

Hymns and Holy Scripture Readings

Apolytikion of Great and Holy Pascha in the Plagal First Mode

Christ is risen from the dead, by death, trampling down upon death, and to those in the tombs He has granted life.

Resurrectional Apolytikion in the Fourth Mode

Having learned the joyful proclamation of the Resurrection from the Angel, and having cast off the ancestral condemnation, the women disciples of the Lord spake to the Apostles exultantly: Death is despoiled and Christ God is risen, granting great mercy to the world.

Apolytikion for Mid-Pentecost in the Plagal Fourth Mode

At Mid-feast give Thou my thirsty soul to drink of the waters of piety; for Thou, O Saviour, didst cry out to all: Whosoever is thirsty, let him come to Me and drink. Wherefore, O Well-spring of life, 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, 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

Though You went down into the tomb, You destroyed Hades' power, and You rose the victor, Christ God, saying to the myrrh-bearing women, "Hail!" and granting peace to Your disciples, You who raise up the fallen.

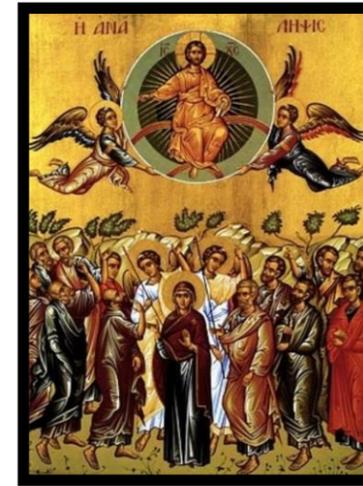
The reading is from Acts of the Apostles 11:19-30.

IN THOSE DAYS, those apostles who were scattered because of the persecution that arose over Stephen traveled as far as Phoenicia and Cyprus and Antioch, speaking the word to none except Jews. But there were some of them, men of Cyprus and Cyrene, who on coming to Antioch spoke to the Greeks also, preaching the Lord Jesus. And the hand of the Lord was with them, and a great number that believed turned to the Lord. News of this came to the ears of the church in Jerusalem, and they sent Barnabas to Antioch. When he came and saw the grace of God, he was glad; and he exhorted them all to remain faithful to the Lord with steadfast purpose; for he was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and of faith. And a large company was added to the Lord. So Barnabas went to Tarsus to look for Saul; and when he had found him, he brought him to Antioch. For a whole year they met with the church, and taught a large company of people; and in Antioch the disciples were for the first time called Christians. Now in these days prophets came down from Jerusalem to Antioch. And one of them named Agabos stood up and foretold by the Spirit that there would be a great famine over all the world; and this took place in the days of Claudius. And the disciples determined, every one according to his ability, to send relief to the brethren who lived in Judea, and they did so, sending it to the elders by the hand of Barnabas and Saul.

The Gospel of John 4:5-42

At that time, Jesus came to a city of Samaria, called Sychar, near the field that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there, and so Jesus, wearied as He was with His journey, sat down beside the well. It was about the sixth hour. There came a woman of Samaria to draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." For His disciples had gone away into the city to buy food. The Samaritan woman said to Him, "How is it that You, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans. Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked Him and He would have given you living water." The woman said to Him, "Sir, you have nothing to draw with, and the well is deep; where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well, and drank from it himself, and his sons, and his cattle?" Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will thirst again, but whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst; the water that I shall give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life." The woman said to Him, "Sir, give me this water, that I may not thirst, nor come here to draw." Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come here." The woman answered Him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband'; for you have had five husbands, and he whom you now have is not your husband; this you said truly." The woman said to Him, "Sir, I perceive that you are a prophet. Our fathers worshiped on this mountain; and you say that Jerusalem is the place where men ought to worship." Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for such the Father seeks to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth." The woman said to Him, "I know that the Messiah is coming (He who is called Christ); when He comes, He will show us all things." Jesus said to her, "I who speak to you am He." Just then his disciples came. They marveled that He was talking with a woman, but none said, "What do You wish?" or, "Why are You talking with her?" So the woman left her water jar, and went away into the city and said to the people, "Come, see a man who told me all that I ever did. Can this be the Christ?" They went out of the city and were coming to Him. Meanwhile the disciples besought Him, saying "Rabbi, eat." But He said to them, "I have food to eat of which you do not know." So the disciples said to one another, "Has anyone brought him food?" Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of Him who sent me, and to accomplish His work. Do you not say, 'There are yet four months, then comes the harvest'? I tell you, lift up your eyes, and see how the fields are already white for harvest. He who reaps receives wages, and gathers fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. For here the saying holds true, 'One sows and another reaps.' I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor; others have labored, and you have entered into their labor." Many Samaritans from that city believed in Him because of the woman's testimony. "He told me all that I ever did." So when the Samaritans came to Him, they asked Him to stay with them; and He stayed there two days. And many more believed because of His word. They said to the woman, "It is no longer because of your words that we believe, for we have heard ourselves, and we know that this is indeed Christ the Savior of the world."

