

Ascension of Our Lord Greek Orthodox Church

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WEEKLY PARISH BULLETIN

December 14 - 21, 2014

- SUNDAY DECEMBER 14**
8:15 a.m. Orthros
9:15 a.m. Sunday Church School
9:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy followed by the **CHRISTMAS PAGEANT**
Coffee Fellowship hosted by the Connolly and Curran Families
5:00 p.m. Metropolis Open House
- MONDAY DECEMBER 15**
5:30 p.m. JOY/Jr. GOYA & GOYA - Caroling at Greek American Nursing Home
- TUESDAY DECEMBER 16**
4:45 p.m. Greek School Christmas Program
- WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 17 - ST. DIONYSIOS**
8:15 a.m. Orthros
9:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy
6:30 p.m. Holy Unction followed by LOGOS
- THURSDAY DECEMBER 18**
6:15 p.m. Beginners Greek School
7:45 p.m. Intermediate/Advanced Greek School
- SATURDAY DECEMBER 20**
5:00 p.m. Vespers
- SUNDAY DECEMBER 21**
SUNDAY BEFORE NATIVITY
8:15 a.m. Orthros
NO SUNDAY CHURCH SCHOOL
9:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy
Coffee Fellowship hosted by John & Anastasia Svigos

Prospora Bakers: Maria Papagianis **FOS Ministry Greeters:** Andrea & Doug Rogers
Hymns of Small Entrance: First Tone (pg 44); Hymn of the Church (page 47)
Today's Epistle Reading: Colossians 3:4-11 **Reader:** Jim Facklis
Today's Gospel Reading: Luke 14:16-24

WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

+ **WE ARE GLAD** you came to our Church. We hope your visit was memorable and meaningful in every way. Our doors and hearts are always open to you. Please join us for fellowship following the 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 of Our Lord.

CHURCH REMINDERS AND UPDATES

- + **NEW OFFICE ASSISTANT FOR KAY:** The Parish Council is pleased to announce that the Church has hired Renee Maltezos as a part-time assistant for Kay James. We expect that, by bringing Renee on board, Kay will be better positioned to concentrate on continuing to assist Father Sotirios in the many critical aspects of Father's service and the administration of our many ministries. We welcome Renee as she is expected to join us at the Ascension in the upcoming week. We also continue to recognize, and be appreciative to, Maita Houpis and Ann Stevens for all of the work that they do for the church in the office as volunteers, as well as Suzanne Saric for all of her volunteer work, especially with respect to her maintenance and almost daily updating of our website.
- + **2015 PARISH DIRECTORY** - We will be publishing a new parish directory in early 2015. We hope all 2015 stewards will participate. For more information please visit our website at ascensiongoc.com. All forms and information can be found there. The deadline for submission is January 31st, 2015.
- + **OUR SINCERE THANKS TO OUR PROSPHORA BAKERS** who have been amazing for so many years providing us with the Prospora that are such an intricate part of our Divine Liturgy every single Sunday. May God be with you and your families always! Please continue doing what you do best.
- + **METROPOLIS OF CHICAGO OPEN HOUSE** - It is a great opportunity for all of us here at Ascension to extend our Christmas wishes to His Eminence Metropolitan Iakovos and also His Grace Bishop Demetrios for a Blessed Christmas and a very Happy New Year. The Open House is today at 5:00 p.m.
- + **2015 STEWARDSHIP CARDS** have been mailed to everyone's home and are also available in the Narthex by the Pangari. If you have not had one yet, or have not filled in one for your stewardship, we urge you to take one. Any questions, please call Kay James at the office.
- + **HOLY UNCTION** - In preparation for Christ's Birth, please join us for Sacrament of Holy Unction on Wednesday, December 17th at 6:30 p.m.

YOUTH NEWS

- + **POINSETTIA PLANTS** may be picked up today, after the conclusion of the Christmas Pageant. For those of you who forgot to order plants, our JOY/Jr. GOYANS may be able to accommodate you. A few extra plants have been ordered. Please support our Youth in every way we can!
- + **SAVE THE DATE** - Join your fellow Goyans at SS Peter & Paul Church for the city wide lock-in on January 9, 2015. Goyans from the Ascension of Our Lord, SS Peter & Paul, St. Haralambos, St. Demetrios in Elmhurst, St. Demetrios in Chicago and St. Basil will come together in Faith, service and fellowship. More information will be forthcoming.

PHILOPTOCHOS NEWS

- + **THANKS FOR DONATIONS** - Our Philoptochos would like to thank all of you who made donations of pajamas for the women & children who are residents of the Lake County Haven. We collected 40 women's, pajamas, 1 woman's robe, 13 girls & 13 boys sets of pajamas, 4 pairs of slippers & 47 pairs of women's socks. The donations will be distributed at their Holiday Party next week.
- + **FOOTBALL MANIA WINNERS** - Congratulations to Patricia Filley who was a Week 7 Winner. She won \$25.00.

PRAYER REQUESTS FOR HEALTH

- + **PRAYER REQUESTS** - Please include in your personal prayers the servants of God: Angeline, Augoustinos, Georgia, John, Penelope Athanasia, Sophia, Vasilios, Marego, George, Jac and Nicholas.

SPIRITUAL REFLECTION - "Give rest to the weary, visit the sick, support the poor: for this also is prayer."

"Philokalia" by Fr. Anthony M. Coniaris