this world and so we're becoming poorer spiritually, because we're falling between two stools. You can't drink from the cup of the Savior and from that of His opponent. We have to choose who we're going to serve: God or the things of the world. You can't serve God and Mammon at the same time."

Elder Tadej Vitovnicki

## Weekly Calendar

<u>Sunday</u> <u>July 2</u> <u>4th Sunday of Matthew</u>

8:15 a.m. Orthros

9:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy

Memorial for the Souls of the Servants of God, Basil Anagnos (9 yrs) & Antigone Lambros (8 yrs); Artemis Papoulis (1yr) &

Haralampos Papoulis (13yrs)

Coffee Fellowship hosted by the Vavilis Family

<u>Tuesday</u> <u>July 4</u> <u>Independence Day</u>

Office Closed

Thursday July 6

10:30 a.m. Senior Synaxis (rescheduled) Field Trip to

Gold Pyramid House, Wadsworth, IL

Sunday July 9 5th Sunday of Matthew

8:15 a.m. Orthros

9:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy

Coffee Fellowship

## Our Sunday Volunteers

Epistle Reader: Thomas Kiriakos
Ministry Greeter: Katherine Schreiber
Ushers: David Rutkowski (UIC), Kathie
Rutkowski, Bob Mantzoros, Alex Marx,
Doug Hugdahl, Carol Stamas, 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, Dee, 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

- + THE OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED ON TUESDAY in observance of Independence Day. We wish you all a safe holiday and pray that our Lord grants peace to our country and the world. May God Bless America.
- + 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.
- **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 \$297,524 by 256 families. If you have not submitted your 2017 pledge, please do so today!
- + WE ARE IN NEED OF COFFEE FELLLOWSHIP HOSTS IN AUGUST: 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.
- + WE WISH ALL OF OUR YOUTH ATTENDING FANARI CAMP SESSIONS THIS SUMMER an uplifting, safe, fun and blessed week. May God grant you safe travels and spiritually guide you while you are away from home.
- **+ HOSPITAL CALLS, NURSING HOME & HOME-BOUND PARISHIONER VISITS.** If you know someone who is hospitalized, in a nursing home or is home-bound, and they would like Fr. Sotiri to visit them, please contact our office.
- + WEEKLY "SANCTUARY VIGIL LIGHT" DONATIONS may be offered for the health of individuals, family members or in memory of departed loved ones. A \$75.00 donation for the oil for each week's vigil lights is requested. Names will be acknowledged in the Sunday Bulletin. Call the Church Office to reserve your week.
- **+ 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.
- + UPCOMING GREEK FESTIVALS: Support our local Metropolis Churches and celebrate summer Greek-style!

July 8-9: St. Andrew, Chicago

July 8-9: St. Spyridon, Palos Heights

July 14-16: St. Sophia, Elgin

July 21-23: All Saints, Joliet

July 22-23: SS Peter & Paul, Glenview

July 28-30: St. Demetrios, Libertyville