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

Office e-mail: reneemaltezos@ascensiongoc.com

WEEKLY PARISH BULLETIN

May 14 - 21, 2017

Χριστός Ανέστη! Αληθώς Ανέστη!
Christ is Risen! Truly He is Risen!

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.

Resurrection Hymn

Christ is risen from the dead, by death, trampling down upon death, and to those in the tombs, He has granted life.

Χριστός ανέστη εκ νεκρῶν, θανάτῳ θάνατον πατήσας, και τοις εν τοις μνήμασι ζῶν χαρισάμενος.

Christos anesti eknekron, thanato thanaton patisas, ke tis en tis mnimasi, zoin charisamenos.

Spiritual Reflection

The example of the good Samaritan shows that we must not abandon those in whom even the faintest amount of faith is still alive.

St. Ambrose of Milan

Weekly Calendar

Sunday 8:15 a.m. 9:15 a.m. 9:30 a.m.	May 14 Orthros Sunday Church School Divine Liturgy Coffee Fellowship hosted by Koinonia Men's Ministry and GOYA in honor of Mother's Day	Sunday of The Samaritan Woman Mother's Day
Monday 5:45 p.m. 7:30 p.m.	May 15 JOY/Jr. GOYA GOYA	
Tuesday 4:45 p.m. 7 p.m.	May 16 Greek School Parish Council Meeting	
Wednesday 10 a.m. 6:30 p.m.	May 17 HOPE Paraklesis	
Thursday 6:15 p.m. 7 p.m. 7:45 p.m.	May 18 Adult Intermediate/Advanced Greek School Philoptochos General Meeting and Elections Adult Beginner Greek School	
Friday 6 p.m.	May 19 Vespers and Paraklesis/Supplication Service to the Virgin Mary and Veneration of the Miraculous "Myrrh-Streaming" Kardiotissa Icon @ St. John the Baptist, Des Plaines	
Saturday 11 a.m. 7 p.m.	May 20 Baptism: Alexander, Son of Scott and Christina Parker Sponsor: Danny Papavasiliou Great Vespers, Sts. Constantine and Helen, Palos Hills	
Sunday 8:15 a.m. 9:15 a.m. 9:30 a.m.	May 21 Orthros Sunday Church School Divine Liturgy followed by Sunday Church School program Coffee Fellowship	Sts. Constantine and Helen

+ **OUR FEASTDAY:** Our beloved Ascension's Hierarchical Great Vespers will take place on Wednesday, May 24th at 7 p.m. A reception will follow the Service hosted by our Philoptochos. Please make every effort to attend. On Thursday, May 25th, the day of our Feastday, Orthros will be at 8:15 a.m. followed by the Hierarchical Divine Liturgy at 9:30 a.m. Fellowship, hosted by our Senior Synaxis, will follow. Our Parish family looks forward to hosting and worshipping with many local clergy and faithful throughout the Metropolis.

+ **DONATIONS FOR OUR FEASTDAY** – If anyone wishes to donate the flowers that will decorate the Icon of the Ascension, or the loaves for the Artoclasia, please contact the Church office at 847.482.1200. The cost of the flowers for the two Ascension Icons is \$150.00 and the bread for the Artoclasia for our Great Vespers amounts to \$190.00, and for our actual Feastday \$95.00. Your generosity is always appreciated.

