

Hymns and Holy Scripture Readings

Resurrectional Apolytikion in the Fourth Mode

Having learned the joyful proclamation of the Resurrection from the Angel, and having cast off the ancestral condemnation, the women disciples of the Lord spake to the Apostles exultantly: Death is despoiled and Christ God is risen, granting great mercy to the world.

Apolytikion for Hieromartyr Anthimus 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 Anthimus . Intercede with Christ our God that our souls be saved.

Apolytikion for Righteous Theoctistus and Euthymius in the Plagal Fourth Mode

With the streams of thy tears, thou didst cultivate the barrenness of the desert; and by thy sighings from the depths, thou didst bear fruit a hundredfold in labours; and thou becamest a luminary, shining with miracles upon the world, O Theoktistos our righteous Father. Intercede with Christ God that our souls be saved.

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 First Letter to the Corinthians 16:13-24.

Brethren, be watchful, stand firm in your faith, be courageous, be strong. Let all that you do be done in love. Now, brethren, you know that the household of Stephanas were the first converts in Achaia, and they have devoted themselves to the service of the saints; I urge you to be subject to such men and to every fellow worker and laborer. I rejoice at the coming of Stephanas and Fortunatus and Achaicos, because they have made up for your absence; for they refreshed my spirit as well as yours. Give recognition to such men. The churches of Asia send greetings. Aquila and Prisca, together with the church in their house, send you hearty greetings in the Lord. All the brethren send greetings. Greet one another with a holy kiss. I, Paul, write this greeting with my own hand. If any one has no love for the Lord, let him be accursed. Our Lord, come! The grace of the Lord Jesus be with you. My love be with you all in Christ Jesus. Amen.

The Reading is from Matthew 21:33-42

The Lord said this parable, "There was a householder who planted a vineyard, and set a hedge around it, and dug a wine press in it, and built a tower, and let it out to tenants, and went into another country. When the season of fruit drew near, he sent his servants to the tenants, to get his fruit; and the tenants took his servants and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again he sent other servants, more than the first; and they did the same to them. Afterward he sent his son to them, saying 'They will respect my son.' But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir; come, let us kill him and have his inheritance.' And they took him and cast him out of the vineyard and killed him. When therefore the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and let out the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the fruits in their seasons." Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the scriptures: 'The very stone which the builders rejected has become the head of the corner; this was the Lord's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes?'"

Ascension of Our Lord Greek Orthodox Church



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WEEKLY PARISH BULLETIN September 3 - 10, 2017

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

"When you meet people, force yourself to honor them more than they deserve. Greet them warmly. Praise them. When they leave, say all sorts of nice things about them. In this way, you'll make them better than they are. Let this patten of behavior be permanent. In other words, always be approachable and always pay respect to others."

Saint Isaac the Syrian

Weekly Calendar

Sunday 8:15 a.m. 9:30 a.m.	September 3 <u>13^h Sunday of Matthew</u> Orthros Divine Liturgy Memorial for the Souls of the Servants of God Nicholas Korompilas (40 days); Stavroula Gekas (1 yr) and Dean Gekas, (5 yrs) Coffee Fellowship hosted by the Parish Council
Monday	September 4 <u>Labor Day</u> <i>Church office closed</i>
Tuesday 5 p.m.	September 5 Greek School Open House @ Daniel Wright School, 1370 Riverwoods Rd.
Thursday 6:30 p.m.	September 7 Adult/Adolescent Greek School Open House @ Home rented by Ascension, 1221 Riverwoods Rd., just south of the church
Friday 8:15 a.m. 9:15 a.m.	September 8 <u>Nativity of the Theotokos</u> Orthros Divine Liturgy @ Church
Saturday 11:30 a.m.	September 9 Baptism, Christina, daughter of Matthew and Athena Wegrzyn Sponsors: Velessarios & Chelsea Keramiades Baptism will be at @ St. Nectarios, Palatine
Sunday 8:15 a.m. 9:30 a.m.	September 10 <u>Sunday Before Holy Cross</u> Orthros Divine Liturgy Site Blessing & Groundbreaking Parish Family Picnic @ Banner

+ **ATTENTION: PARKING UPDATE FOR NEXT SUNDAY:** September 10th will be a historic and busy day in the life of our Parish. Following Orthros and Divine Liturgy, we will hold an Agiasmos Blessing of our new church foundation and break ground, signaling and sanctifying the start of construction. Immediately following the Agiasmos and Groundbreaking, the Men's Ministry will be holding our annual Parish Family picnic at Banner Day Camp, just north of the church. ***In order to conduct the Agiasmos blessing outside, we will be blocking off a large section of our lot and parking will be limited.*** Shuttle buses will be running between Ascension and Banner Day Camp, where we have arranged overflow parking for Liturgical services and conveniently, the picnic. Please plan accordingly for parking and the day's events. Your presence on this sacred and memorable day will be a lifelong blessing.

+ **THANK YOU FOR YOUR PATIENCE WHILE WE TRANSITION OUR OFFICES TO OUR TEMPORARY HOME NEXT DOOR** Effective now and throughout our construction phase, Fr. Sotiri's office as well as the Church office is now located in the house next door (1221 Riverwoods Road). ***Important: the church phone number and mailing address will not change.*** Please continue to direct all correspondence to 1207 Riverwoods Rd., Lincolnshire, 60069. Also, when visiting the office, we kindly ask you to take caution when parking in the long driveway and please stay off of the grass.

