

## Hymns and Holy Scripture Readings

### Resurrectional Apolytikion in the Plagal First Mode

Let us worship the Word, O ye faithful, praising Him that with the Father and the Spirit is co-beginningless God, Who was born of a pure Virgin that we all be saved; for He was pleased to mount the Cross in the flesh that He assumed, accepting thus to endure death. And by His glorious rising, He also willed to resurrect the dead.

### 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 Plagal Fourth Mode

Though You went down into the tomb, You destroyed Hades' power, and You rose the victor, Christ God, saying to the myrrh-bearing women, "Hail!" and granting peace to Your disciples, You who raise up the fallen.

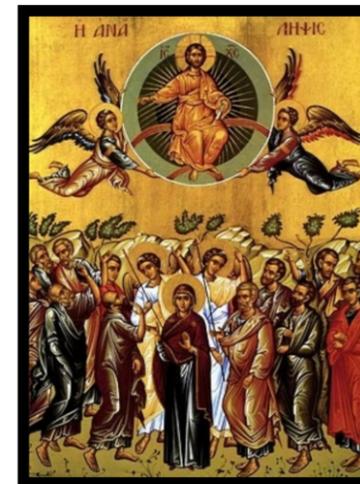
### The reading is from Acts of the Apostles 16:16-34.

IN THOSE DAYS, as we apostles were going to the place of prayer, we were met by a slave girl who had a spirit of divination and brought her owners much gain by soothsaying. She followed Paul and us, crying, "These men are servants of the Most High God, who proclaim to you the way of salvation." And this she did for many days. But Paul was annoyed, and turned and said to the spirit, "I charge you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her." And it came out that very hour. But when her owners saw that their hope of gain was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the market place before the rulers; and when they had brought them to the magistrates they said, "These men are Jews and they are disturbing our city. They advocate customs which it is not lawful for us Romans to accept or practice." The crowd joined in attacking them; and the magistrates tore the garments off them and gave orders to beat them with rods. And when they had inflicted many blows upon them, they threw them into prison, charging the jailer to keep them safely. Having received this charge, he put them into the inner prison and fastened their feet in the stocks. But about midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them, and suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and every one's fetters were unfastened. When the jailer woke and saw that the prison doors were open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, supposing that the prisoners had escaped. But Paul cried with a loud voice, "Do not harm yourself, for we are all here." And he called for lights and rushed in, and trembling with fear he fell down before Paul and Silas, and brought them out and said, "Men, what must I do to be saved?" And they said, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household." And they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all that were in his house. And he took them the same hour of the night, and washed their wounds, and he was baptized at once, with all his family. Then he brought them up into his house, and set food before them; and he rejoiced with all his household that he had believed in God.

### The Gospel of John 9:1-38

At that time, as Jesus passed by, He saw a man blind from his birth. And His disciples asked Him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be made manifest in him. We must work the works of Him who sent me, while it is day; night comes, when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." As He said this, He spat on the ground and made clay of the spittle and anointed the man's eyes with the clay, saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). So he went and washed and came back seeing. The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar, said, "Is not this the man who used to sit and beg?" Some said, "It is he"; others said, "No, but he is like him." He said, "I am the man." They said to him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" He answered, "The man called Jesus made clay and anointed my eyes and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash'; so I went and washed and received my sight." They said to him, "Where is He?" He said, "I do not know." They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the clay and opened his eyes. The Pharisees again asked him how he had received his sight. And he said to them, "He put clay on my eyes and I washed, and I see." Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for He does not keep the Sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?" There was a division among them. So they again said to the blind man, "What do you say about Him, since He has opened your eyes?" He said, "He is a prophet." The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight, until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight, and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" His parents answered, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but how he now sees we do not know, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age, he will speak for himself." His parents said this because they feared the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that if anyone should confess Him to be Christ he was to be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, "He is of age, ask him." So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and said to him, "Give God the praise; we know that this man is a sinner." He answered, "Whether He is a sinner, I do not know; one thing I know, that though I was blind, now I see." They said to him, "What did He do to you? How did He open your eyes?" He answered them, "I have told you already and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you too want to become His disciples?" And they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where He comes from." The man answered, "Why, this is a marvel! You do not know where He comes from, and yet He opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but if anyone is a worshiper of God and does His will, God listens to him. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a man born blind. If this man were not from God, He could do nothing." They answered him, "You were born in utter sin, and would you teach us?" And they cast him out. Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found him He said, "Do you believe in the Son of man?" He answered, "And who is He, sir, that I may believe in Him?" Jesus said to him, "You have seen Him, and it is He who speaks to you." He said, "Lord, I believe"; and he worshiped him.

