

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 Unmercenaries Cosmas and Damian in the Plagal Fourth Mode

O Holy Unmercenaries and wonderworkers, visit our infirmities; freely ye received, freely give to us.

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 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 First Letter to the Corinthians 12:27-31; 13:1-8.

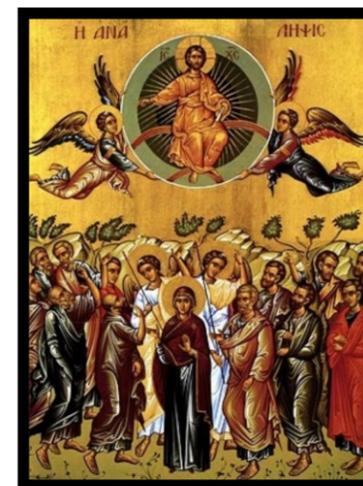
Brethren, you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then workers of miracles, then healers, helpers, administrators, speakers in various kinds of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak with tongues? Do all interpret? But earnestly desire the higher gifts. And I will show you a still more excellent way. If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. If I give away all I have, and if I deliver my body to be burned, but have not love, I gain nothing. Love is patient and kind; love is not jealous or boastful; it is not arrogant or rude. Love does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrong, but rejoices in the right. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends.

The Gospel of Matthew 8:28-34; 9:1



At that time, when Jesus came to the country of the Gergesenes, two demoniacs met him, coming out of the tombs, so fierce that no one would pass that way. And behold, they cried out, "What have you to do with us, O Son of God? Have you come here to torment us before the time?" Now a herd of many swine was feeding at some distance from them. And the demons begged Him, "If you cast us out, send us away into the herd of swine." And He said to them, "Go." So they came out and went into the swine; and behold, the whole herd rushed down the steep bank into the sea, and perished in the waters. The herdsmen fled, and going into the city they told everything, and what had happened to the demoniacs. And behold, all the city came out to meet Jesus; and when they saw Him, they begged Him to leave their neighborhood. And getting into a boat He crossed over and came to His own city.

Ascension of Our Lord Greek Orthodox Church



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WEEKLY PARISH BULLETIN July 1 - 8, 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

"...every tree is known by its own fruit. So also is love known by its own fruit and the love of which Christianity speaks is known by its own fruit - revealing that it has in itself the truth of the eternal. All other love, whether humanly speaking it withers early and is altered or lovingly preserves itself for a round of time - such love is still transient; it merely blossoms. This is precisely its weakness and tragedy, whether it blossoms for an hour or for seventy years - it merely blossoms; but Christian love is eternal."

Soren Kierkegaard

Weekly Calendar

Sunday	July 1	5th Sunday of Matthew
8:15 a.m.	Orthros	
9:30 a.m.	Divine Liturgy Coffee Fellowship hosted by Marie Falkides	
Sunday – Thursday; Clergy-Laity Congress in Boston		
Wednesday	July 4	Independence Day
	Church Office Closed	
Sunday	July 8	6th Sunday of Matthew
8:15 a.m.	Orthros	
9:30 a.m.	Divine Liturgy Coffee Fellowship	

Our Sunday Volunteers

Prospora: Elaine Metropoulos & Sophia Metropulos
Epistle Reader: Nick Papastratakos
Greeters: Jeannie & John Thomas
Ushers: Tom Kiriakos (UIC), Nick Marino, Doug Hugdahl, Alex Marx, Steve Sintetas, Demetri Katsulis

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, James, Theresa, Peter, Anna, Don, Nace

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.
- + Prior to receiving Holy Communion, we will recite together the *Prayers Before Receiving Holy Communion* on page 61 in the Divine Liturgy book found near the candle stand by the entrance of the school. 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.

Announcements

- + **THE OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED ON WEDNESDAY** in observance of Independence Day. We wish you all a safe holiday and pray that our Lord grants peace to our country and the world. May God Bless America.
- + **THE 44th BIENNIAL CLERGY-LAITY CONGRESS** takes place this week in Boston with the theme “All things are possible to the one who believes in Christ”(Mark 9:23). We wish all of Ascension’s representatives as well as Parish Council and Philoptochos delegates from parishes throughout the United States, a productive, inspiring and blessed experience.
- + **ANNOUNCING ASCENSION OF OUR LORD FIRST ANNUAL MEN’S MINISTRY RETREAT!! Hosted by Koinonia Men’s Ministry, this event is open to all men of Ascension.** The theme of the retreat is *Becoming Better Husbands, Fathers, Brothers and Friends*, and our featured speakers will be Fr. Sotirios and Fr. Grenaias. Please join us on Saturday, September 15th at 8 a.m. - 4 at the St. Iakovos Retreat Center, Kansasville, WI. Cost, which includes breakfast and lunch, is \$50. Please RSVP by September 9th, or, register by August 10th to receive the early bird rate of \$40. For more information, contact David Rutkowski at 847-650-0559; or, stop by the registration table after Church.
- + **REGISTRATION NOW OPEN FOR ASCENSION’S YOUTH AND ADULT GREEK SCHOOL PROGRAMS** Visit the Greek School webpage on our website for more information and to register for the 2018/19 Greek School program. Registration will take place online this year. Also new for this upcoming school year: a new series of books will be used with access to a digital platform for children to practice and learn at both school and home! Informational open houses will take place for both the Youth and Adult Greek School the first week of September, with classes beginning the week of September 10th. We encourage you to register as soon as possible to secure enrollment so we can adequately prepare for classes prior to the first day. Payment details are set forth in the registration material. For more information, visit the website or call the church office. Thank you!
- + **SAVE-THE-DATE: MARRIAGE MINISTRY SUMMER GATHERING!** The Marriage Ministry will be holding its next social event at Pinstripes bowling alley, (1150 Willow Road, Northbrook) on Friday, July 20th at 7:30 p.m. Please join us for some bowling, food, and mid-summer fellowship! For more information, contact Loukas Jonson at loukasjonson@gmail.com.
- + **DON’T MISS THE 3rd ANNUAL MID-SUMMER SOCIAL, July 29th!** Sponsored by Men’s Koinonia, this gathering gives the families and youth in our Parish the opportunity to enjoy ice cream, hotdogs, fun and fellowship immediately following Liturgy. We hope to see you there!
- + **UPCOMING GREEK FESTIVALS: Support our local Metropolis Churches and celebrate summer Greek-style!**

July 7-8: St. Andrew’s Greek Fest, Chicago	July 13 – 15: St. Demetrios, Libertyville
July 7-8: St. Spyridon, Palos Heights	July 20 – 22: Assumption, Homer Glen
July 13-15: St. Sophia, Elgin	July 21 – 22: SS. Peter & Paul, Glenview
July 13-15: St. Haralambos, Niles	July 27 – 29: St. Demetrios, Chicago
- + **MIDWEST HELLENIC DANCE FESTIVAL DEADLINE TODAY TO REGISTER!** Follow this link to register by July 1 for the Midwest Hellenic Dance Festival, which takes place over Columbus Day weekend this year, October 5th-7th, at the Marriott Oakbrook: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/midwest-hellenic-dance-festival-2018-registration-43153784130>. 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. For more information, contact Tina Lambros Anagnos at 847.404.0747, or visit the “News” category of our website, where you will find a link to register.