Our Sunday Volunteers

Prospora Bakers: Tasia Alexakos & Sophie Beris
Epistle Reader: Elaine Simos
Ministry Greeter: Elaine Stevens
Ushers: Carol Stamas, (UIC) Peter Venetos, Tom Kiriakos, Bob Mantzoros, Alex Marx, Tom Vabakos, Steve Sintetas

Prayer Requests for Health

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

Vigil Lights

Vigil Lights offered by Carol Stamas in loving memory of her parents, Efthimios and Maroula

Announcements

+ **BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 17th, SUNDAY ORTHROS, DIVINE LITURGY AND SUNDAY CHURCH SCHOOL** will take place at Daniel Wright Middle School, 1370 Riverwoods Rd., Lincolnshire. Memorials and Artoclasias will be held at the end of our services at Daniel Wright. Tuesday evening Greek School classes will also take place at Daniel Wright School. Ministry Meetings and Thursday evening Adult Greek School, effective the week of 9/11, will take place at the home that Ascension rented just south of the church: 1221 Riverwoods Rd., Lake Forest, unless otherwise noted.

+ **SACRAMENTS With the Lord's blessings, the Liturgical life of our church will continue in earnest during our construction project.** We have made arrangements for Fr. Sotiri to be able to conduct Baptisms and Wedding Sacraments at another Greek Orthodox Church. Fr. Sotiri will hear confessions in the small worship area of the new space at 1221 Riverwoods Road. Weekday services will be held in this worship space as well. **If you'd like to plan a Sacrament (Baptism, Wedding, Confession), or a Funeral, Memorial or Artoclasia, please contact the church office so proper arrangements can be made during our construction period.**

+ **THE CAPITAL CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE** has identified additional major donor naming opportunities and has re-worked others: the foyer (\$150,000), the gallery (\$150,000), and the Adult Baptismal Font (\$75,000). These, together with our remaining major donor naming opportunities, which include the Nave (\$500,000), the kitchen (\$250,000), landscaping (\$150,000), and a classroom (\$75,000), are now shown on an updated board located in the Narthex. Also, another remaining donation opportunity is Personalized Brick Pavers (\$1,000). Please act fast as we are now approximately 80% of the way to our goal of remaining debt-free and building without any borrowing. If you would like to avail yourself of one of the remaining major donor naming opportunities or to donate towards any of these other remaining Donation Opportunities, please contact Fr. Sotirios in the church office at 847-482-1200 or email at frsotirios@ascensiongoc.com

+ **PLEASE REGISTER BY SEPTEMBER 8th FOR ASCENSION'S YOUTH MINISTRY PROGRAMS:** Information and registration for all of our youth ministries (HOPE, Faith/Joy, JOY/Jr. GOYA, GOYA, Acolytes, Sunday Church School and Greek School) can be found on our website at www.ascensiongoc.com, or see insert for registration materials. **Please note that the first day of SCS is Sunday, September 17th,** and most of our other ministries begin the week of Sept. 11th.

+ **LAST CHANCE TO REGISTER FOR PARISH GOLF OUTING & DINNER** Ascension's 18th Annual Parish Golf Outing and Dinner will be held on Friday, September 15th at Deerfield Golf Club. The registration deadline is TODAY! See a representative from Men's Ministry after Church to turn in any last minute registration forms and ask questions. More information about the event is also available on the Ascension website.

+ **OLIVE OIL FUNDRAISING OPPORTUNITY COMING TO A CLOSE: ACT FAST!** Ascension is selling cold-pressed extra-virgin olive oil as part of a Metropolis initiated fundraising project to benefit our building fund, the Saint Iakovos Retreat Center and the Orthodox chapels on the island Strogili Megisti near the Turkish coast. We only have approximately 100 bottles left for sale. To pre-order and reserve your supply, email Harold Anagnos at hanagnos90@gmail.com. Bottles will also be on sale after Liturgy today.

+ **PHILOTOCHOS INVITES EVERYONE TO THIS YEAR'S KICKOFF MEETING ON** Thursday, September 28th at 7pm at Demetri's Greek Restaurant. Our theme of "Building Our Future; Building Our Faith" is so appropriate during this exciting year of church construction. Please join this dynamic group as we present new programs and fun events, along with tasty appetizers! 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.

+ **THE ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CLERGY ASSOCIATION OF GREATER CHICAGO** will host the 125th Anniversary of Orthodoxy in Chicago on Saturday, September 30th with a Hierarchical Divine Liturgy @ 10a.m. at Lane Tech High School, Chicago, followed by a celebration banquet at the Marriott Chicago O'Hare at 2:30 p.m. For more information, visit www.Facebook.com/ChicagoOCCA

+ **SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE TO UNIVERSITY STUDENTS OF HELLENIC DESCENT** through the Hellenic Link-Midwest Board (applications due October 15, 2017). For more information on available scholarship programs, visit Ascension's website and click on the Orthodox Christian Fellowship link within the Ministry section.