

Resurrectional Apolytikion in the Plagal Second Mode

Angelic powers were above Thy tomb, and they that guarded Thee became as dead. And Mary stood by the grave seeking Thine immaculate Body. Thou hast despoiled Hades and wast not tried thereby. Thou didst meet the Virgin and didst grant us life. O Thou Who didst arise from the dead, Lord, glory be to Thee.

Apolytikion for Afterfeast of the Holy Cross in the First Mode

Save, O Lord, Thy people and bless Thine inheritance; grant Thou unto the faithful victory over adversaries. And by the power of Thy Cross do Thou preserve Thy commonwealth.

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, 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 λυτρωτῆς τοῦ κόσμου.

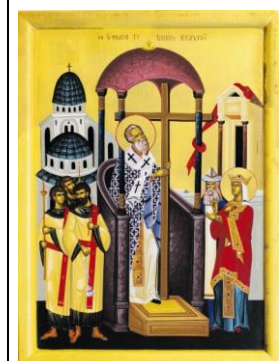
Seasonal Kontakion in the Fourth Mode

Lifted up on the Cross by Your free will, Christ God, grant mercies to the new commonwealth that bears Your name. Gladden our faithful rulers by Your power, giving them victories over their adversaries. May Your alliance be for them a weapon for peace, an invincible standard.

The reading is from St. Paul's Letter to the Galatians 2:16-20.

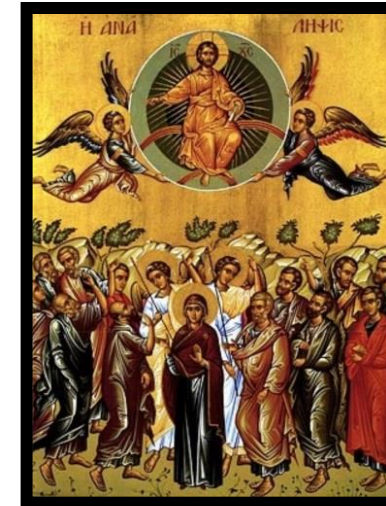
Brethren, knowing that a man is not justified by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, in order to be justified by faith in Christ, and not by works of the law, because by works of the law shall no one be justified. But if, in our endeavor to be justified in Christ, we ourselves were found to be sinners, is Christ then an agent of sin? Certainly not! But if I build up again those things which I tore down, then I prove myself a transgressor. For I through the law died to the law, that I might live to God. I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me; and the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

The Reading is from Mark 8:34-38; 9:1



The Lord said: "If anyone wishes to come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it; and whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel's will save it. For what does it profit a man, to gain the whole world and forfeit his life? For what can a man give in return for his life? For whoever is ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him will the Son of man also be ashamed, when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels." And he said to them, "Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the kingdom of God come with power."

Ascension of Our Lord Greek Orthodox Church



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WEEKLY PARISH BULLETIN September 17 - 24, 2017

Welcome to Our Visitors

WELCOME TO THE ASCENSION PARISH. Your presence has brought us much joy. We hope your visit is 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

A Christian's duty is to "take up his cross." The word cross means sufferings, sorrows and adversities. To take up one's cross means to bear without grumblings everything unpleasant, painful, sad, difficult and oppressive that may happen to us in life. . .without expecting any earthly reward in return, but bear it all with love, with joy and with courageous strength.

Weekly Calendar

Sunday	September 17	<u>SS SOPHIA, FAITH, HOPE & AGAPE, THE MARTYRS</u>
8:15 a.m.	Orthros	
9:15 a.m.	Sunday Church School	
9:30 a.m.	Divine Liturgy @ Daniel Wright School, 1370 Riverwoods Rd. Coffee Fellowship hosted by Men's Ministry	
Monday	September 18	
5:45 p.m.	JOY/Jr. GOYA	
7:30 p.m.	GOYA (Both ministries meet @ 1221 Riverwoods)	
Tuesday	September 19	
4:45 p.m.	Greek School @Daniel Wright Middle School, 1370 Riverwoods Rd.	
Wednesday	September 20	
10 a.m.	HOPE @ House: 1221 N. Riverwoods Rd.	
Thursday	September 21	
6:15 p.m.	Greek School Beginners/Advanced Beginners	
7:45 p.m.	Greek School Intermediate/Advanced @ House: 1221 N. Riverwoods Rd.	
Friday	September 22	
7 p.m.	Faith/Joy Bowling Kick-Off @ Brunswick Zone	
Saturday	September 23	
11 a.m.	Metropolis Philoptochos Luncheon, Empress Banquets, Addison	
5 p.m.	Vespers @ House 1221 N. Riverwoods	
Sunday	September 24	<u>1st Sunday of Luke</u>
8:15 a.m.	Orthros	
9:15 a.m.	Sunday Church School	
9:30 a.m.	Divine Liturgy @ Daniel Wright School, 1370 Riverwoods Rd.	

