

## 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.

### Apolytikion for Thomas Sun. in the Grave Mode

Whilst the tomb was sealed, Thou, O Life, didst shine forth from the grave, O Christ God; and whilst the doors were shut, Thou didst come unto Thy disciples, O Resurrection of all, renewing through them an upright Spirit in us according to Thy great mercy.

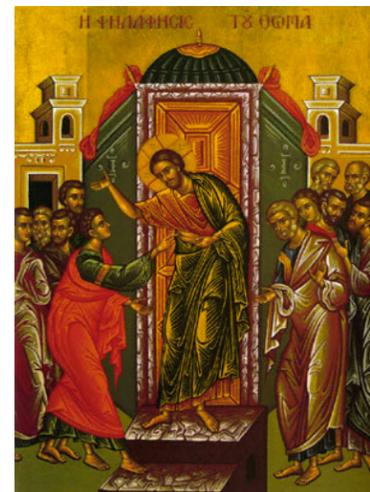
### Seasonal Kontakion in the Plagal Fourth Mode

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 5:12-20.

In those days, many signs and wonders were done among the people by the hands of the apostles. And they were all together in Solomon's Portico. None of the rest dared join them, but the people held them in high honor. And more than ever believers were added to the Lord, multitudes both of men and women, so that they even carried out the sick into the streets, and laid them on beds and pallets, that as Peter came by at least his shadow might fall on some of them. The people also gathered from the towns around Jerusalem, bringing the sick and those afflicted with unclean spirits, and they were all healed. But the high priest rose up and all who were with him, that is, the party of the Sadducees, and filled with jealousy they arrested the apostles and put them in the common prison. But at night an angel of the Lord opened the prison doors and brought them out and said, "Go and stand in the temple and speak to the people all the words of this Life."

### The Gospel of John 20:19-31



On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being shut where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them: "Peace be with you." When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I send you." And when he had said this, he breathed on them, and said to them: "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

Now Thomas, one of the twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him: "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them: "Unless I see in his hands the print of the nails, and place my finger in the mark of the nails, and place my hand in his side, I will not believe."

Eight days later, his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. The doors were shut, but Jesus came and stood among them, and said: "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side; do not be faithless, but believing." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe."

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in his name.

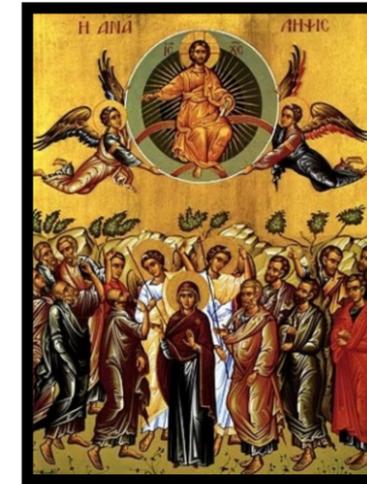
## Resurrection Hymn

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 νεκρών, θανάτω θάνατον πατήσας, και τοις εν τοις μνήμασι ζωήν χαρισάμενος.

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

## 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

April 15 - 22, 2018

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

## 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

*"The Lord stoops to the level even of our feeble understanding. He works a miracle of His invisible power in order to satisfy the doubts of unbelieving minds."*

**St. Hilary of Poitiers**

## Weekly Calendar

<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 Girls' Chanting Practice following Liturgy	<b>Sunday of Thomas</b>
<b>Monday</b> 5:30 p.m.	<b>April 16</b> JOY, Jr. GOYA, GOYA visits Greek American Rehab Center	
<b>Tuesday</b> 4:45 p.m.	<b>April 17</b> Greek School	
<b>Wednesday</b> 10 a.m.	<b>April 18</b> HOPE	
<b>Thursday</b> 6:15 p.m. 7:45 p.m.	<b>April 19</b> Greek School Beginners/Advanced Beginners Greek School Intermediate/Advanced (@ 1221 House) GOYA Trip to New York City through Sunday	
<b>Sunday</b> 8:15 a.m. 9:15 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 7 p.m.	<b>April 22</b> Orthros Sunday Church School Divine Liturgy Great Vespers, St. George Church, Chicago	<b>Sunday of Myrrh Bearers</b>

+ **CHRISTOS ANESTI! MAY OUR RISEN LORD** continue to bless and spiritually strengthen Ascension of Our Lord and each and every member of our Parish. We thank you most sincerely for all of your monetary donations as well as the contributions of time and creative talent you gave to our beloved Ascension throughout Great Lent and Holy Week. We also offer an abundance of gratitude to the clergy and staff at the University of St. Mary of the Lake and to all of the Parish Council members, ushers and parishioners who worked tirelessly to ensure the week went smoothly. The Holy Week journey we took together further solidifies our unity as a parish family and brings renewed anticipation of the construction of our new House of Worship.

