

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 Nativity of the Theotokos in the Fourth Mode

Thy Nativity, O Theotokos, hath proclaimed joy to the whole world; for from thee hath dawned the Sun of Righteousness, Christ our God, annulling the curse and bestowing the blessing, abolishing death and granting us life everlasting.

Apolytikion for Synaxis of the Holy Ancestors of God in the Second Mode

As we celebrate the memory of Thy righteous ancestors, O Lord, through them we beseech Thee to save our souls.

Memorial Hymn

Remember, O Lord, as You are good, Your servants, and forgive every sin they have committed in this life. For no one is sinless except You, Who have power to grant rest to those who have fallen asleep.

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.

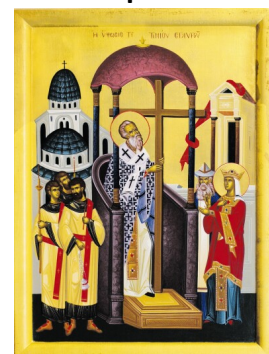
Seasonal Kontakion in the Fourth Mode

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 Letter to the Galatians 6:11-18.

Brethren, see with what large letters I am writing to you with my own hand. It is those who want to make a good showing in the flesh that would compel you to be circumcised, and only in order that they may not be persecuted for the cross of Christ. For even those who receive circumcision do not themselves keep the law, but they desire to have you circumcised that they may glory in your flesh. But far be it from me to glory except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. For neither circumcision counts for anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creation. Peace and mercy be upon all who walk by this rule, upon the Israel of God. Henceforth let no man trouble me; for I bear on my body the marks of Jesus. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brethren. Amen.

The Gospel of John 3:13-17



The Lord said, "No one has ascended into heaven but he who descended from heaven, the Son of man who is in heaven. And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God sent the Son into the world, not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him."

Ascension of Our Lord Greek Orthodox Church



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WEEKLY PARISH BULLETIN September 9 - 16, 2018

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

"In making the sign of the cross believe and constantly remember that your sins are nailed to the cross. When you fall into sin, at once judge yourself sincerely, and make the sign of the cross upon yourself, saying, Lord, Thou that naillest our sins to the cross, nail also this my sin to thy cross, and have mercy upon me after thy great goodness, and you will be cleansed from your sin."

Weekly Calendar

Sunday	September 9	Sunday Before Holy Cross
8:15 a.m.		Orthros
9:15 a.m.		Sunday Church School
9:30 a.m.		Divine Liturgy
		Memorial for the Souls of the Servants of God: Georgia Katz (9 mo); Stavroula Gekas (2 years)
11:30 a.m.:		Parish Family Picnic @ Banner
Monday	September 10	
7:30 p.m.		GOYA @ 1221 House
Tuesday	September 11	
4:45 p.m.		Greek School, Daniel Wright Middle School
7 p.m.		Parish Council
Thursday	September 13	
6:15 p.m.		Greek School: Beginners/Advanced Beginners
7:45 p.m.:		Greek School Intermediate/Advanced @ 1221 House
7 p.m.		Great Vespers, Holy Cross, Justice
Friday	September 14	Exaltation of the Holy Cross
Services held at Holy Cross, Justice, IL		<i>Strict Fast</i>
Saturday	September 15	
8 a.m.		Men's Koinonia Retreat, St. Iakovos Retreat Center
Sunday	September 16	Sunday After Holy Cross
8:15 a.m.		Orthros
9:15 a.m.		Sunday Church School
9:30 a.m.		Divine Liturgy

Our Sunday Volunteers

Prospora: Mary Kakavas & Maria Karalis
Epistle Reader: Tom Kiriakos
Greeter: Marcia Moore
Ushers: Doug Hugdahl (UIC), David Rutkowski, Kathie Rutkowski, Carol Stamas, Diane Sigalos, Tom Vabakos, Bill Smirles

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, James, Theresa, Peter, Anna, Ignacio

Announcements

+ **WE WELCOME OUR SUNDAY CHURCH SCHOOL STUDENTS BACK TO CLASS TODAY** and wish our Pre-K – 8th grade students, their teachers and assistants an inspiring and educational year grounded in the teachings of Christ. "Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it" (Proverbs 22:6).

+ **HUNGRY FOR SOME GYROS OR SOUVLAKI? JOIN US AFTER LITURGY AT ASCENSION'S ANNUAL FAMILY PICNIC**, which will again take place on the grounds of Banner Camp, 1225 Riverwoods Rd, just north of the Church. We thank our hosts -- the members of Ascension's Koinonia Men's Ministry -- for carrying on this wonderful tradition each year, which provides our parish family the opportunity to practice true "koinonia". We look forward to enjoying the delicious food you provide us! Thank you!