## Ascension of Our Lord Greek Orthodox Church



1207 Riverwoods Road – Lincolnshire, Illinois 60069

Fr. Sotirios P. Malamis, Proistamenos

TEL: (847) 482-1200 | FAX: (847) 482-9566 | [www.ascensiongoc.com](http://www.ascensiongoc.com)

Office e-mail: [info@ascensiongoc.com](mailto:info@ascensiongoc.com)

## WEEKLY PARISH BULLETIN May 13 - 20, 2018

## Χριστός Ανέστη! Αληθώς Ανέστη! Christ is Risen! Truly He is Risen!

### 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.

### Resurrection Hymn

Christ is risen from the dead, by death, trampling down upon death, and to those in the tombs, He has granted life.

Χριστός ανέστη εκ νεκρών, θανάτω θάνατον πατήσας, και τοις εν τοις μνήμασι ζωήν χαρισάμενος.

Christos anesti eknekron, thanato thanaton patisas, ke tis en tis mnimasi, zoin charisamenos.

### Spiritual Reflection

*“By the Resurrection and Ascension of human nature we are at the same time also celebrating the beginning of the resurrection and ascension of every believer. Therefore, when a person takes part in Christ’s Ascension, he is no longer a man of the earth, like the first man, but a man of heaven, like the second man, Christ.”*

**St. Gregory Palamas**

## Weekly Calendar

<p><b>Sunday</b> 8:15 a.m. 9:15 a.m. 9:30 a.m.</p> <p><b>Monday</b> 5:45 p.m. 7:30 p.m.</p> <p><b>Tuesday</b> 4:45 p.m. 7 p.m.</p> <p><b>Wednesday</b> 8 a.m. 9 a.m. 7 p.m.</p> <p><b>Thursday</b> 8:15 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 6:15 p.m. 7:45 p.m.</p> <p><b>Saturday</b> 5 p.m.</p> <p><b>Sunday</b> 8:15 a.m. 9:15 a.m. 9:30 a.m.</p> <p>7 p.m.</p>	<p><b>May 13</b>      <b>Sunday of the Blind Man</b> Orthros      <b>Mother's Day</b> Sunday Church School Divine Liturgy Coffee Fellowship hosted by Koinonia Men's Ministry with assistance from GOYA in honor of Mother's Day Girls' Chanting Practice</p> <p><b>May 14</b> JOY, Jr. GOYA GOYA</p> <p><b>May 15</b> Greek School Parish Council Meeting</p> <p><b>May 16</b>      <b>Apodosis of Pascha</b> Orthros @ 1221 House Chapel Divine Liturgy Ascension Hierarchical Great Vespers @ SS. Peter &amp; Paul, Church Glenview His Eminence Metropolitan NATHANAEL presiding</p> <p><b>May 17</b>      <b>Ascension of Our Lord</b> Orthros @ SS. Peter &amp; Paul Church, Glenview Divine Liturgy. Greek School Beginners/Advanced Beginners Greek School Intermediate/Advanced</p> <p><b>May 19</b> Vespers</p> <p><b>May 20</b>      <b>Fathers of the 1<sup>st</sup> Ecumenical Council</b> Orthros Sunday Church School Divine Liturgy Sunday Church School program General Assembly Great Vespers @ Sts. Constantine &amp; Helen, Palos Hills</p>
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+ **FINAL TWO WEEKS OF THE PASCHA TO PENTECOST *Double the Donation Equation* CAMPAIGN:** If Ascension raises \$250,000 in new contributions between Pascha and Pentecost (May 27) for construction of our new church, an anonymous donor has graciously offered to match the donation, bringing our parish \$500,000 closer to building debt-free! We are down to our final \$1.14 million to raise! Please donate today and participate in this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to build a Greek Orthodox church and community center that will be a spiritual home for us, our children, grandchildren and many more generations to come. Help us achieve our dream debt-free!! The current version of our Donor Recognition Wall has been published, but there is still time to include your family name on this commemorative wall that will be displayed in our new church. Please contact Fr. Sotirios at 847-482-1200, or email at frsotirios@ascensiongoc.com. We thank you in advance for your love in coming together as a parish family to help build *Our Church - Our Faith - Our Legacy*.

## Our Sunday Volunteers

**Prospora:** Sofia Caronis & Mary Kakavas  
**Epistle Reader:** Jim Anast  
**Greeters:** Janis & Mark Rader  
**Ushers:** Peter Venetos UIC, Bill Athenson, Carol Stamas, David Rutkowski, Kathie Rutkowski, Tom Kiriakos, Demetri Katsulis, Doug Hugdahl

## Prayer Requests for Health

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

## Announcements

+ **PLEASE ATTEND OUR FEASTDAY SERVICES THIS WEEK:** With the paternal blessings of His Eminence Metropolitan NATHANAEL, and the *philoxenia* of the parish of Saints Peter and Paul, Ascension's Feastday celebrations this year during our construction phase will take place at SS. Peter & Paul Greek Orthodox Church, 1401 Wagner Rd., Glenview. Hierarchical Great Vespers will take place on Wednesday, May 16th at 7 p.m. His Eminence Metropolitan NATHANAEL will be presiding. On Thursday, May 17, the day of our Feastday, Orthros will be at 8:15 a.m. followed by the Hierarchical Divine Liturgy at 9:30 a.m. Our Parish family looks forward to hosting and worshipping at SS Peter and Paul with many local clergy and faithful throughout the Metropolis.

