

Resurrectional Apolytikion in the First Mode

When the stone had been sealed by the Jews and the soldiers were guarding Thine immaculate Body, Thou didst arise on the third day, O Saviour, granting life unto the world. Wherefore, the powers of the Heavens cried out to Thee, O Lifegiver: Glory to Thy Resurrection, O Christ. Glory to Thy Kingdom. Glory to Thy dispensation, O only Friend of man.

Apolytikion for Afterfeast of the Transfiguration in the Grave Mode

Thou wast transfigured on the mountain, O Christ our God, showing to Thy disciples Thy glory as each one could endure. Shine forth Thou on us, who are sinners all, Thy light ever-unending, through the prayers of the Theotokos. Light-bestower, glory be to Thee.

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, Χριστὲ 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 Grave Mode

You were transfigured upon the mount, O Christ our God, and Your disciples, in so far as they could bear, beheld Your glory. Thus, when they see You crucified, they may understand Your voluntary passion, and proclaim to the world that You are truly the effulgence of the Father.

The Reading is from St. Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians 4:9-16

BRETHREN, God has exhibited us apostles as last of all, like men sentenced to death; because we have become a spectacle to the world, to angels and to men. We are fools for Christ's sake, but you are wise in Christ. We are weak, but you are strong. You are held in honor, but we in disrepute. To the present hour we hunger and thirst, we are ill-clad and buffeted and homeless, and we labor, working with our own hands. When reviled, we bless; when persecuted, we endure; when slandered, we try to conciliate; we have become, and are now, as the refuse of the world, the off-scouring of all things. I do not write this to make you ashamed, but to admonish you as my beloved children. For though you have countless guides in Christ, you do not have many fathers. For I became your father in Christ Jesus through the gospel. I urge you, then, be imitators of me.

Gospel Reading - The Reading is from Matthew 17:14-23

At that time, a man came up to Him and kneeling before Him said, "Lord, have mercy on my son, for he is an epileptic and he suffers terribly; for often he falls into the fire, and often into the water. And I brought him to Your disciples, and they could not heal him." And Jesus answered, "O faithless and perverse generation, how long am I to be with you? How long am I to bear with you? Bring him here to me." And Jesus rebuked him, and the demon came out of him, and the boy was cured instantly. Then the disciples came to Jesus privately and said, "Why could we not cast it out?" He said to them, "Because of your little faith. For truly I say to you, if you have faith as a grain of mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move hence to yonder place,' and it will move; and nothing will be impossible to you. But this kind never comes out except by prayer and fasting." As they were gathering in Galilee, Jesus said to them, "The Son of man is to be delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill Him, and He will be raised on the third day."

Ascension of Our Lord Greek Orthodox Church



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WEEKLY PARISH BULLETIN

Aug 9 – 15, 2015

Prosphora Baker:	Elaine Stevens
FOS Ministry Greeters:	Mary & Gust Gatsis
Epistle Reader:	Bill Athenson
Ushers:	Nick Marino , Carol Stamas, Diane Sigalos, Mike Sutherland, Steve Sintetas, Tom Papastefan

Vigil Lights Offered for the continued good health and safety of Christina Kiriakos as she leaves for a semester abroad from her family.

Spiritual Reflection on today's Gospel – "Here Christ is not speaking of that faith which believes in Him undoubtingly and knows Him to be true God, but of the faith (needed) to work miracles. If ye have faith, He said, so exceedingly warm and burning as a grain of mustard seed (for these are its qualities), and if it is believed without a doubt that ye will perform signs, then ye will receive such power, that if ye desire to move the very mountains, ye will move them."

- St. John Chrysostom

**Ascension of Our Lord Greek Orthodox Church
Aug 9 – Aug 15, 2015**

Sunday August 9 – 10th SUNDAY OF MATTHEW – APOSTLE MATTHIAS

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

Coffee Fellowship hosted by Peter Tsitsis

Monday August 10
7:00 p.m. Small Paraklesis

Tuesday August 11
7:00 p.m. Great Paraklesis

Wednesday August 12
6:30 p.m. Holy Unction

Thursday August 13
7:00 p.m. Great Paraklesis

Friday August 14
7:00 p.m. Great Vespers @ Assumption Churches in Chicago and Racine WI

Saturday August 15 – DORMITION OF THE THEOTOKOS
8:15 a.m. Orthros
9:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy

5:00 p.m. Vespers

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.

CHURCH HAPPENINGS

+ **FAST OF THEOTOKOS** began August 1st. We fast for the first 15 days of August to honor the Mother of God prior to her Falling Asleep (August 15th). A strict fast is followed on most of the days (no meat, dairy, oil or wine), with the exceptions of fish on the Feast of the Transfiguration (Aug 6th). Oil and wine are allowed on Saturdays and Sundays. Just as Jesus fasted, so did the early Christians, and we follow that tradition today. Fasting is a means of disciplining the body and overcoming the passions. This fast is also accompanied by the Supplication Canons, (Paraklesis) chanted almost every evening which are full of beautiful melodies with rich meaning but also fortify the prayers of Christians. Please join us in these beautiful services.

+ **SAVE THE DATE SUNDAY, September 13th** our Family Picnic will take place, on the Church grounds, immediately following the Divine Liturgy. More details will follow.

+ **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 by Aug. 17 for the best rate.

+ **COMING SOON** Sunday School Registration for the 2015-2016 school year will be available online again by mid August. Please remember to register your children. The first day of class is September 13th. Contact Sunday Church School Director, Christine Perakis with any questions at cperakis@comcast.net or 847-220-1036.

+ **APPLICATIONS** for this year's Greek School beginning in September are available online or at the Church Office.

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

AUGUST 21-23	St. Demetrios Church, Chicago
AUGUST 22-23	S.S. Constantine & Helen, Palos Hills
SEPTEMBER 5-7	Hellenic American Academy, Deerfield
SEPTEMBER 11-13	SS Constantine & Helen, Rockford