Our Sunday Volunteers

Prospora Bakers: Mary Kakavas & Maria Karalis
Epistle Reader: Kathie Rutkowski
Ministry Greeter: Kathie Rutkowski
Ushers: David Rutkowski (UIC), Kathy Rutkowski, Carol Stamas, Peter Venetos, Bill Athenson, Mia Connolly, Tom Vabakos

Prayer Requests for Health

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

Announcements

+ **DURING CONSTRUCTION, SUNDAY ORTHROS, DIVINE LITURGY AND SUNDAY CHURCH SCHOOL** will take place at Daniel Wright Middle School, 1370 Riverwoods Rd., Lincolnshire. Tuesday evening Greek School classes will also take place at Daniel Wright School. Ministry Meetings and Thursday evening Adult Greek School will take place at the home that Ascension rented just south of the church: 1221 Riverwoods Rd., Lake Forest, unless otherwise noted. Fr. Sotiri's office as well as the Church office is now located in the house next door as well. **Important: the church phone number and mailing address will not change.** Communication about the life of the Ascension parish is sent out regularly via email blasts. If you aren't receiving these notifications and would like to, please go to our home page (www.ascensiongoc.com) and click "Join our Email List."

+ **SACRAMENTS** With the Lord's blessings, the Liturgical life of our church will continue in earnest during our construction project. We have made arrangements for Fr. Sotiri to be able to conduct Baptisms and Wedding Sacraments at another Greek Orthodox Church. Fr. Sotiri will hear confessions in the small worship area of the new space at 1221 Riverwoods Road. Weekday services will be held in this worship space as well. **If you'd like to plan a Sacrament (Baptism, Wedding, Confession), or a Funeral, Memorial or Artoclasia, please contact the church office so proper arrangements can be made during our construction period.**

+ **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 Adult Baptismal Font (\$75,000). 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, another remaining donation opportunity is Personalized Brick Pavers (\$1,000). Please act fast as we are now approximately 80% 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 at 847-482-1200, or email at frsotirios@ascensiongoc.com

+ **ATTENTION MOMS/YIAYIAS AND LITTLE ONES!** HOPE ministry begins this Wednesday, Sept. 20th from 10 -11 a.m. Please join us at the home Ascension rented just south of the church (1221 N. Riverwoods) for prayer, lesson and playtime! HOPE is for children, ages 40 days - 3 years old, and their parents and/or grandparents. Contact Presvytera with any questions at presstefanie@yahoo.com.

+ **FAITH/JOY KICKOFF EVENT** - All K-5th graders are invited to join us for our kick-off bowling event on Friday, September 22nd from 7-9 p.m. at Brunswick Zone Hawthorn in Vernon Hills. The cost is \$20 per child and includes shoes and two hours of bowling. To RSVP contact Desiree Petros and Presvytera Stefanie at faithjoyascension@gmail.com. Families are invited to bring spare change as a free-will offering as we will send any donations collected to assist IOCC in their efforts to aid those affected by the recent hurricanes.

+ **SENIOR SYNAXIS TO VISIT BAHA'I TEMPLE AT END OF SEPTEMBER:** The Senior Synaxis ministry will be going to the Baha'i Temple in Wilmette on September 28th. If anyone is interested, please contact Elaine Beck at 847.367.5227.

+ **OLIVE OIL FUNDRAISING OPPORTUNITY COMING TO A CLOSE: ACT FAST!** Ascension is selling cold-pressed extra-virgin olive oil as part of a Metropolis initiated fundraising project to benefit our building fund, the Saint Iakovos Retreat Center and the Orthodox chapels on the island Strogili Megisti near the Turkish coast. We only have approximately 100 bottles left for sale. To pre-order and reserve your supply, email Harold Anagnos at hanagnos90@gmail.com or Diane Sigalos at diane_sigalos@yahoo.com.

+ **FOOTBALL MANIA:** Philoptochos has brought back Football Mania! The fundraiser begins October 26th. Please stop by after Liturgy and pick up your tickets! Looking forward to a fun Football season!

+ **THE ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CLERGY ASSOCIATION OF GREATER CHICAGO** will host the 125th Anniversary of Orthodoxy in Chicago on Saturday, September 30th with a Hierarchical Divine Liturgy @ 10 a.m. at Lane Tech High School, Chicago, followed by a celebration banquet at the Marriott Chicago O'Hare at 2:30 p.m. For more information, visit www.Facebook.com/ChicagoOCCA

+ **SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE TO UNIVERSITY STUDENTS OF HELLENIC DESCENT** through the Hellenic Link-Midwest Board (applications due October 15, 2017). For more information on available scholarship programs, visit Ascension's website and click on the Orthodox Christian Fellowship link within the Ministry section.

+ **"BEHOLD I BEGIN THE EXCAVATION OF THESE FOUNDATIONS AND MAY THEY STAND FIRM FOREVER"** ...words spoken with fortitude before hundreds of faithful witnesses during Ascension of Our Lord's Site Blessing and Groundbreaking service last Sunday, September 10, 2017. It was truly a day the Lord made, and for those present at this once in a lifetime event, it was a reminiscent tribute to the past, and a sanctified introduction to the future. May our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ grace the Ascension parish with strength, perseverance and spiritual wisdom as we embark on the construction of our new house of worship and community life center.

+ **A PERFECT ENDING TO A PERFECT, HOLY and PEACEFUL DAY** To all the members of the Koinonia Men's Ministry, we thank you for providing the opportunity for our parish family and friends to continue to celebrate the momentous groundbreaking at the 4th annual Parish Family picnic. God provided us with beautiful weather, and you provided us with delicious food, perfectly executed logistics and a warm, loving atmosphere. The entire day emulated the name of your ministry: Koinonia – fellowship and sharing in common communion with fellow Christians. Thank you!