+ **DO YOU KNOW why we don't kneel** between the Feast Days of Pascha and Pentecost? To answer this, let's find out why we kneel at all. Kneeling, bowing and prostrations were conducted even in the Old Testament as a sign of deep prayer, repentance, lamentation and devout respect and worship. Even Jesus knelt before His Passion in the Garden of Gethsemane (Matthew 26:29). According to a canon by the First Ecumenical Council, we are not to kneel between Pascha and Pentecost because of the "brilliant solemnity of the events which the Church commemorates" after Christ's Resurrection. We celebrate His third day Resurrection and therefore do not need to lament. St. Basil teaches us that by standing, we are reminded that we have risen from the dead together with Christ and we ought to seek the things above. Of course, the same prayers are said with reverence and fervor during this most Holy Consecration portion of the Liturgy. (Source: Orthodox Christian Information Center)

## Our Sunday Volunteers

**Prospora:** Elaine Metropoulos & Sophia Metropoulos  
**Epistle Reader:** Katherine Schreiber  
**Greeters:** Faye and Steven Kopplin  
**Ushers:** Bill Athenson (UIC), Peter Venetos, Demetri Katsulis, Tom Vabakos, Doug Hugdahl, Diane Sigalos, Carol Stamas, Mia Connolly

## 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

## Condolences

+ **OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHIES** to Jonathan (Mary) Petros, whose father, George Petros, passed away on April 3, 2018. His funeral was held on Bright Thursday, April 12th, We pray that God grant George eternal rest in the Kingdom of Heaven. May his memory be eternal.

## Announcements

+ **STEWARDSHIP 2018:** As we continue pushing through this transition period, our commitment to Stewardship is more important than ever! 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! To date, the total pledged for Ascension in 2018 is \$315,499 by 218 families. Let's keep the momentum going - if you haven't pledged your Ascension Stewardship for 2018, we ask that you prayerfully consider pledging soon. Pledge cards are available near the candle stand.

+ **CONSTRUCTION & FUNDING UPDATE:** With the warming weather, construction is progressing! The foundation for our new church has been formed and concrete is being poured this week! This is a very exciting time for our Parish! We are pleased to announce that we are down to our final \$1.14 million to raise! To help us achieve this, a very generous parishioner has offered to match any new donations, in any amount, up to \$250,000 from now until Pentecost on May 27th. Please donate today and help us achieve our dream debt-free!! The current version of our Donor Recognition Wall has been published, but there is still time to include your family name on this commemorative wall that will be displayed in our new church. Please contact Fr. Sotirios at 847-482-1200, or email at frsotirios@ascensiongoc.com. We thank you in advance for your love in coming together as a parish family to help build *Our Church - Our Faith - Our Legacy*.

+ **THE PHILOPTOCHOS BAKE SALE COMMITTEE** would like to thank all of our dedicated bakers and volunteers for making this year's bake sale a success. We greatly appreciate your time and talents! We also thank the congregation for their continued loving support of our efforts.

+ **THE JOY/JR. GOYA AND GOYA VISITATION TO THE GREEK AMERICAN REHABILITATION CENTER** will take place tomorrow, 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 this beautiful tradition of proclaiming Christ's Resurrection with them each year!

+ **THE 2018 METROPOLIS ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM ORATORICAL FESTIVAL** took place at St. Demetrios in Hammond, Indiana, yesterday and Ascension's representatives were Callie Saric and Sophia Saric, who submitted essays in the Senior and Junior division, respectively. We wish both of them good luck in this year's annual competition!

+ **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.

+ **JOIN US 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 is now open on the Koinonia Men's Ministry webpage on the Ascension website! See insert for more details and please plan to join us for this great day of fellowship!

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

+ **SAVE THE DATE: The 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Midwest Hellenic Dance Festival** will take place over Columbus Day weekend this year, October 5<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup>, at the Marriott Oakbrook. This event is sponsored by the Greek Orthodox Metropolis and dedicated to promoting, preserving and perpetuating the traditional Greek dance, music and fellowship of our Hellenic Heritage. The festival will consist of workshops and a traditional Glendi celebration which will showcase dance troupes from Chicago and throughout the Midwest. For more information, contact Tina Lambros Anagnos at 847.404.0747.

+ **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\_lincolnshire).