

Resurrectional Apolytikion in the Plagal Second Mode

Angelic powers were above Thy tomb, and they that guarded Thee became as dead. And Mary stood by the grave seeking Thine immaculate Body. Thou hast despoiled Hades and wast not tried thereby. Thou didst meet the Virgin and didst grant us life. O Thou Who didst arise from the dead, Lord, glory be to Thee.

Apolytikion for Holy Ascension 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 art 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

Apolytikion for Fathers of the 1st Council in the Plagal Fourth Mode

Most glorified art Thou, O Christ our God, Who hast established our Fathers as luminous stars upon the earth, and through them didst guide us all to the true Faith. O Most Merciful One, glory be to Thee.

Seasonal Kontakion in the Plagal Second Mode

O Christ our God, upon fulfilling Your dispensation for our sake, You ascended in Glory, uniting the earthly with the heavenly. You were never separate but remained inseparable, and cried out to those who love You, "I am with you and no one is against you."

The reading is from Acts of the Apostles 20:16-18, 28-36.

IN THOSE DAYS, Paul had decided to sail past Ephesos, so that he might not have to spend time in Asia; for he was hastening to be at Jerusalem, if possible, on the day of Pentecost. And from Miletos he sent to Ephesos and called to him the elders of the church. And when they came to him, he said to them: "Take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God which he obtained with the blood of his own Son. I know that after my departure fierce wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock; and from among your own selves will arise men speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after them. Therefore be alert, remembering that for three years I did not cease night or day to admonish every one with tears. And now I commend you to God and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified. I coveted no one's silver or gold or apparel. You yourselves know that these hands ministered to my necessities, and to those who were with me. In all things I have shown you that by so toiling one must help the weak, remembering the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, 'it is more blessed to give than to receive.' " And when he had spoken thus, he knelt down and prayed with them all.

The Gospel of John 17:1-13



At that time, Jesus lifted up his eyes to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify Your Son that the Son may glorify You, since You have given Him power over all flesh, to give eternal life to all whom You have given Him. And this is eternal life, that they know You the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent. I glorified You on earth, having accomplished the work which You gave Me to do; and now, Father, You glorify Me in Your own presence with the glory which I had with You before the world was made.

"I have manifested Your name to the men whom You gave me out of the world; Yours they were, and You gave them to Me, and they have kept Your word. Now they know that everything that You have given Me is from You; for I have given them the words which You gave me, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from You; and they have believed that

You did send me. I am praying for them; I am not praying for the world but for those whom you have given me, for they are mine; all mine are Yours, and Yours are Mine, and I am glorified in them. And now I am no more in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to You. Holy Father, keep them in your name, which you have given Me, that they may be one, even as We are one. While I was with them, I kept them in Your name, which You have given Me; I have guarded them, and none of them is lost but the son of perdition, that the scripture might be fulfilled. But now I am coming to You; and these things I speak in the world, that they may have My joy fulfilled in themselves."

Ascension of Our Lord Greek Orthodox Church



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WEEKLY PARISH BULLETIN

May 20 - 27, 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

"...This is the Lord of glory Who is ascended into the heavens with a shout, and is seated on the right hand of the Father. Under His authority are angels, and dominions and powers, and it is He Who receives our pained prayers, and makes us victors over the pirates of this world..."

Excerpt from Homily III on the Ascension of Christ by St. John Chrysostom

Weekly Calendar

<p>Sunday 8:15 a.m. 9:15 a.m. 9:30 a.m.</p> <p>7 p.m.</p>	<p>May 20 Fathers of the 1st Ecumenical Council Orthros Sunday Church School Divine Liturgy Sunday Church School program General Assembly Coffee fellowship hosted by Parish Council Great Vespers @ Sts. Constantine & Helen, Palos Hills</p>
<p>Monday 8 a.m. 9 a.m. 5:45 p.m. 7:30 p.m.</p>	<p>May 21 SS Constantine & Helen Orthros (@ 1221 House Chapel) Divine Liturgy JOY/Jr. GOYA End-of-Year Celebration GOYA Senior Recognition and 8th Grade Step-Up at Backyard Grill, 1825 2nd St. Highland Park</p>
<p>Tuesday 4:45 p.m.</p>	<p>May 22 Greek School End-of-Year Program & Graduation</p>
<p>Thursday 6:15 p.m.</p>	<p>May 24 Adult Greek School Tour of Hellenic Museum of Chicago followed by dinner at a Greek restaurant</p>
<p>Saturday 8 a.m.</p>	<p>May 26 Saturday of Souls Opening Ceremony followed by Jr. Olympics all day at Sts. Constantine and Helen, Palos Hills</p>
<p>Sunday 8:15 a.m. 9:30 a.m.</p>	<p>May 27 Holy Pentecost Orthros Divine Liturgy followed by Kneeling Vespers <i>Jr. Olympics continues at Sts. Constantine & Helen</i></p>

+ **LAST WEEK OF THE PASCHA TO PENTECOST *Double the Donation Equation* CAMPAIGN:** If Ascension raises \$250,000 in new contributions between Pascha and Pentecost (next Sunday, May 27) for construction of our new church, an anonymous donor has graciously offered to match the donation, bringing our parish \$500,000 closer to building debt-free! We are down to our final \$1.14 million to raise! Please donate today and participate in this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to build a Greek Orthodox church and community center that will be a spiritual home for us, our children, grandchildren and many more generations to come. 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*.