+ **REMOVING FLOWERS FROM THE KOUVOUKLION** – Our Senior Synaxis members will gather at Church on Tuesday, May 23rd at 10:00 a.m. to remove the flowers from the Kouvouklion. All are welcome. Any questions, please call Elaine Beck at (847) 367-5227.

Our Sunday Volunteers

Prospora: Mary Kakavas
Epistle Reader: Bill Athenson
Ushers: UIC Nick Marino, Steve Sintetas, Peter Venetos, Carol Stamas, Tom Papastefan, Doug Hugdahl

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

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), the Adult Baptismal Font (\$75,000), and the community center stage (\$50,000). 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** Stewardship is recognizing the amazing wonder and power of grace that we did not deserve. It is the attitude of gratitude, of being thankful in all things, even when we do not feel the gratitude or see it. To date, the total pledged for Ascension in 2017 is \$276,024 by 229 families. If you have not submitted your 2017 pledge, please do so today!

+ **FAITH AND JOY:** In lieu of meeting at Ascension on Friday, May 19th for our end of the ministry year gathering, Faith/Joy members as well as all parishioners are encouraged to attend St. John the Baptist parish in Des Plaines and have the blessed opportunity to venerate the miraculous myrrh-streaming icon of Kardiotissa. See insert for more information.

+ **REMINDER: NEXT WEEK IS THE LAST WEEK OF SUNDAY CHURCH SCHOOL UNTIL THE FALL.** Our Sunday Church School year concludes next Sunday May 21st, with a presentation immediately following Liturgy. Please note that OCMC Coin boxes are due in the office this week.

+ **TRISAGION SERVICES ON MONDAY, MAY 29TH (MEMORIAL DAY)** – Please note that Fr. Sotiri will conduct a Trisagion Service again this year at two local cemeteries: Ridgewood cemetery (Des Plaines) at 9:00 a.m.; and, Memorial Park (Skokie) at 10:30 a.m. Please meet Father at the entrance gate of each cemetery.

+ **JR. OLYMPICS:** Jr. Olympics takes place Memorial Day weekend. Representing the Ascension this year will be 2 Coed Soccer Teams (7-9 yrs and 10-12 yrs); 2 coed Basketball Teams (7-10 yrs and 11-13 yrs); Girls Volleyball (13-18); Boys Volleyball (13-18); Coed Softball (13-18); along with Track and Field Events (ages 8 through 18), Wrestling, Table Tennis (13-15); Chess/Checkers/Tavli, Swimming (8-13). If you haven't turned in your registration/waiver form, please do so as soon as possible, forms to be signed by parents and participants (both sides), are needed in order to meet the Diocese requirements. You can scan and email signed forms to Esther Tegel (etegel2@gmail.com); or drop them off in the Youth Mailbox in the office. The same neon yellow shirts will be worn this year. **If you or your child needs to order a shirt, please email or speak to Esther Tegel today** as orders will be placed tomorrow. Please let Esther know if you have any other questions, interest in the teams, volunteering or coaching. More information on Jr. Olympics is available on the youth pages of our website.

+ **PHILOPTOCHOS MEETING AND ELECTIONS:** Philoptochos will have a General Meeting and hold Elections this Thursday, May 18th at church at 7pm. Please join us for old-fashioned Chicago-style food, fun and voting! Please contact Anna Duros with any questions at 847-370-2662.

+ **IS SOMEONE IN YOUR HOUSE REACHING A GRADUATION MILESTONE THIS YEAR?** Ascension's annual graduate tribute will take place on Sunday, June 4th, following the Divine Liturgy. Please call the church office no later than Monday, May 29th to submit the name(s) of your graduate(s) from Elementary School, High School, College, Graduate or Post-Graduate programs so they may be recognized on that day. Thank you.

+ **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.

+ **JOIN US FOR THE 2017 ASCENSION GOLF OUTING!** The Koinonia Men's Ministry will be hosting the annual Ascension Golf Outing and Family Dinner on Friday, June 9th at the Deerfield Golf Course. 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 visit our website for more information and plan to join us!

+ **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 each week's vigil lights is requested. Names will be acknowledged in the Sunday Bulletin. Call the Church Office to reserve your week.