

### 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 Presentation in the First Mode

Rejoice, thou who art full of grace, O Virgin Theotokos, for from thee hath risen the Sun of Righteousness, Christ our God, enlightening those in darkness. Rejoice, thou also, O righteous Elder, as thou receivest in thine arms the Redeemer of our souls, Who also granteth unto us the Resurrection.

### Memorial Hymn

Remember, O Lord, as You are good, Your servant, and forgive every sin she has 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, 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

Let us flee from the boasting of the Pharisee and learn through our own sighs of sorrow the humility of the Publican. Let us cry out to the Savior, "Have mercy on us, for through You alone are we reconciled."

### The reading is from St. Paul's Second Letter to Timothy 3:10-15.

TIMOTHY, my son, you have observed my teaching, my conduct, my aim in life, my faith, my patience, my love, my steadfastness, my persecutions, my sufferings, what befell me at Antioch, at Iconion, and at Lystra, what persecutions I endured; yet from them all the Lord rescued me. Indeed all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, while evil men and impostors will go on from bad to worse, deceivers and deceived. But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings which are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.

### The Gospel of Luke 18:10-14



The Lord said this parable, "Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, 'God, I thank you that I am not like other men, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week, I give tithes of all that I get.' But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, 'God, be merciful to me a sinner!' I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but he who humbles himself will be exalted."

## Ascension of Our Lord Greek Orthodox Church



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## WEEKLY PARISH BULLETIN February 5 – February 12, 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

*Humility opens the doors to Heaven and then the Grace of God comes to people, whereas pride closes them. Father Tychon used to say, "One humble individual has more Grace than many persons together. Each morning God blesses the people of the world with one hand, but when He sees a humble person, He blesses him with both hands. He who has greater humility is the greatest of all!"*

**St. Paisios of the Athonite**

## Weekly Calendar

<b>Sunday</b> 8:15 a.m. 9:15 a.m. 9:30 a.m.	<b>February 5</b> Orthros Sunday Church School Divine Liturgy Memorial for the Soul of the Servant of God, Helen Topping (40 Days) Coffee Fellowship Hosted by Pre-K and K Sunday Church School  ***FAST FREE WEEK***	<b>Publican and Pharisee</b> TRIODION STARTS
<b>Monday</b> 5:45 p.m. 7:30 p.m.	<b>February 6</b> JOY/Jr. GOYA GOYA	
<b>Tuesday</b> 4:45 p.m. 7 p.m.	<b>February 7</b> Greek School Parish Council Meeting	
<b>Thursday</b> 6:15 p.m. 7:45 p.m. 7 p.m.	<b>February 9</b> Adult Beginner Greek School Adult Intermediate/Advanced Greek School Great Vespers @ St. Haralambos Church, Niles	
<b>Friday</b> 8:15 a.m. 9:15 a.m.	<b>February 10</b> Orthros Divine Liturgy Men's Retreat through Saturday	<b>St. Haralambos</b>
<b>Saturday</b> 11 a.m.  5 p.m.	<b>February 11</b> Baptism: Demetrios, son of Spiros and Dina Alikakos. Sponsor: Peter Moraitis Vespers	
<b>Sunday</b> 8:15 a.m. 9:15 a.m. 9:30 a.m.	<b>February 12</b> Orthros Sunday Church School Divine Liturgy Youth Sunday Brunch, Royal Melbourne	<b>Prodigal Son</b>

### THE SUNDAY OF THE PUBLICAN AND PHARISEE

The Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee is the first Sunday of a three-week period prior to the beginning of Great Lent. It marks the time of preparation for the spiritual journey of Lent, a time for Orthodox Christians to draw closer to God through worship, prayer, fasting, and acts of charity. It is also on this day that the Triodion is introduced, a liturgical book that contains the services from this Sunday, the tenth before Pascha (Easter), to Great and Holy Saturday.