+ **MEN'S MINISTRY RETREAT: RSVP DEADLINE TODAY!** The first annual Men's Ministry Retreat, hosted by Koinonia Men's Ministry, will take place next Saturday, September 15th at 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. at the St. Iakovos Retreat Center, Kansasville, WI. The theme of the retreat, which is open to all men of Ascension, is *Becoming Better Husbands, Fathers, Brothers and Friends*, and our featured speakers will be Fr. Sotirios and Fr. Greanias. Cost, which includes breakfast and lunch, is \$50. If you plan on attending, please don't delay in contacting David Rutkowski at 847-650-0559. Thank you!

+ **OUR SENIOR SYNAXIS MINISTRY INVITES MEMBERS AND THEIR FAMILIES TO THEIR NEXT MINISTRY GATHERING: FABULOUS FOX RIVER LUNCHEON**, which will take place on September 20, 2018, beginning at 10:15 a.m. The cost is \$67 per person to cruise the Fox River and have lunch aboard a replica steamboat paddle wheeler. Please RSVP as soon as possible to Elaine Beck, 847.367.5227.

+ **METROPOLIS STRATEGIC PLANNING INITIATIVE:** His Eminence Metropolitan Nathanael has as one of his priorities to carry out a new and energetic Strategic Planning process that will ensure a fruitful future for the Metropolis of Chicago, its parishes and all its people. His Eminence asks that we please take the time to read the enclosed details of this plan and to give good thought to the action item (SWOT analysis). Responses can be either emailed or sent directly to the Metropolis by the September 20th deadline (details in the insert). Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of this request.

+ **PHILOPTOCHOS INVITES EVERYONE TO THIS YEAR'S KICKOFF MEETING ON** Thursday, September 20th at 6:30 pm at The Wild Buffalo Restaurant, 48 Raupp Blvd, Buffalo Grove. With the start of the new Ecclesiastical year upon us, we've chosen this year's theme to be "There's No Place Like Home" since we are excited about the prospect of returning to our church home! Please join this dynamic group of women! Membership forms are posted on the Ascension Philoptochos web page and will also be emailed. RSVP to Anna Duros at ascensionphilo@gmail.com or call at 847-370-2662.

+ **FAITH/JOY KICKOFF EVENT** - All K-5th graders are invited to join us for our kick-off bowling event on Friday, September 21st 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 faithjoyascension@gmail.com.

+ **RECRUITING ALTAR BOYS:** All Orthodox young men and/or boys 10 years and older are invited to participate in the sacred privilege of serving in the altar. Altar boys must have a teachable spirit, demonstrate respect for liturgical tradition and commit to serving consistently. If your son is interested in participating in this formational year-round ministry, please contact Pete Metropoulos at metro821@yahoo.com. Please see insert for more information on the September 23rd altar boy workshop, followed by lunch at Red Robin generously donated by a parishioner.

+ **PLEASE CONSIDER BECOMING A PART OF THE PHILOPTOCHOS KOLIVA MINISTRY!** Most of the time you see Koliva during a memorial service at Ascension, it has been made by the loving hands of our Philoptochos members. Philoptochos offers this wonderful ministry to help families commemorate their loved ones. As we begin the new ecclesiastical year, Philoptochos is looking for additional volunteers who are willing to boil and/or prepare the Koliva for Sunday memorials. No prior knowledge or experience is necessary. If you are interested in assisting, please call Andrea Rogers at 847.682.4816. Thank you.

+ **SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE TO UNIVERSITY STUDENTS OF HELLENIC DESCENT** through the Hellenic Link-Midwest Board (applications due October 15, 2018). Scholarships are \$2,000 or more and applicants must have completed one year of college. For more information on available scholarship programs, visit Ascension's website and click on the Orthodox Christian Fellowship link within the Ministry section.

MINISTRY START-DATES

For more information, please visit the Ministry tab on our website at www.ascensiongoc.com/parish-ministries. Registration information can also be found on each ministry's webpage. If you have any questions, please contact the church office at 847.482.1200.

Sunday Church School:	September 9
Koinonia Men's Ministry	September 9
Greek School:	September 11: Youth Program September 13: Adults/Adolescents
GOYA:	September 10
Jr. GOYA:	September 17
Philoptochos	September 20
Senior Synaxis	September 20
FAITH/JOY	September 21
HOPE:	September 26
Marriage Ministry	September 28
Acolytes:	Ongoing
Orthodox Campus Fellowship	Ongoing
Stewardship	Ongoing