

Resurrectional Apolytikion in the Plagal Fourth Mode

From on high didst Thou descend, O Compassionate One; to burial of three days hast Thou submitted that Thou mightest free us from our passions. O our Life and Resurrection, Lord, glory be to Thee.

Apolytikion for Sun. of St. Mary of Egypt in the Plagal Fourth Mode

In thee the image was preserved with exactness, O Mother; for taking up thy cross, thou didst follow Christ, and by thy deeds thou didst teach us to overlook the flesh, for it passeth away, but to attend to the soul since it is immortal. Wherefore, O righteous Mary, thy spirit rejoiceth with the Angels.

Apolytikion of the Church 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 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 Second Mode

O Protection of Christians that cannot be put to shame, mediation unto the creator most constant: O despise not the voices of those who have sinned; but be quick, O good one, to come unto our aid, who in faith cry unto thee: Hasten to intercession and speed thou to make supplication, O thou who dost ever protect, O Theotokos, them that honor thee.

The reading is from St. Paul's Letter to the Hebrews 9:11-14.

BRETHREN, when Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things that have come, then through the greater and more perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation) he entered once for all into the Holy Place, taking not the blood of goats and calves but his own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption. For if the sprinkling of defiled persons with the blood of goats and bulls and with the ashes of a heifer sanctifies for the purification of the flesh, how much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, purify your conscience from dead works to serve the living God.

The Gospel of Mark 10:32-45



At that time, Jesus taking the twelve again, He began to tell them what was to happen to him, saying, "Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem; and the Son of man will be delivered to the chief priests and the scribes, and they will condemn Him to death, and deliver Him to the Gentiles; and they will mock Him, and spit upon Him, and scourge Him, and kill Him; and after three days He will rise." And James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came forward to Him, and said to Him, "Teacher, we want You to do for us whatever we ask of You." And He said to them, "What do you want Me to do for you?" And they said to Him, "Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory." But Jesus said to them, "You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or to be baptized with the baptism with which I am baptized?" And they said to Him, "We are able." And Jesus said to them, "The cup that I drink you will drink; and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized; but to sit at My right hand or at My left is not Mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared." And when the ten heard it, they began to be indignant of James and John. And Jesus called them to Him and said to them, "You know that those who are supposed to rule over the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great men exercise authority over them. But it shall not be so among you; but whoever would be great among you must be your servant, and whoever would be first among you must be slave of all. For the Son of man also came not to be served but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many."

Ascension of Our Lord Greek Orthodox Church



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WEEKLY PARISH BULLETIN April 2 - 9, 2017

Welcome to Our Visitors

WE ARE GLAD you joined us in worship today. We hope your visit to Ascension 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.

Spiritual Reflection

"Before He humbled Himself, only the angels knew him. After He humbled Himself, all human nature knew Him. You see how His humbling of Himself did not make Him have less but produced countless benefits, countless deeds of virtue, and made His glory shine forth with greater brightness? God wants for nothing and has need of nothing. Yet, when He humbled Himself, He produced such great good, increased His household, and extended His kingdom. Why, then, are you afraid that you will become less if you humble yourself?"

St. John Chrysostom

Weekly Calendar

Sunday	April 2	Sunday of St. Mary of Egypt
8:15 a.m.	Orthros	
9:15 a.m.	Sunday Church School	
9:30 a.m.	Divine Liturgy	
	Coffee Fellowship hosted by the Syreggelos Family	
Monday	April 3	
5 p.m.	Great Compline	
5:45 p.m.	JOY/Jr. GOYA	
7:30 p.m.	GOYA	
Tuesday	April 4	
4:45 p.m.	Greek School	
Wednesday	April 5	
10 a.m.	HOPE	
5 p.m.	9 th Hour and Pre-Sanctified Liturgy	
	Lenten Meal hosted by Senior Synaxis	
	Palm Making	
Thursday	April 6	
6:15 p.m.	Adult Intermediate/Advanced Greek School	
7:45 p.m.	Adult Beginner Greek School	
Friday	April 7	
6:30 p.m.	Lenten Mini-Retreat for Pre-K-5 th Graders	
Saturday	April 8	Saturday of Lazarus
8 a.m.	Orthros	
9 a.m.	Divine Liturgy	
	Philoptochos Bake Sale (until noon)	
12 noon	GOYA Lenten Service Project @ Bernie's Book Bank	
4 p.m.	Girls Chant Group Practice	
5 p.m.	Vespers	
Sunday	April 29	Palm Sunday
8:15 a.m.	Orthros	
9:30 a.m.	Divine Liturgy	
	Procession/Blessing of Palms	
	Philoptochos Bake Sake	