Our Sunday Volunteers

Prospora: Maria Karalis & Elaine Metropoulos
Epistle Reader: Bill Athenson
Greeters: Andrea & Doug Rogers
Ushers: Peter Venetos (UIC), Doug Hugdahl, Mia Connolly, David Rutkowski, Bill Athenson, Frank Kazas, Kathie Rutkowski, Steven Sintetas

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

Condolences

OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHIES to Maita Houpis whose husband, George, fell asleep in the Lord this past Wednesday. Visitation will take place this evening from 4 – 9 at Smith Corcoran, Glenview. Fr. Sotiri will offer the Trisagion at 5:30 p.m. The funeral service will be held at noon tomorrow, May 21st at SS Peter and Paul Church, Glenview. Interment at Memorial Park Cemetery. We pray that God grant George eternal rest in the Kingdom of Heaven. May his memory be eternal.

Announcements

- + **PARISH GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING TODAY!** Please attend this important meeting, which will begin immediately following the Divine Liturgy. If you haven't signed in as a steward to participate, please do so at the table at the school entrance. Should the table no longer be in place after Liturgy, please seek out Carol Stamas or one of the other Parish Council members to be signed in.
- + **WE STILL STAND IN PRAYER TODAY DURING THE CONSECRATION** and will resume kneeling at the Kneeling Vespers, which follows the Divine Liturgy on Holy Pentecost next Sunday.
- + **ON BEHALF OF THE SUNDAY CHURCH SCHOOL STAFF,** thank you to all of our students and families for another wonderful school year! We enjoyed your children and celebrated many wonderful achievements, which you will witness following the Divine Liturgy. Our Parish extends its gratitude to the teachers and assistants who devoted their time, talents and love to our Sunday Church School children. Finally, a special thank you to Ministry Director Christine Perakis. The ministry has grown under Christine's faithful and creative direction the past several years. Look for reminders this summer regarding registration for Sunday Church School 2018- 2019; and, **SAVE THE DATE for 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.
- + **YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO ATTEND OUR GREEK SCHOOL PROGRAM THIS TUESDAY** at 5 pm at Daniel Wright Middle School (Green Gym) to celebrate the completion of another fruitful school year. Our students will perform Greek poems, songs and dances dedicated to "Peace and Summer in Greece" followed by a brief graduation ceremony honoring this year's three graduates. We hope to see you there!
- + **JR. OLYMPICS FINAL PRACTICE SCHEDULE & T-SHIRT UPDATE:** The following practice schedule has been set to prepare for Jr. Olympics: **Basketball practice will take place at Half Day School:** May 23, 25 (7-9pm); **Volleyball practice takes place at Daniel Wright:** May 22 (7-8pm); **Soccer practice at Daniel Wright:** May 24, 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. (all ages) **T-Shirt Update:** Ascension Team- Jr. Olympics will be getting new t-shirts this year. A shirt will be ordered for all the children registered to participate. (Cost will be determined on quantity ordered). Once the shirts arrive an email will go out letting you know the details of how to pick them up. For more information, including a schedule of events for this Metropolis-wide event that takes place next weekend at SS Constantine & Helen, please contact Dino Bolos (dinobolos@yahoo.com), or visit the youth pages of our website. Let's support Team Ascension next weekend!
- + **TOMORROW IS THE DEADLINE TO REGISTER FOR THE PARISH GOLF OUTING!** The final deadline to register for Ascension's Golf Outing and Family Dinner, hosted by Koinonia Men's Ministry, is TOMORROW! The event takes place on Friday, June 1st at the Deerfield Golf Course and there are spots available for golfers, sponsors and those who only wish to join us for dinner. You must register either on the Men's Ministry Golf webpage (the preferred method); or, by downloading and printing hard copies of the registration form from the webpage (<http://ascensiongoc.com/parish-ministries/mensministry>). Please contact Bill Smirles (smirles@gmail.com) with any questions. We look forward to having you join us!
- + **WE NEED COFFEE FELLOWSHIP HOSTS IN JUNE AND THROUGHOUT THE SUMMER:** Please consider hosting coffee fellowship after Liturgy with your family, or together with another family, so that we may continue our fellowship throughout the summer. When we don't have a host, Parish Council members step up to make sure it's covered and we've had to rely on their generosity many times since we've been in our temporary place. Recommendations for simple offerings can be found on our website. You may sign up on the list on the coffee hour table; online via our website, or by calling the church office. Thank you in advance for offering your love and commitment to this important ministry.
- + **PLEASE CALL THE OFFICE IF SOMEONE IN YOUR HOME IS REACHING A GRADUATION MILESTONE THIS YEAR** Ascension's annual graduate tribute will take place on Sunday, June 3rd, following the Divine Liturgy. Students from Elementary School, High School, College, Graduate or Post-Graduate programs will be recognized. Please contact Suzanne Saric by email (suzannesaric@sbcglobal.net) or by calling the church office no later than Monday, May 28th with the following information; name(s) of your graduate(s); school graduating from; degree (if applicable) and full name and location of school they will be attending in the fall (if applicable). Thank you.
- + **ALTAR TABLE VOTIVE LIGHT DONATIONS** may now be offered for the health of individuals, family members or in memory of departed loved ones. A \$75.00 donation for each week's votive light is requested. The votive light burns perpetually at the altar in the chapel of the house Ascension is renting during construction of the new church. Names will be acknowledged in the Sunday Bulletin. Call the Church Office to reserve the votive and share commemorative names.
- + **ATTENTION: FOR YOUR SAFETY,** if you are driving by the church to view the progress being made on the building, we ask that you please do not enter the construction site. For safety purposes, the construction zone is surrounded by fencing and only authorized employees are able to be on-site. To get a nice view of the progress, you are welcome to stop by the home just south of the church that Ascension is renting. We also update the photo gallery on our website with construction progress photos. Thank you for your cooperation.
- + **REGISTRATION NOW for the Midwest Hellenic Dance Festival** which takes over Columbus Day weekend this year, October 5th-7th, 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. 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.