

### Resurrectional Apolytikion in the Grave Mode

Thou didst abolish death by Thy Cross; Thou didst open Paradise to the thief; Thou didst transform the myrrh-bearers' lamentation, and didst bid Thine Apostles to preach that Thou art risen, O Christ God, granting great mercy to the world.

### 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 Fourth Mode

Today, the most pure temple of the Savior, the precious bridal chamber and Virgin, the sacred treasure of God, enters the house of the Lord, bringing the grace of the Divine Spirit. The Angels of God praise her. She is the heavenly tabernacle.

### The reading is from St. Paul's Letter to the Ephesians 2:14-22.

Brethren, Christ is our peace, who has made us both one, and has broken down the dividing wall of hostility, by abolishing in his flesh the law of commandments and ordinances, that he might create in himself one new man in place of the two, so making peace, and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the cross, thereby bringing the hostility to an end. And he came and preached peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near; for through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father. So then you are no longer strangers and sojourners, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, in whom the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; in whom you also are built into it for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.

### The Reading is from Luke 12:16-21



The Lord said this parable: "The land of a rich man brought forth plentifully; and he thought to himself, 'What shall I do, for I have nowhere to store my crops?' And he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns, and build larger ones; and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, 'Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; take your ease, eat, drink, be merry.' But God said to him, 'Fool! This night your soul is required of you; and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?' So is he who lays up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God." As He said these things, He cried out: "He who has ears to hear, let him hear."

## 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: [info@ascensiongoc.com](mailto:info@ascensiongoc.com)

## WEEKLY PARISH BULLETIN November 19 - 26, 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

*"A steward is one who manages another's property or resources; the Christian, therefore, is a steward of everything he is and has, including his own body and soul, for according to the mystery of salvation, we possess nothing from ourselves, not even our own life and being; all belongs to God and is given to us by the Father through His Son because of the richness of His love and mercy.*

Excerpt taken from *The Theology of Stewardship in Light of Orthodox Tradition* by Fr. Paul Wesche

## Weekly Calendar

<b>Sunday</b> 8:15 a.m. 9:15 a.m. 9:30 a.m.	<b>November 19</b> Orthros Sunday Church School Divine Liturgy Girls' Chant Group Practice following Liturgy Coffee Fellowship hosted by Arianna Stevens, Pat Vlahos and Maria Vlahos	<b>9<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Luke</b>
<b>Monday</b> 9 a.m.	<b>November 20</b> Divine Liturgy	
<b>Tuesday</b> 10 a.m.	<b>November 21</b> Divine Liturgy @ the Entrance of the Theotokos Chapel at the Greek American Rehab Center, Wheeling	<b>Entrance of the Theotokos</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>November 23</b> Church Office Closed	<b>Thanksgiving Day</b>
<b>Friday</b> 7 p.m.	<b>November 24</b> Church Office Closed Great Vespers @ St. Katherine Chapel of Assumption Church, Chicago	
<b>Saturday</b> 8:15 a.m. 9:15 a.m. 5 p.m.	<b>November 25</b> Orthros @ 1221 N. Riverwoods House Divine Liturgy Vespers @ 1221 N. Riverwoods House	<b>St. Katherine the Great Martyr</b>
<b>Sunday</b> 8:15 a.m. 9:15 a.m. 9:30 a.m.	<b>November 26</b> Orthros Sunday Church School Divine Liturgy	<b>13<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Luke</b>

+ **SACRAMENTS** With the Lord's blessings, the Liturgical life of our church will continue in earnest during our construction project. We have made arrangements for Fr. Sotiri to be able to conduct Baptisms and Wedding Sacraments at another Greek Orthodox Church. Fr. Sotiri will hear confessions in the small worship area of the new space at 1221 Riverwoods Road. Weekday services will be held in this worship space as well. **If you'd like to plan a Sacrament (Baptism, Wedding, Confession), or a Funeral, Memorial or Artoclasia, please contact the church office so proper arrangements can be made during our construction period.**

### Thanksgiving Reflections

+ *"Happiness can only be achieved by looking inward and learning to enjoy whatever life has and this requires transforming greed into gratitude."* St John Chrysostom

+ *Enter into His gates with Thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise. Be thankful to Him and bless His name for the Lord is good; His mercy is everlasting, and His truth endures to all generations.* Psalm 100: 4-5

