

**Ascension of Our Lord Greek Orthodox Church**

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**WEEKLY PARISH BULLETIN**

**December 28 - January 4, 2015**

**SUNDAY DECEMBER 28**  
**SUNDAY AFTER NATIVITY**  
8:15 a.m. Orthros  
NO SUNDAY CHURCH SCHOOL  
9:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy  
Coffee Fellowship hosted by Peter & Effie Gountanis  
12:00 Noon Senior Synaxis Christmas Party @ Dover Straits

**MONDAY DECEMBER 29**  
5:30 p.m. GOYA Parish Family Ice Skating @ Centennial Ice Arena, Highland Park

**TUESDAY DECEMBER 30**  
NO GREEK SCHOOL - CHRISTMAS BREAK

**WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 31**  
7:00 p.m. Great Vespers @ St. Basil's Church, Chicago

**THURSDAY JANUARY 1 - NEW YEAR'S DAY**  
**ST. BASIL THE GREAT MARTYR**  
8:15 a.m. Orthros  
9:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy  
CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

**FRIDAY JANUARY 2**  
CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

**SATURDAY JANUARY 3**  
5:00 p.m. Vespers

**SUNDAY JANUARY 4 - SUNDAY BEFORE THEOPHANY**  
8:15 a.m. Orthros  
9:15 a.m. Sunday Church School Starts  
9:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy

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**Prosphora Bakers:** Mary Greub and Mary Kakavas  
**FOS Ministry Greeters:** Mary & Gust Gatsis  
**Hymns of Small Entrance:** Fourth Tone (pg 45); Hymn of the Church (page 47)  
**Today's Epistle Reading:** Galatians 1:11-19  
**Reader:** Paul Lillios  
**Today's Gospel Reading:** Matthew 2:13-23

**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 NEWS, REMINDERS AND UPDATES**

+ **EPIPHANY HOME BLESSINGS** - According to the Greek Orthodox tradition, the month of January is the time for home blessings. If you wish your home to be blessed, please call the Church Office by **January 14.**

+ **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](http://ascensiongoc.com). All forms and information can be found there. The deadline for submission is January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2015.

+ **2015 STEWARDSHIP CARDS** have been mailed to everyone's home and are also available in the Narthex by the Pangari. If you have not filled yours in yet for your stewardship, we urge you to take one. Any questions, please call Kay James at the office.

+ **LOST AND FOUND** - A car key was found last Sunday, December 21<sup>st</sup>. If anyone has lost or misplaced a car key, please call the Church Office.

**YOUTH NEWS**

+ **SAVE THE DATE - SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 1<sup>ST</sup>** is the date when our Youth will hold their annual Brunch. Details will be forthcoming soon.

+ **REMINDER - DON'T FORGET OUR PARISH FAMILY ICE SKATING PARTY** on Monday, December 29<sup>th</sup>. For more details please see insert.

+ **SAVE THE DATE** - Join your fellow Goyans at SS Peter & Paul Church for the city wide lock-in on Friday, 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.

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Monday, January 5<sup>th</sup>** - 8:30 a.m. Great Hours of Epiphany and 5:30 p.m. Vespersal Liturgy followed by Agiasmo

**Tuesday, January 6<sup>th</sup>** - Holy Theophany - 8:15 a.m. Orthros - 9:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy followed by the Great Blessing of Waters.

**Wednesday, January 7<sup>th</sup>** - Synaxis of St. John the Baptist - 8:15 a.m. Orthros - 9:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy

**PHILOPTOCHOS NEWS**

+ **SAVE THE DATE** - Our **Apokreatiko Glendi** will take place on **Sunday, February 8<sup>th</sup>** at the Concorde Banquet Hall in Kildeer. There will be dinner, dancing, games and fun for all. More information will be available soon.

**PRAYER REQUESTS FOR HEALTH**

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

**SPIRITUAL REFLECTION** - "People are like stained-glass windows. They sparkle and shine when the darkness sets in, their true beauty is revealed only if there is a light within."