*Excerpt taken from "Coffee with a Little Stewardship" series by the Serbian Orthodox Church*

## Our Sunday Volunteers

**Prospora:** Mary Kakavas and Maria Karalis  
**Epistle Reader:** Nick Gatsis  
**Ministry Greeters:** Debra and Demetri Katsulis  
**Ushers:** UIC Peter Venetos, Tom Kiriakos, Carol Stamas, Diane Sigalos; Jeanne Thomas, Steve Sintetas, Mia Connolly, Doug Hugdahl, Nick Marino

## 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

## Vigil Lights

Vigil lights offered by the Lampros family in loving memory of Maria Lampros' mother Effie Vondas.

## Announcements

- + **THE ASCENSION LEGACY GALA COMMITTEE** warmly thanks those who joined us last evening for this historic event! We sincerely appreciate your support in reaching our maximum capacity, and are grateful for your very generous donations toward our groundbreaking. Look for exciting details about the success of the Gala...coming soon!
- + **STEWARDSHIP** The exercise of Stewardship for an Orthodox Christian is the process of placing all of Creation in its proper perspective. It is the process of establishing the correct set of priorities in a life that is Christ-centered, Spirit-filled, and moving toward the Kingdom of Heaven. We were blessed in 2016 with 309 stewards who pledged and paid \$331,000. To date, the total pledged for 2017 is \$226,850 by 151 families. If you have not yet submitted your 2017 pledge, please do so today!
- + **CAPITAL CAMPAIGN** The Capital Campaign committee wishes to thank everyone who attended our Ascension Legacy Gala and supported our fundraising efforts throughout the evening. If you were unable to attend the Gala, but would like to donate towards any remaining Donation Opportunities, please contact Fr. Sotiri in the church office at 847-482-1200 or email him at [frsotirios@ascensiongoc.com](mailto:frsotirios@ascensiongoc.com). Our donation opportunities are as follows: Pews (\$10,000), Sanctuary windows (\$5,000), Landscape Benches (\$2,500), Personalized Brick Pavers (\$1,000).
- + **PLEASE NOTE:** There will be no PARAKLESIS AND LOGOS this Wednesday.
- + **THE ANNUAL METROPOLIS OF CHICAGO FAMILY SYNAXIS MEN'S RETREAT** will be held next weekend, February 10-11 at the St. Iakovos Retreat Center. This year's theme is: *Humble Glory: Stories of Men Yearning for God*. For more information, visit [www.gocfamilysynaxis.org/mens-retreat](http://www.gocfamilysynaxis.org/mens-retreat)
- + **OUR ANNUAL GOYA YOUTH SUNDAY** will take place on Sunday, February 12 at which time our GOYANS will serve as the Greeters, Ushers and Epistle Reader. Following the Divine Liturgy, please join them at the Youth Sunday Brunch to be held at the Royal Melbourne Club in Long Grove. Deacon Perry Hamalis will be our keynote speaker and will share with us his experiences working as a Missionary in Korea. We will be taking reservations today after Liturgy, and the deadline for purchasing tickets is this Wednesday, February 8th. Please see insert for more information.
- + **MISSION TEAM CHICAGO BENEFIT DINNER:** Reservations are being accepted for this benefit dinner that takes place on Cheesefare Thursday, February 23rd, 6:30 p.m., at St. John the Baptist Greek Orthodox Church in Des Plaines. Keynote speaker Rev. Dr. Michael Oleksa (priest, professor, and expert on Alaskan native cultures and history), will present: "The Missionary Importance of the Alaskan Saints Today." All proceeds will go to support the work of the Orthodox Christian Mission Center (OCMC) in Alaska and throughout the world. For reservations or to make a donation, please go to [www.MissionTeamChicago.org](http://www.MissionTeamChicago.org), call (317) 709-0168, or e-mail [MTCBenefit@yahoo.com](mailto:MTCBenefit@yahoo.com) before February 16.
- + **GREAT ESCAPE WINTER CAMP:** All 6th – 11th graders are invited to attend this Metropolis-wide retreat which will be held at the St. Iakovos Retreat Center March 10th-12th. Registrations are due by March 1<sup>st</sup> and space is limited. Visit our website's youth pages for more information.
- + **HOSPITAL CALLS, NURSING HOME RESIDENTS AND HOME-BOUND PARISHIONERS:** If you know someone who is in the hospital, a nursing home or is home-bound, and they would like Fr. Sotiri to visit them, please contact the office.