## Our Sunday Volunteers

**Prospora Bakers:** Mary Kakavas and Maria Karalis

**Epistle Reader:** Katherine Schreiber

**Ministry Greeter:** The Saric Family

**Ushers:** Tom Kiriakos (UIC), Tom Papastefan, Peter Venetos, Doug Hugdahl, Steve Sintetas, Carol Stamas, Andrea Rogers

## Prayer Requests for Health

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

## Announcements

+ **THE NATIVITY FAST** takes place November 15—December 24. Fish, wine and olive oil are permitted, except on Wednesdays and Fridays, until December 17. During the Nativity Fast, Fr. Sotiri will celebrate 40 Liturgies for the faithful—Sarantaliturgo. Please see our website or call the Church office for the schedule of services. May God bless us throughout the Nativity Fast, and grant us the ability to focus on Christ's birth through additional prayer, fasting and almsgiving during this blessed advent season.

+ **CONSTRUCTION FUNDING UPDATE:** Since construction on our new church has begun, the capital campaign (now known as the Construction Fund—Finish the Construction Debt-Free) continues its work towards realizing our goal to remain debt-free. To date, we have total pledges and cash on hand of 78 percent of the final construction budget. While this is a tremendous achievement, we are committed in our desire to be mortgage-free and we ask that all stewards open their hearts and pledge what they can to help achieve our goal. Please contact Fr. Sotirios at 847-482-1200, or email at frsotirios@ascensiongoc.com, to donate now. Thank you!

+ **NOVEMBER IS STEWARDSHIP MONTH** Please submit your 2018 pledge card in the next few weeks either by mail, or by dropping it off at the Church office at 1221 N. Riverwoods Rd. Our theme, which we will cultivate in the coming year, is: *"Work at it with all your heart."* We ask for God's blessings as we prayerfully consider how we can offer --from our heart -- our time, talents and treasures to sustain and enhance the spiritual and bountiful Parish life at Ascension in 2018.

+ **OUR PARISH SERVICE PROJECT AT FMSC** - On Monday, November 13th, 45 members of our parish representing JOY, Jr. GOYA, GOYA, Philoptochos and Men's Ministry assembled 26,600 meals at Feed My Starving Children in Libertyville. This is true Christian stewardship and philanthropy! Thank you for giving of your time and talents, especially in advance of the Nativity Season.

+ **WE ARE FORTUNATE TO HAVE ADDITIONAL BOOKS** from our Father T. that will be on sale for \$8 during coffee hour today. Fr. T has graciously donated this book of spiritual reflections to our Parish with the intention that all proceeds go to Ascension's Building Fund. Thank you, Father T!

+ **GINGERBREAD HOUSES:** Our GOYA is offering this popular event again this year, with a little twist due to our space limitations! On December 3rd and 10th after Divine Liturgy, Gingerbread pre-assembled kits will be available for sale. ALL the houses will be sold TO GO so you can decorate them in the comfort of your own home. Houses will cost \$20/each and supplies are limited so make sure you pick one up before they are sold out! All sales will assist GOYA and their upcoming trip to New York this Spring. Please contact Maria Vlahos @ smileygrk@gmail.com / 224.688.0214, if you have any questions.

+ **PARISH COUNCIL NOMINATIONS DUE TODAY!** Our Parish is now accepting nominations of qualified candidates to serve on the Parish Council for 2018-2019. Please call the office or visit our website for additional information and the nomination form. Nomination forms are due to the church office today, Sunday, November 19, 2017, and elections will take place on Sunday, December 10, 2017.

+ **FOOTBALL MANIA WINNER UPDATE FOR WEEK 3:** Jeannie and Jay Thomas, who won \$25.00. Congratulations!

+ **THIS YEAR'S PAN-ORTHODOX CHRISTMAS CONCERT** takes place on Saturday, December 2, 2017, at St. John the Baptist, 2350 E. Dempster Street, Des Plaines. Great Vespers begin at 5 p.m. followed by the concert at 6:30 p.m. (in the Great Hall). The event will feature Orthodox Christian talent in various languages and traditions from the Chicagoland area. Lenten food and gift items will also be available. Free Will Donation: A portion of the proceeds will benefit IOCC.