

### Apolytikion for Palm Sunday in the First Mode

In confirming the common Resurrection, O Christ God, Thou didst raise up Lazarus from the dead before Thy Passion. Wherefore, we also, like the children, bearing the symbols of victory, cry to Thee, the Vanquisher of death: Hosanna in the highest; blessed is He that cometh in the Name of the Lord.

### Apolytikion for Palm Sunday in the Fourth Mode

As by baptism we were buried with Thee, O Christ our God, so by Thy Resurrection we were deemed worthy of immortal life; and praising Thee, we cry: Hosanna in the highest; blessed is He that cometh in the Name of the Lord.

### Seasonal Kontakion in the Plagal Second Mode

In Heaven, He is seated upon a Throne and on earth He rides upon a foal. O Christ our God, accept the praise of the Angels and the hymn of the Children who cry out to You, "Blessed are You who comes to recall Adam."

### The reading is from St. Paul's Letter to the Philippians 4:4-9.

BRETHREN, rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let all men know your forbearance. The Lord is at hand. Have no anxiety about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which passes all understanding, will keep your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is gracious, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, do; and the God of peace will be with you.

### The Gospel of John 12:1-18

Six days before Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, where Lazaros was, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. There they made Him a supper; Martha served, and Lazaros was one of those at table with Him. Mary took a pound of costly ointment of pure nard and anointed the feet of Jesus and wiped His feet with her hair; and the house was filled with the fragrance of the ointment. But Judas Iscariot, one of His disciples (he who was to betray Him), said, "Why was this ointment not sold for three hundred denarii and given to the poor?" This he said, not that he cared for the poor but because he was a thief, and as he had the money box he used to take what was put into it. Jesus said, "Let her alone, let her keep it for the day of my burial. The poor you always have with you, but you do not always have Me."

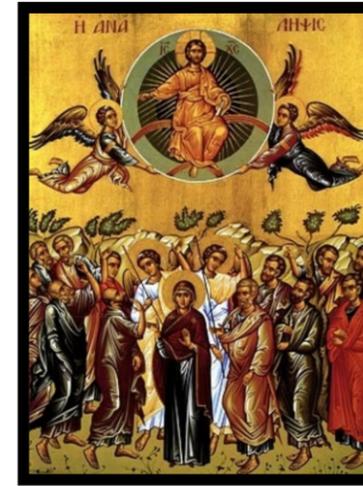
When the great crowd of the Jews learned that He was there, they came, not only on account of Jesus but also to see Lazaros, whom He had raised from the dead. So the chief priests planned to put Lazaros also to death, because on account of him many of the Jews were going away and believing in Jesus.

The next day a great crowd who had come to the feast heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet Him, crying, "Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord, even the King of Israel!" And Jesus found a young donkey and sat upon it; as it is written, "Fear not, daughter of Zion; behold, your king is coming, sitting on a donkey's colt!" His disciples did not understand this at first; but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that this had been written of Him and had been done to Him. The crowd that had been with Him when He called Lazaros out of the tomb and raised him from the dead bore witness. The reason why the crowd went to meet Him was that they heard He had done this sign.



On behalf of Fr. Sotirios Malamis, the Parish Council and the Ascension of Our Lord Parish Family, we wish you a blessed and merciful Holy Week. Please join us for our services this week as we walk with our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ during His Passion and ultimately experience His life-giving Resurrection.

## Ascension of Our Lord Greek Orthodox Church



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### WEEKLY PARISH BULLETIN

April 1 - 15, 2018

### 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

*"Because all their kings had mostly been unjust and covetous and subjected them to wars ... He said to them, 'Trust me, I am not like them. I am gentle and mild.' He demonstrated this by the manner of His entrance, not entering at the head of an army but simply riding on a donkey."*

**St. John Chrysostom**

### 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.

+ 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.

