

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 Afterfeast of the Entry of the Theotokos in the Fourth Mode

Today is the prelude of God's good will and the heralding of the salvation of mankind. In the temple of God, the Virgin is presented openly, and she proclaimeth Christ unto all. To her, then, with a great voice let us cry aloud: Rejoice, O thou fulfilment of the Creator's dispensation.

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, 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

Today, the most pure temple of the Savior, the precious bridal chamber and Virgin, the sacred treasure of God, enters the house of the Lord, bringing the grace of the Divine Spirit. The Angels of God praise her. She is the heavenly tabernacle.

The reading is from St. Paul's Letter to the Ephesians 4:1-7

BRETHREN, I, a prisoner for the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all lowliness and meekness, with patience, forbearing one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of us all, who is above all and through all and in all. But grace was given to each of us according to the measure of Christ's gift.

The Gospel of Luke 12:16-21

The Lord said this parable: "The land of a rich man brought forth plentifully; and he thought to himself, 'What shall I do, for I have nowhere to store my crops?' And he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns, and build larger ones; and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, 'Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; take your ease, eat, drink, be merry.' But God said to him, 'Fool! This night your soul is required of you; and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?' So is he who lays up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God." As he said these things, he cried out: "He who has ears to hear, let him hear."

Ascension of Our Lord Greek Orthodox Church



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WEEKLY PARISH BULLETIN

Nov 22 - 29, 2015

Prosphora Bakers:

Sophia Beris & Helen Pissios

FOS Ministry Greeter:

Kay James

Epistle Reader:

Mark Rader

Ushers:

Tom Kiriakos, Tom Papastefan, Peter Venetos, Robert Buhler,
Bob Mantzoros, Nick Marino

SPIRITUAL REFLECTION – *“He who receives Holy Communion is made holy and divinized in soul and body in the same way that water, set over a fire, becomes boiling... Communion works like yeast that has been mixed into dough so that it leavens the whole mass; just as by melting two candles together you get one piece of wax, so, I think, one who receives the flesh and blood of Jesus is fused together with him by this communion, and the soul finds that he is in Christ and Christ is in him.”*

St. Cyril of Alexandria

Ascension of Our Lord Greek Orthodox Church

Nov 22 - 29, 2015

Sunday **November 22** **9th Sunday of Luke**
8:15 a.m. Orthros
9:10 a.m. Sunday Church School
9:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy
Memorial Service for the souls of the servants of God: Anna Ayalianos (1 yr); and also Eugenia Sakelson (1 yr) and John Doxas (20 yrs)
Coffee Fellowship hosted by Peter and Eleni Logothetis

Monday **November 23**
No JOY/Jr. GOYA Meeting
7:30 p.m. GOYA (Guest Speaker)

Wednesday **November 25** **St. Katherine the Great Martyr**
8:15 a.m. Orthros
9:15 a.m. Divine Liturgy

Thursday **November 26** **Thanksgiving Day**
Church Office Closed

Friday **November 27**
Church Office Closed

Sunday **November 29** **13th Sunday of Luke**
8:15 a.m. Orthros
9:10 a.m. Sunday Church School
9:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy
Coffee Fellowship hosted by John and Anastasia Svigos

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.

HOLY COMMUNION ETIQUETTE

+ If you are either baptized and/or confirmed as an Orthodox Christian and have spiritually prepared to receive Holy Communion, please come up with reverence and humility, row by row, and depart as directed by the ushers. Please remain in your rows until an usher indicates your row should proceed forward. If you are standing in the back of the nave, please wait until an usher directs you.

+ In receiving Communion, you should place the cloth under your chin, recite your Christian name, and wipe your mouth after receiving. If you are wearing lipstick please remove it prior to receiving Communion.

+ **OUR PRAYERS THIS MORNING** are for the souls of the servants of God, Eugenia Sakelson and John Doxas, beloved parents of Mary (Richard) Doxas Weber and George Doxas. Our prayers are also for the soul of the servant of God, Anna Ayalianos, beloved mother of Denise Ditka. May their memories be eternal.

CHURCH NEWS

+ **THE NATIVITY FAST** lasts through December 24th. Fish, wine and olive oil are permitted, except on Wednesdays and Fridays, until December 17th. Additionally, this is a period of spiritual reflection, prayer and confession as we prepare for the birth of our Lord and Savior. If you would like to schedule the Sacrament of Confession with Father Sotiri, please call the Church office. As an additional blessing during our preparation, the Sacrament of Holy Unction will be offered to the faithful on Wednesday, December 16th, at 6:30 p.m.

+ **NOVEMBER IS STEWARDSHIP MONTH** Please submit your 2016 pledge card in a timely fashion either by mail, or by dropping it off at the Church office. Ascension's stewardship theme, which we will cultivate in the coming year, is: ***Open Your Heart: Giving time, talent, treasure for the Glory of God.*** We ask for God's blessings as we prayerfully consider the time, talents and treasures we can share to sustain and enhance the spiritual and bountiful Parish life at Ascension in 2016.

+ **TODAY IS THE PARISH COUNCIL NOMINATION DEADLINE** Ascension is seeking qualified candidates to serve on the Parish Council for 2016-2017. Nominations are being accepted through today, November 22, 2015. Nomination forms can be found under the television in the Fellowship Hall; or, online at www.ascensiongoc.com. Elections will be held on Sunday, December 6th.

+ **THANKSGIVING DAY PAN-ORTHODOX DIVINE LITURGY** will be held at 9 a.m. on Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, November 26th, at the Holy Virgin Protection Russian Orthodox Cathedral, Des Plaines.

+ **PLEASE JOIN US** on Saturday, December 5, 2015, for our 7th Annual Gingerbread Decorating event. There will be 2 sessions: 9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.; and, 12:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. If you cannot stay, you may also take your houses TO GO. Every year we sell quite a few houses to be taken home, so make sure you reserve your house(s) TODAY! Gingerbread Orders will be taken from November 15th until the 29th. Please contact Carol Stamas at cestamas@comcast.net, or call 847.323.1796 if you have any questions. This is a GOYA sponsored event.

+ **SAVE THE DATE** for this year's Pan-Orthodox Christmas Concert: Sunday, December 6, 2015, at 4 p.m. at St. John the Baptist, Des Plaines.

+ **WE THANK EVERYONE** who attended our Fall Fellowship Cocktail Party on Saturday, November 14th. It was an enjoyable evening, with more than 90 stewards in attendance! Thank you for continued support. If you weren't able to attend this event, we hope you can join us at the next one.

PRAYER REQUESTS FOR HEALTH

+ **PRAYER REQUESTS** – *Please include in your personal prayers* the servants of God: Maita, Georgia, John, Eleni, George, Nicholas, Ethel, Christine, Louise, John, Panagiota, Anastasia, Stella, Athanasia, Mitchell, Joanne, Augustine, Panagiotis, Christina, Georgiane, Helen, James