Our Sunday Volunteers

Prospora: Mary Greub & Mary Kakavas

Epistle Reader: Paul Lillios

Ministry Greeter: Katherine Schreiber

Ushers: Bill Athenson-UIC, Peter Venetos, Tom Papastefan, Diane Sigalos, Mia Connolly, Steve Sintetas, Andrea Rogers

Prayer Requests for Health

PLEASE INCLUDE IN YOUR PERSONAL PRAYERS the servants of God: Georgia, John, Eleni, George, Nicholas, Christine, Christy, Louise, Anastasia, Stella, Mitchell, Joanne, Panagiotis, Christina, Helen, James, Sophia, Connie, Janet, Anthony

Announcements

- + **CONFESSIONS:** During Great Lent, please call the Church office prior to Holy Week to make an appointment.
- + **THE CAPITAL CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE** has identified additional major donor naming opportunities and has re-worked others: the foyer (\$150,000), the gallery (\$150,000), and the community center stage (\$50,000). These, together with our remaining major donor naming opportunities, which include the Nave (\$500,000), the kitchen (\$250,000), landscaping (\$150,000), and a classroom (\$75,000), are now shown on an updated board located in the Narthex. Also, our other remaining donation opportunities are Pews (\$10,000), but there are only five Pews yet to be donated, and Personalized Brick Pavers (\$1,000). Please act fast as we are now approximately 83% of the way to our goal of remaining debt-free and building without any borrowing. If you would like to avail yourself of one of the remaining major donor naming opportunities or to donate towards any of these other remaining Donation Opportunities, please contact Fr. Sotirios in the church office at 847-482-1200 or email him at frsotirios@ascensiongoc.com
- + **STEWARDSHIP** Stewardship is recognizing the amazing wonder and power of grace that we did not deserve. It is the attitude of gratitude, of being thankful in all things, even when we do not feel the gratitude or see it. To date, the total pledged for Ascension in 2017 is \$256,184 by 196 families. If you have not submitted your 2017 pledge, please do so today!
- + **THE CHICAGO PAN-ORTHODOX AKATHIST HYMN** will take place Tuesday, April 4th at 7 p.m. at Holy Protection of the Mother of God Serbian Orthodox Monastery - "New Gracanica" - in Lake Villa.
- + **THE LAST PRE-SANCTIFIED LITURGY** will take place this Wednesday, 4/5, beginning at 5 p.m. (Please note the time change). Following the Lenten supper, hosted by the Senior Synaxis, the Palm Crosses will be made by all those present. Please make every effort to attend and also stay to assist us in this beautiful Lenten tradition at Ascension.
- + **2ND ANNUAL LENTEN MINI-RETREAT THIS FRIDAY:** Please join us this Friday, April 7th from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. at Ascension for our 2nd Annual Lenten Mini-Retreat where Pre-K-5th graders will learn about *The Beatitudes*. Children will actively participate through hands-on lessons, crafts, and hymns. There is no cost for the retreat, but a free-will offering is appreciated for craft materials. Please RSVP to faithjoyascension@gmail.com to reserve your child's spot.
- + **TODAY IS THE LAST DAY TO ORDER LILIES & HYDRANGEAS FOR PASCHA:** JOY/Jr. GOYA will be taking orders for lilies and hydrangeas after Liturgy. The plants will be ready for pick-up next week on Palm Sunday. Please support this ministry.
- + **THE DEADLINE FOR THE KOINONIA MEN'S MINISTRY PACHAL GREETING CARD is this Thursday April 6th.** If you'd like to participate in this year's Paschal greeting card and support the Men's Ministry annual fundraiser, please fill out the insert and turn it in today. Through your generous contributions, the Men's Ministry is able to help our church and community in many ways so please help us. Thank you in advance for your generosity.