## Weekly Calendar

**All services April 1 – 8 will take place at the University of St. Mary of the Lake, 1000 Maple Ave, Mundelein. See our website for directions and more information.**

<b>Sunday</b> 8:15 a.m. 9:30 a.m.  7 p.m.	<b>April 1</b> Orthros Divine Liturgy with Procession and Blessing of the Palms Philoptochos Bake Sale Service of the NYMPHIOS (Bridegroom)	<b>Palm Sunday</b>
<b>Monday</b> 7 p.m.	<b>April 2</b> Service of the NYMPHIOS (Bridegroom) His Eminence Metropolitan NATHANAEL of Chicago will be presiding	<b>Holy Monday</b>
<b>Tuesday</b> 7 p.m.	<b>April 3</b> Service of the NYMPHIOS (Bridegroom) (Hymn of Kassiani)	<b>Holy Tuesday</b>
<b>Wednesday</b> 3 p.m. 7 p.m.	<b>April 4</b> The Sacrament of Holy Unction Holy Thursday Matins (The Anointing of the Faithful with Holy Unction following Services)	<b>Holy Wednesday</b>
<b>Thursday</b> 7 a.m. 7 p.m.	<b>April 5</b> Divine Liturgy of the Mystical Supper The Reading of the 12 Gospels and Procession of the Crucified Christ	<b>Holy Thursday</b>
<b>Friday</b> 3 p.m. 7 p.m.	<b>April 6</b> Apokathelosis Service (Un-nailing of Christ from the Cross) Service of the Lamentations	<b>Good Friday</b>
<b>Saturday</b> 8 a.m. 10:45 p.m.	<b>April 7</b> Proti-Anastasi (Vesperal Liturgy of St. Basil the Great) Resurrection Service and Paschal Divine Liturgy (Paschal Fellowship – following Services)	<b>Holy Saturday</b>
<b>Sunday</b> 10 a.m.	<b>April 8</b> AGAPE Vespers	<b>Holy Pascha</b>
<b>Tuesday</b> 8 a.m. 9 a.m. 4:45 p.m. 7 p.m.	<b>April 10</b> Orthros Divine Liturgy Greek School Parish Council Meeting	<b>Bright Tuesday / SS Raphael, Nicholas, &amp; Irene</b> <i>Service at 1221 North Riverwoods Rd - Chapel at home Ascension is renting</i>
<b>Thursday</b> 6:15 p.m. 7:45 p.m.	<b>April 12</b> Adult Intermediate/Advanced Greek School Adult Beginner Greek School	<b>Bright Thursday</b>
<b>Friday</b> 9 a.m. 6:30 p.m.	<b>April 13</b> <i>Services will be held at the St. Iakovos Retreat Center</i> GOYA Pascha Greek Night	<b>Bright Friday / Theotokos of the Life-Giving Font</b>
<b>Saturday</b> 10 a.m.  5 p.m.	<b>April 14</b> St. John Chrysostom Oratorical and Arts Festival, St. Demetrios Church, Hammond, IN Vespers @ 1221 North Riverwoods – Chapel	<b>Bright Saturday</b>
<b>Sunday</b> 8:15 a.m. 9:15 a.m. 9:30 a.m.	<b>April 15</b> Orthros Sunday Church School Divine Liturgy	<b>Sunday of Thomas</b> @ Daniel Wright Middle School

## Our Palm Sunday Volunteers

**Prospora:** Sophie Beris & Sofia Caronis  
**Epistle Reader:** Mark Rader  
**Greeter:** Olga Kalis  
**Ushers:** David Rutkowski (UIC), Kathie Rutkowski, Peter Venetos, Tom Vabakos, Nick Marino, Demetri Katsulis, Mia Connolly, Mike Sutherland

## Prayer Requests for Health

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



## Announcements

+ **STEWARDSHIP 2018:** As we continue pushing through this transition period, our commitment to Stewardship is more important than ever! During this time, unexpected costs have surfaced for our parish, which we need to consider as we reflect on our Stewardship commitment for 2018. More importantly, we should be inspired by what's ahead for our new church home. We have many vibrant ministries that have thrived through the transition, but our ministries still need your help! If you haven't pledged your Ascension Stewardship for 2018, we ask that you prayerfully consider pledging soon. Pledge cards are available near the candles throughout Holy Week.

