

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 Apodosis of the Forerunner in the Second Mode

The memory of the just is celebrated with hymns of praise, but the Lord's testimony is sufficient for thee, O Forerunner; for thou hast proved to be truly even more venerable than the Prophets, since thou was granted to baptize in the running waters Him Whom they proclaimed. Wherefore, having contested for the truth, thou didst rejoice to announce the good tidings even to those in Hades: that God hath appeared in the flesh, taking away the sin of the world and granting us great mercy.

Apolytikion of the Church in the First 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 Fourth Mode

In your holy birth, Immaculate One, Joachim and Anna were rid of the shame of childlessness; Adam and Eve of the corruption of death. And so your people, free of the guilt of their sins, celebrate crying: "The barren one gives birth to the Theotokos, who nourishes our life."

The Reading is from St. Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians 16:13-24

BRETHREN, be watchful, stand firm in your faith, be courageous, be strong. Let all that you do be done in love. Now, brethren, you know that the household of Stephanas were the first converts in Achaia, and they have devoted themselves to the service of the saints; I urge you to be subject to such men and to every fellow worker and laborer. I rejoice at the coming of Stephanas and Fortunatus and Achaicos, because they have made up for your absence; for they refreshed my spirit as well as yours. Give recognition to such men. The churches of Asia send greetings. Aquila and Prisca, together with the church in their house, send you hearty greetings in the Lord. All the brethren send greetings. Greet one another with a holy kiss. I, Paul, write this greeting with my own hand. If any one has no love for the Lord, let him be accursed. Our Lord, come! The grace of the Lord Jesus be with you. My love be with you all in Christ Jesus. Amen.

The Reading is from Matthew 21:33-42

The Lord said this parable, "There was a householder who planted a vineyard, and set a hedge around it, and dug a wine press in it, and built a tower, and let it out to tenants, and went into another country. When the season of fruit drew near, he sent his servants to the tenants, to get his fruit; and the tenants took his servants and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again he sent other servants, more than the first; and they did the same to them. Afterward he sent his son to them, saying 'They will respect my son.' But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir; come, let us kill him and have his inheritance.' And they took him and cast him out of the vineyard and killed him. When therefore the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and let out the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the fruits in their seasons." Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the scriptures: 'The very stone which the builders rejected has become the head of the corner; this was the Lord's doing, and it was marvelous in our eyes?'"

Ascension of Our Lord Greek Orthodox Church



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WEEKLY PARISH BULLETIN

Aug 30 – Sep 5, 2015

Prospora Baker:

Mary Karahalios

FOS Ministry Greeter:

Mary and Catherine Greub

Epistle Reader:

Mark Rader

Ushers:

Nick Marino, David Rutkowski, Kathie Rutkowski, Peter Venetos, Doug Hugdahl, Tom Papastefan

Vigil Lights Offered for the continued good health and safety of Arianna and Alyssa Kiriakos as they leave for separate semesters abroad, from their family.

SPIRITUAL REFLECTION – "How mistaken are those people who seek happiness outside of themselves, in foreign lands and journeys, in riches and glory, in great possessions and pleasures, in diversions and vain things, which have a bitter end! It is the same thing to construct the tower of happiness outside of ourselves as it is to build a house in a place that is consistently shaken by earthquakes. Happiness is found within ourselves, and blessed is the man who has understood this. Happiness is a pure heart, for such a heart becomes the throne of God. Thus says Christ of those who have pure hearts: I dwell in them, and will walk in them, and I will be a God to them, and they will be my people. (II Cor. 6:16) What can be lacking to them? Nothing, nothing at all! For they have the greatest good in their hearts: God Himself!" (St. Nektarios of Aegina, Path to Happiness, 1)

Ascension of Our Lord Greek Orthodox Church
Aug 30 – Sep 5, 2015

Sunday August 30 Thirteenth Sunday of Matthew

8:15 a.m. Orthros
9:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy

Coffee Fellowship hosted by Tasia Alexakos and Family

Tuesday September 1
Start of the New Ecclesiastical Year

5:00 p.m. Greek School Teachers' Meeting

Saturday September 5

1:30 p.m. Wedding of John Vlahos & Cory Minorini. Sponsor: Vicki Lardas
5:00 p.m. Wedding of Thomas Peters & Amy Maroudas. Sponsors: Manoli & Robin Sargetakis

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 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.