- + **THE PHILOPTOCHOS PASCHA BAKE SALE** will be here April 8th & 9th! Sale items include koulouria, kourabiedes, melomakarona, baklava, tsoureki, lambades, and Greek egg dye. Pre-order so we don't run out of your favorites! Fill out an order form and turn it in after church today. Pre-orders will be accepted until April 2nd and will be available for pickup following the Saturday of Lazarus service on Saturday, April 8th and the Palm Sunday service on April 9th. Questions? Contact Debbie Katsulis 847-573-8233, debrakatsulis@yahoo.com or Patricia Filley 312-320-4062, pfilley@sbcglobal.net.
- + **HOCKEY MANIA WINNER UPDATE** for week 13: Elaine Metropoulos, who won \$25.00; and, Iliana Anthimiades, who won \$50.00. Congratulations to both of our winners!
- + **THE HOLY WEEK SERVICE BOOK** is available for purchase from the bookstore along with several other books and gifts for Pascha. Please visit us after Liturgy today!
- + **RED EGGS:** If you are able to dye two dozen hardboiled eggs red for our parish Paschal celebration and bring them to church on or before April 14th, we would be very grateful. The sign up list is posted on the refrigerator in the kitchen. Thank you!
- + **PHILOPTOCHOS "FILL THE BAG" PROJECT-** On Saturday, April 22nd at 10 a.m. at Ascension, we will be assembling bags for the Annunciation Feed the Hungry Program. We are asking for donations of Band-Aids (60 Count), Granola Bars, Chapstick, apples and clementines. Monetary donations are also greatly appreciated to offset the costs of providing an additional to-go lunch. Please make checks payable to: Ascension Philoptochos and mark "Lenten Project" in the memo. Donations are needed by April 17th and may be placed in the box in fellowship hall labeled "Fill the Bag" -- except for the fresh fruit, which can be dropped off on Friday or Saturday, April 21st or 22nd. Please contact Kathie Rutkowski at 847-421-8267 with questions.
- + **FEED THE HUNGRY" PROGRAM @ ANNUNCIATION CATHEDRAL** - Our Philoptochos will "Feed the Hungry" on Tuesday, April 25th at the Annunciation Cathedral in Chicago. We are planning to feed 150+ hungry men and women, most of who are homeless. Please contact Kathie Rutkowski @ 847-421-8267, to volunteer or donate. Philoptochos will also be distributing the filled bags from the "Fill the Bag" program to everyone being fed that day.

PARKING AND FREE SHUTTLE BUS SERVICE DURING HOLY WEEK SERVICES

With regard to overflow parking for the Sacrament of Holy Unction service on Holy Wednesday afternoon: we will NOT be able to park in the Administration Lot (north lot) at Daniel Wright School. Instead, our neighbor, Banner Day Camp, graciously has agreed to let us use its lot for overflow parking that afternoon. We have arranged a free shuttle bus to take overflow parkers back and forth from the Banner Day parking lot and the church during and after the Holy Wednesday afternoon service. On Palm Sunday, Good Friday & Holy Saturday evenings, a complimentary shuttle bus will transport parkers between Ascension and Daniel Wright School, which is just ¼ mile south of the Church. If our lot is full on Palm Sunday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday evenings, please park in the Administration Lot (north lot) at Daniel Wright School and take advantage of the free shuttle bus service. Parking on our fire lane and in the church driveway is illegal, and the entrance to the Church parking lot is designated as a no parking zone. Emergency vehicles must be able to enter the Church without obstructions. Police will ticket illegally parked cars. Double-parking in the parking lot is also prohibited. We further request that you avoid parking on the grass of our Church property and please be courteous and respectful of our neighbors' property. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.