+ **CONSTRUCTION FUNDING UPDATE:** The time has come! Please, if you have not yet contributed to the capital campaign fund, the time is now! We are at a critical juncture and need to raise the final \$1.65M to build our new church. Debt-free. Every donation matters, no matter how big or small! We ask that you open your hearts, have a family discussion, and consider this unique opportunity to pledge. Our Donor Recognition Wall will forever profile each family donor's name and we want you to be a part of it. Please contact Fr. Sotirios at 847-482-1200, or email at frsotirios@ascensiongoc.com. We thank you in advance for your love to building Our Church - Our Faith - Our Legacy.

+ **RED EGGS:** Please call the church office if you are able to dye two dozen hardboiled eggs red for our parish Paschal celebration and bring them to the home we are renting at 1221 North Riverwoods Road on or before April 5<sup>th</sup> (Holy Thursday). We would be very grateful.

+ **OUR TRADITIONAL GOOD FRIDAY PREPARATION WILL BE SCALED DOWN THIS YEAR** Due to the fact that we will not have to clean and prepare our church for services this year, we unfortunately do not have a need for children to come and help on Good Friday morning/early afternoon. There will only be a small group of women from Philoptochos preparing the Kouvouklion for Good Friday services. We apologize especially to our youth and look forward to resuming this beautiful tradition in our new church home for years to come!

+ **THE PASCHA BAKE SALE IS TODAY!** Please stop by our tables immediately after the Divine Liturgy and select treats for your Paschal celebration. Once again, we thank you for your generosity and appreciate your continued support!

+ **THE HOLY WEEK SERVICE BOOK** is available for purchase from the bookstore for \$25. Please see Caity Anast during the bake sale today.

+ **PASCHAL CELEBRATION:** Immediately following the Resurrection Service, Parish Council invites everyone to come together as a parish family to joyfully celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord and Savior and proclaim "Christos Anesti"!

+ **THE JOY/JR. GOYA AND GOYA VISITATION TO THE GREEK AMERICAN REHABILITATION CENTER** will be on Monday, April 16th. We will gather on the first floor at 5:30 p.m. and visit the residents on each floor singing "Christos Anesti", followed by a fellowship dinner. The residents look very forward to our visit each year!

+ **YOUTH SUNDAY RESCHEDULED:** Due to scheduling conflicts, Youth Sunday and the brunch will be rescheduled to the fall. Please stay tuned!

+ **"FEED THE HUNGRY" PROGRAM @ ANNUNCIATION CATHEDRAL** - Our Philoptochos will "Feed the Hungry" on Tuesday, April 24th at 10 a.m. at the Annunciation Cathedral in Chicago. We are planning to feed 150+ hungry men and women, most of who are homeless. Please contact Kathie Rutkowski @ 847-421-8267, to volunteer or donate.

+ **SAVE THE DATE: THE NEXT GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING WILL TAKE PLACE ON MAY 20th** . Please mark your calendars and plan to attend this important meeting immediately following the Divine Liturgy.

+ **JR. OLYMPICS MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND:** Team Ascension is recruiting players and coaches! Interested? See the youth pages on our website for more information and/or contact Dino Bolos @ dinobolos@yahoo.com

+ **SAVE THE DATE FOR THE 2018 ASCENSION GOLF OUTING!** The Koinonia Men's Ministry will be hosting the annual Ascension Golf Outing and Family Dinner on Friday, June 1st at the Deerfield Golf Course. Registration will open soon on our website. Stay tuned!

+ **ARE YOU RECEIVING OUR EMAIL BLASTS?** In addition to print materials like the bulletin and newsletter, Ascension also communicates Parish updates via email. If you are not on our email list, please visit the homepage at [www.ascensiongoc.com](http://www.ascensiongoc.com) and follow the prompts to sign up. You can also follow Ascension on Facebook ([www.facebook.com/AscensionGOC](http://www.facebook.com/AscensionGOC)); Twitter (@Ascension\_GOC) and Instagram (ascension\_lincolshire).

+ **WE THANK YOU MOST SINCERELY FOR ALL DONATIONS** made for our Great Lent and Holy Week. May God bless you and your families for the devotion you show to our beloved Parish.