

## Hymns and Holy Scripture Readings

### Resurrectional Apolytikion in the Plagal Second Mode

Angelic powers were above Thy tomb, and they that guarded Thee became as dead. And Mary stood by the grave seeking Thine immaculate Body. Thou hast despoiled Hades and wast not tried thereby. Thou didst meet the Virgin and didst grant us life. O Thou Who didst arise from the dead, Lord, glory be to Thee.

### Apolytikion for Hieromartyr Phocas in the Fourth Mode

As a sharer of the ways and a successor to the throne of the Apostles, O inspired of God, thou foundest discipline to be a means of ascent to divine vision. Wherefore, having rightly divided the word of truth, thou didst also contest for the Faith even unto blood, O Hieromartyr Phocas. Intercede with Christ our God that our souls be saved.

### 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.

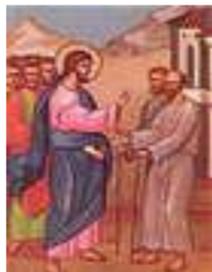
### Seasonal Kontakion in the Second Mode

O Protection of Christians that cannot be put to shame, mediation unto the creator most constant: O despise not the voices of those who have sinned; but be quick, O good one, to come unto our aid, who in faith cry unto thee: Hasten to intercession and speed thou to make supplication, O thou who dost ever protect, O Theotokos, them that honor thee.

### The reading is from St. Paul's Letter to the Romans 15:1-7.

BRETHREN, we who are strong ought to bear with the failings of the weak, and not to please ourselves; let each of us please his neighbor for his good, to edify him. For Christ did not please himself; but, as it is written, "The reproaches of those who reproached thee fell on me." For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of your Lord Jesus Christ. Welcome one another, therefore, as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.

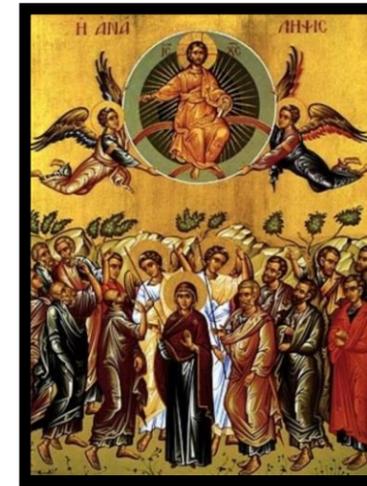
### The Reading is from Matthew 9:27-35



At that time, as Jesus passed by, two blind men followed him, crying aloud, "Have mercy on us, Son of David." When he entered the house, the blind men came to him; and Jesus said to them, "Do you believe that I am able to do this?" They said to him, "Yes, Lord." Then he touched their eyes, saying, "According to your faith be it done to you." And their eyes were opened. And Jesus sternly charged them, "See that no one knows it." But they went away and spread his fame through all that district. As they were going away, behold, a dumb demoniac was brought to him. And when the demon had been cast out, the dumb man spoke; and the crowds marveled, saying, "Never was anything like this seen in Israel." But the Pharisees said, "He casts out demons by the prince of demons." And

Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every disease and every infirmity among the people.

## 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](http://www.ascensiongoc.com)

Office e-mail: [reneemaltezos@ascensiongoc.com](mailto:reneemaltezos@ascensiongoc.com)

## WEEKLY PARISH BULLETIN July 23 - 30, 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

*"When you seek healing, take heed to your conscience. Do what it says, and you will find profit."*

**-St. Symeon the New Theologian**

## Weekly Calendar

<b>Sunday</b> 8:15 a.m. 9:30 a.m.	<b>July 23</b> Orthros Divine Liturgy Memorial for the Soul of the Servant of God Nicholas Anagnostopoulos (1yr) Midsummer Social	<b>7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Matthew</b> <b><u>Ezekiel the Prophet</u></b>
<b>Wednesday</b> 8:15 a.m. 9:15 a.m.	<b>July 26</b> Orthros Divine Liturgy	<b>St. Paraskevi of Rome</b>
<b>Thursday</b> 8:15 a.m. 9:15 a.m.	<b>July 27</b> Orthros Divine Liturgy	<b>St. Panteleimon the Great Martyr</b>
<b>Sunday</b> 8:15 a.m. 9:30 a.m.	<b>July 30</b> Orthros Divine Liturgy	<b>8<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Matthew</b>

## 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.

## Our Sunday Volunteers

**Prosporo Bakers:** Tasia Alexakos & Sophie Beris  
**Epistle Reader:** Nick Papastratakos  
**Ministry Greeters:** Faye and Steve Kopplin  
**Ushers:** Peter Venetos (UIC), Carol Stamas Steve Sintetas, Alex Marx, Bill Athenson, Tom Papastefan, Andrea Rogers

## 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, Katerini

## Condolences

**OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHIES** to the family of Christine Kircos beloved wife of Spiro Kircos and mother of Suzanne (Jim) Saric who fell asleep in the Lord Saturday, July 15<sup>th</sup>. We pray that God grant his servant Christine eternal rest in the Kingdom of Heaven. May her memory be eternal.

## 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 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).
- + **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 \$309,104 by 261 families. If you have not submitted your 2017 pledge, please do so today!
- + **FAST OF THEOTOKOS** begins on August 1<sup>st</sup> and ends with the Feast of the Dormition on August 15<sup>th</sup>. There will be services dedicated to the Theotokos every weekday evening during this period. There will also be an opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Holy Unction on August 11<sup>th</sup>. Traditionally, we do not consume meat, dairy or fish during those days with the exception of the Feast of the Transfiguration where fish is allowed.
- + **SAVE THE DATE: THE FAMILY SYNAXIS RETREAT** will be held on Labor Day weekend, September 1-3, at the St. Iakovos Retreat Center. More details to come!
- + **ANNUAL PARISH GOLF OUTING & DINNER** Ascension's 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Parish Golf Outing and Dinner has been rescheduled for *Friday September 15 at Deerfield Golf Club*.
- + **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.
- + **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.
- + **UPCOMING GREEK FESTIVALS:** Support our local Metropolis Churches and celebrate summer Greek-style!

July 21-23: All Saints, Joliet  
July 22-23: SS Peter & Paul, Glenview  
July 29-30: Assumption, Chicago

July 22-23: Assumption, Homer Glen  
July 28-30: St. Demetrios, Libertyville  
August 18-20: St. Demetrios, Chicago