+ **OUR WARMEST WELCOME** to Fr. James Dokos who is celebrating the Divine Liturgy with us today. May God grant you many years.

CHURCH HAPPENINGS

+ **SAVE THE DATE Sunday, September 13th** *The Koinonia Men's Ministry* is again hosting this year's family picnic immediately following Divine Liturgy. We would greatly appreciate any monetary donations to help offset the cost, including: Tent (\$2,300), hamburgers & buns (\$200), soda pop (\$200), bottled water (\$200). We've already received generous donations for gyros, salads, souvlakia, pita bread, toppings and condiments. In addition, we are looking for men to help grill, serve and clean up at the event. If interested, please email Conrad Theodore (cltheodore@aol.com) or Jim Anast (janast80@gmail.com)

+ **LABOR DAY WEEKEND FAMILY RETREAT** *Join other Orthodox families* at the St. Iakovos Retreat Center in Wisconsin over Labor Day Weekend for a fun-filled time reconnecting with your family and reconnecting with God. Retreat leader Fr. Joseph Copeland will present workshops on the theme, *The Church in the Home: Finding Salvation in Family Life.* Children's workshops will also be provided, as well as child-care for babies. Find more information and register online at www.GOCFamilySynaxis.org or email Chicago.Family.Synaxis@gmail.com.

+ **REGISTER NOW FOR OUR YOUTH MINISTRY PROGRAMS!** Information and registration for all of our youth ministries -- **HOPE, Faith/Joy, JOY/Jr.GOYA, GOYA, Acolytes, Sunday Church School and Greek School** -- can be found on our website, under the television screen in the fellowship hall; or, by calling the Church office at 847.482.1200.

+ **GREEK SCHOOL REGISTRATION** forms for the 2015-2016 School Year for both our Tuesday Greek School Program and our Thursday Adult/Adolescent Program are available in the Fellowship Hall. Please phone the Church Office with questions at 847-482-1200; or, contact Greek School Director, Maria Theodoropulu, at maria.theod@hotmai.com. Maria will be available during coffee hour today to answer any questions you may have about the program.

+ **NOW OPEN: Sunday Church School Registration for 2015-2016 is available on-line!** Please visit our Church's website and locate the registration link within the Sunday Church School Ministries tab. The on-line form is simple and user friendly – we encourage everyone to use it and enroll your children grades Pre-K (age 4 by 9/1/15) through 8th. The SCS calendar is also available on-line. Key dates: 1st day of SCS classes is Sunday, September 13th; Open house is Sunday, October 4th. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact SCS Director, Christine Perakis, at cperakis@comcast.net or (847) 220-1036. Christine will be available for registration and questions during coffee fellowship hour.

+ **PHILOPTOCHOS NEWS:** The Metropolis of Chicago Philoptochos is having its annual Luncheon, *Our Faith and Our Foundation is Our Future*, on Saturday, September 19, 2015, at Cafe La Cave restaurant in Des Plaines. If you would like to attend, please leave a check made out to *Ascension Philoptochos* with the names of the attendees in the church office. The cost is \$50 per person. Please contact Anna Duros at 847-918-1106, or anna.duros@gmail.com with any questions, or if you would like to reserve seats. We hope you can join us at our Ascension table!

+ **VESPER FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT** will be held on Monday, August 31st at SS. Peter and Paul, Glenview, at 7 p.m. A lecture by Dr. George Nassos will follow the service.

PRAYER REQUESTS FOR HEALTH

+ **PRAYER REQUESTS** – *Please include in your personal prayers* the servants of God: Georgia, John, Eleni, George, Nicholas, Ethel, Louise, Paraskevi, John, Panagiota, Anastasia, Stella, Athanasia, Mitchell, Joanne and Augustine.

UPCOMING SUMMER FESTIVALS

SEPTEMBER 5-7 Hellenic American Academy, Deerfield
SEPTEMBER 12-13 SS Peter & Paul Church, Glenview