

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 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, Χριστὲ 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 5:1-10.

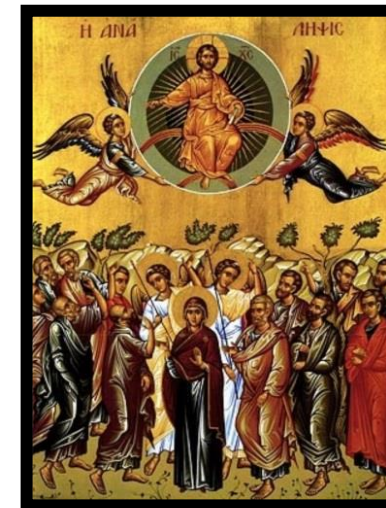
BRETHREN, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through him we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in our hope of sharing the glory of God. More than that, we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit which has been given to us. While we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Why, one will hardly die for a righteous man -- though perhaps for a good man one will dare even to die. But God shows his love for us in that while we were yet sinners Christ died for us. Since, therefore, we are now justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life.

The Gospel of Matthew 6:22-33



The Lord said, "The eye is the lamp of the body. So, if your eye is sound, your whole body will be full of light; but if your eye is not sound, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light in you is darkness, how great is the darkness! No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon. Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you shall eat or what you shall drink, nor about your body, what you shall put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And which of you by being anxious can add one cubit to his span of life? And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin; yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you, O men of little faith? Therefore do not be anxious, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' For the Gentiles seek all these things; and your heavenly Father knows you need them all. But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things shall be yours as well."

Ascension of Our Lord Greek Orthodox Church



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WEEKLY PARISH BULLETIN June 25 – July 2, 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 one sees a wild tree in a garden, no one thinks of judging the tree itself. Everyone, however, censures the gardener who let it grow as it wished, thus letting it become wild. In the same way, parents are responsible for the weeds in their children's hearts."

+Bishop Irenaeus -1904

Weekly Calendar

Sunday 8:15 a.m. 9:30 a.m.	June 25 Orthros Divine Liturgy Philoptochos Oath of Office Coffee Fellowship hosted by Parish Council	3rd Sunday of Matthew
Monday 7 p.m.	June 26 Parish Council	
Wednesday 7 p.m.	June 28 Great Vespers @ SS. Peter & Paul, Glenview	
Thursday 7 p.m.	June 29 Services held @ SS Peter & Paul Great Vespers @ Holy Apostles, Westchester	SS Peter & Paul
Friday	June 30 Services held @ Holy Apostles	Holy Apostles
Sunday 8:15 a.m. 9:30 a.m.	July 2 Orthros Divine Liturgy Memorial for the Souls of the Servants of God, Basil Anagnos (9 yrs) and Antigone Lambros (8 yrs)	4th Sunday of Matthew

Our Sunday Volunteers

Prospora: Mary Greub and
Mary Kakavas
Epistle Reader: Nick Gatsis
Ministry Greeter: Kay James
Ushers: Nick Marino (UIC), Carol Stamas,
Mia Connolly, Alex Marx, Doug Hugdahl,
Tom Kiriakos, Steve Demet, Chris
Chatzidakis

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

Condolences

OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHIES to the family of George A. Collias who fell asleep in the Lord Tuesday, June 13th. Our sympathies also to the family of Connie James who fell asleep in the Lord Thursday, June 22nd. We pray that God grant His servant George and His servant Connie, eternal rest in the Kingdom of Heaven. May their memories be eternal.

Announcements

- + **NEWLY APPOINTED PHILOPTOCHOS BOARD:** Father Sotiri will administer the Philoptochos oath of office to the newly elected board following today's Divine Liturgy. We wish all new and returning board members God's blessings as they lead Ascension's chapter in carrying out philanthropic acts of love and charity.
- + **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.
- + **WE ARE IN NEED OF COFFEE FELLOWSHIP HOSTS 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 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 \$288,774 by 252 families. If you have not submitted your 2017 pledge, please do so today!
- + **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!
June 23-25: Annunciation Cathedral, Chicago
July 8-9: St. Andrew, Chicago
July 14-16: St. Sophia, Elgin
July 21-23: All Saints, Joliet
July 22-23: SS Peter & Paul, Glenview
June 23-25: St. Nectarios, Palatine
July 8-9: St. Spyridon, Palos Heights
July 14-16: St. Haralambos, Niles
July 22-23: Assumption, Homer Glen
July 28-30: St. Demetrios, Libertyville

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.