+ **DONATIONS FOR OUR FEASTDAY** – If anyone wishes to donate the flowers that will decorate the Icon of the Ascension, or the loaves for the Artoclasia, please contact the Church office at 847.482.1200.

+ **STEWARDSHIP 2018:** As we continue pushing through this transition period, our commitment to Stewardship is more important than ever! We should be inspired by what's ahead for our new church home. We have many vibrant ministries that have thrived through the transition, but our ministries still need your help! To date, the total pledged for Ascension in 2018 is \$327,253 by 248 families. Let's keep the momentum going - if you haven't pledged your Ascension Stewardship for 2018, we ask that you prayerfully consider pledging soon. Pledge cards are available near the candle stand.

+ **JR. OLYMPICS PRACTICE SCHEDULE & T-SHIRT UPDATE:** **The following practice schedule** has been set to prepare for Jr. Olympics: **Basketball practice will take place at Half Day School:** May 18, 23, 25 (7-9pm); **Volleyball practice takes place at Daniel Wright:** May 15, 22 (7-8pm); **Soccer practice at Daniel Wright:** May 17, 24 (6:30 - 7:30pm (7-9yrs); 7:30-8:30pm (10-12yrs). **T-Shirt Update:** Ascension Team- Jr. Olympics will be getting new t-shirts this year. A shirt will be ordered for all the children registered to participate. (Cost will be determined on quantity ordered). If parents/adults/coaches/volunteers/fans would also like a t-shirt, please email etegel2@gmail.com or text Esther at 847.772.4486 by Monday, May 14th in order to get them in time. Thank you! For more information, including a schedule of events for this Metropolis-wide event that takes place over Memorial Day weekend at SS Constantine & Helen, please contact Dino Bolos (dinobolos@yahoo.com), or visit the youth pages of our website.

+ **NEXT WEEK IS THE LAST WEEK OF SUNDAY CHURCH SCHOOL UNTIL THE FALL.** Our Sunday Church School year concludes next Sunday May 20th, with a presentation immediately following Liturgy.

+ **REMINDER: THE SPRING GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING TAKES PLACE NEXT SUNDAY, 5/20.** Please mark your calendars and plan to attend this important meeting immediately following the Divine Liturgy. The agenda is posted on our website.

+ **REGISTRATION DEADLINE APPROACHING FOR THE 2018 ASCENSION GOLF OUTING!** The Koinonia Men's Ministry will be hosting the annual Ascension Golf Outing and Family Dinner on Friday, June 1st at the Deerfield Golf Course. The deadline to register is May 21<sup>st</sup>! You may register on the Koinonia Men's Ministry webpage on the Ascension website; or fill out the insert. Please plan to join us for this great day of fellowship!

+ **PLEASE CALL THE OFFICE IF SOMEONE IN YOUR HOME IS REACHING A GRADUATION MILESTONE THIS YEAR** Ascension's annual graduate tribute will take place on Sunday, June 3rd, following the Divine Liturgy. Students from Elementary School, High School, College, Graduate or Post-Graduate programs will be recognized. Please contact Suzanne Saric by email (suzannesaric@sbcglobal.net) or by calling the church office no later than Monday, May 28th with the following information; name(s) of your graduate(s); school graduating from; degree (if applicable) and full name and location of school they will be attending in the fall (if applicable). Thank you.

+ **ALTAR TABLE VOTIVE LIGHT DONATIONS** may now be offered for the health of individuals, family members or in memory of departed loved ones. A \$75.00 donation for each week's votive light is requested. The votive light burns perpetually at the altar in the chapel of the house Ascension is renting during construction of the new church. Names will be acknowledged in the Sunday Bulletin. Call the Church Office to reserve the votive and share commemorative names.

+ **ATTENTION: FOR YOUR SAFETY,** if you are driving by the church to view the progress being made on the building, we ask that you please do not enter the construction site. For safety purposes, the construction zone is surrounded by fencing and only authorized employees are able to be on-site. To get a nice view of the progress, you are welcome to stop by the home just south of the church that Ascension is renting. We also update the photo gallery on our website with construction progress photos. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

+ **COFFEE HOUR APPEAL FOR REST OF YEAR:** We are in need of coffee hosts throughout the rest of the year. Recommendations for simple offerings can be found on our website. You may sign up on the list on the coffee hour table; online via our website, or by calling the church office. Thank you in advance for offering your love and commitment to this important ministry.