

Resurrectional Apolytikion in the Grave Mode

Thou didst abolish death by Thy Cross; Thou didst open Paradise to the thief; Thou didst transform the myrrh-bearers' lamentation, and didst bid Thine Apostles to preach that Thou art risen, O Christ God, granting great mercy to the world.

Apolytikion for Relics of Ignatius the Godbearer in the Fourth Mode

As a sharer of the ways and a successor to the throne of the Apostles, O inspired of God, thou foundest discipline to be a means of ascent to divine vision. Wherefore, having rightly divided the word of truth, thou didst also contest for the Faith even unto blood, O Hieromartyr Ignatius. Intercede with Christ our God that our souls be saved.

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 λυτρωτὴς τοῦ κόσμου.

Seasonal Kontakion in the First Mode

Your birth sanctified a Virgin's womb and properly blessed the hands of Symeon. Having now come and saved us O Christ our God, give peace to Your commonwealth in troubled times and strengthen those in authority, whom You love, as only the loving One.

The reading is from St. Paul's Second Letter to the Corinthians 6:16-18; 7:1.

BRETHREN, you are the temple of the living God; as God said, "I will live in them and move among them, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. Therefore come out from them, and be separate from them, says the Lord, and touch nothing unclean; then I will welcome you, and I will be a Father to you, and you shall be My sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty." Since we have these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from every defilement of body and spirit, and make holiness perfect in the fear of God.

The Gospel of Matthew 15:21-28



At that time, Jesus went to the district of Tyre and Sidon. And behold, a Canaanite woman from that region came out and cried, "Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David; my daughter is severely possessed by a demon." But He did not answer her a word. And His disciples came and begged Him, saying, "Send her away, for she is crying after us." He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." But she came and knelt before Him, saying, "Lord, help me." And He answered, "It is not fair to take the children's bread and throw it to the dogs." She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their master's table." Then Jesus answered her, "O woman, great is your faith! Be it done for you as you desire." And her daughter was healed instantly.

Ascension of Our Lord
Greek Orthodox Church



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WEEKLY PARISH BULLETIN
January 29 – February 5, 2017

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.

Spiritual Reflection

“Faithfulness in little things is a big thing.”

St. John Chrysostom

Weekly Calendar

Sunday 8:15 a.m. 9:15 a.m. 9:30 a.m.	January 29 Orthros Sunday Church School Divine Liturgy Memorial for the Soul of the Servant of God, Angeliki Michelis (40 days) Coffee Fellowship hosted by Ascension Greek School Philoptochos Meeting immediately following Liturgy Hellenic Letters Luncheon, Chateau Ritz, Niles Great Vespers for Three Hierarchs @ St. Haralambos, Niles	Sunday of the Canaanite
Monday 8:15 a.m. 9:15 a.m. 5:45 p.m. 7:30 p.m.	January 30 Orthros Divine Liturgy JOY/Jr. GOYA GOYA	Three Hierarchs
Tuesday 4:45 p.m.	January 31 Greek School	
Wednesday 10 a.m. 6:30 p.m.	February 1 HOPE Paraklesis and LOGOS	
Thursday 8:15 a.m. 9:15 a.m. 7 p.m.	February 2 Orthros Divine Liturgy Open House for Adult Greek School Program	Presentation of Our Lord
Saturday 6 p.m.	February 4 Ascension Legacy Gala, Lincolnshire Marriot	
Sunday 8:15 a.m. 9:15 a.m. 9:30 a.m.	February 5 Orthros Sunday Church School Divine Liturgy	Publican and Pharisee TRIODION STARTS

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 move forward. If you are standing in the back of the nave, please wait until an usher directs you.
- + Prior to receiving Holy Communion, we will recite together the *Prayers Before Receiving Holy Communion* on page 61 in the Divine Liturgy book found in the pew. Following Holy Communion, it is customary for the faithful to silently recite the *Prayers of Thanksgiving*, on page 73.
- + 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.
- + Whether you are an Orthodox Christian or not, please come forward at the dismissal to receive the blessed bread which is offered to everyone who worships with us. May the blessings of Christ be with you.

Our Sunday Volunteers

Prosphora: Patricia Filley and Mary Grueb
Epistle Reader: James Anast
Ministry Greeters: Faye and Steven Kopplin
Ushers: UIC Tom Kiriakos, Peter Venetos, Bob Mantzoros, Nick Marino, Bob Buhler, Bill Athenson, George Tapas

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

Announcements

- + **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 \$208,900 by 137 families. If you have not yet submitted your 2017 pledge, please do so today!
- + **THE ASCENSION GALA COMMITTEE** is grateful and overjoyed to announce that we have reached our maximum seating for the evening. Although the Gala is sold out, there are other ways to still be a part of our groundbreaking event by making a donation by check or online at ascensiongoc.com/gala. The Capital Campaign will also offer special commemorative donor recognition opportunities during the event. To take part, see details below in the Capital Campaign update. Thank you all for your overwhelming support!
- + **CAPITAL CAMPAIGN** The Capital Campaign Committee is looking forward to the Legacy Gala on February 4th. As we continue our efforts to reach our fundraising goal, we have some exciting donor recognition opportunities being offered for auction that evening. Unless sold out, all remaining opportunities will also be available for donation subsequent to the Gala. Don't lose your chance to be recognized for donations of pews, Dome windows, landscape benches and more! Also, if you have not yet submitted your Capital Campaign Pledge cards, we ask that you please do so at your earliest convenience, as our goal remains 100% Parish participation in our capital campaign! Remember, being part of building our new Church home, is a once in a lifetime sacred opportunity. If you have any questions, please contact any of the Capital Campaign committee members, or Fr. Sotiri in the church office at 847-482-1200.
- + **THE ANNUAL METROPOLIS OF CHICAGO FAMILY SYNAXIS MEN'S RETREAT** will be held 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
- + **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. We will be taking reservations today and next Sunday. GOYA thanks you for your support of this annual tradition.
- + **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, call (317) 709-0168, or e-mail MTCBenefit@yahoo.com before February 16.

+ **WEEKLY "SANCTUARY VIGIL LIGHT" DONATIONS** may be offered for the health of individuals, family members or in memory of departed loved ones. A \$75.00 donation for each week's vigil lights is requested. Names will be acknowledged in the Sunday Bulletin. Call the Church Office to reserve your week.

+ **HOCKEY MANIA WINNER UPDATES:** Congratulations to our week 5 winner, Michelle Garoufalos, who won \$25.00.

+ **PHILOPTOCHOS SNAPSHOT OF SUPPORT:** Our Philoptochos chapter's January national commitments included donations to the Cancer Fund, the Social Services Fund, and to St. Basil's Academy, which was made possible by the generosity of our parishioners. Our January coat and clothes drive will benefit the *One Warm Coat* organization, where every dollar helps provide two coats; and, the *Midwest Veterans Closet*, a not-for-profit charity that is taking the lead in impacting veterans' lives by providing free clothing, household items, furniture, food pantry, employment assistance, and a Drop-In Center for veterans and active military.