

Resurrectional Apolytikion in the First Mode

When the stone had been sealed by the Jews and the soldiers were guarding Thine immaculate Body, Thou didst arise on the third day, O Saviour, granting life unto the world. Wherefore, the powers of the Heavens cried out to Thee, O Lifegiver: Glory to Thy Resurrection, O Christ. Glory to Thy Kingdom. Glory to Thy dispensation, O only Friend of man.

Apolytikion for Forefeast of the Transfiguration in the Fourth Mode

Come, let us all welcome the Transfiguration of Christ, and joyously celebrate the bright prefestival, O ye faithful, and let us cry: Nigh at hand now is the day of God-given gladness, as the Sovereign Master goeth up on Mount Tabor to flash forth with the beautiful light of His Divinity.

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

All of mortal nature now divinely shineth on this day with the divine Transfiguration ere the time; and in great gladness, she crieth out: Christ is transfigured, and saveth the race of man.

The reading is from St. Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians 4:9-16.

Brethren, God has exhibited us apostles as last of all, like men sentenced to death; because we have become a spectacle to the world, to angels and to men. We are fools for Christ's sake, but you are wise in Christ. We are weak, but you are strong. You are held in honor, but we in disrepute. To the present hour we hunger and thirst, we are ill-clad and buffeted and homeless, and we labor, working with our own hands. When reviled, we bless; when persecuted, we endure; when slandered, we try to conciliate; we have become, and are now, as the refuse of the world, the off-scouring of all things. I do not write this to make you ashamed, but to admonish you as my beloved children. For though you have countless guides in Christ, you do not have many fathers. For I became your father in Christ Jesus through the gospel. I urge you, then, be imitators of me.

The Gospel of Matthew 17:14-23



At that time, a man came up to Jesus and kneeling before him said, "Lord, have mercy on my son, for he is an epileptic and he suffers terribly; for often he falls into the fire, and often into the water. And I brought him to your disciples, and they could not heal him." And Jesus answered, "O faithless and perverse generation, how long am I to be with you? How long am I to bear with you? Bring him here to me." And Jesus rebuked him, and the demon came out of him, and the boy was cured instantly. Then the disciples came to Jesus privately and said, "Why could we not cast it out?" He said to them, "Because of your little faith. For truly I say to you, if you have faith as a grain of mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move hence to yonder place,' and it will move; and nothing will be impossible to you. But this kind never comes out except by prayer and fasting." As they were gathering in Galilee, Jesus said to them, "The Son of man is to be delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill Him, and He will be raised on the third day."

Ascension of Our Lord Greek Orthodox Church



1207 Riverwoods Road – Lincolnshire, Illinois 60069
Fr. Sotirios P. Malamis, Proistamenos
TEL: (847) 482-1200 | FAX: (847) 482-9566 | www.ascensiongoc.com
Office e-mail: info@ascensiongoc.com

WEEKLY PARISH BULLETIN August 5 - 12, 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

“For a man to have such faith appears simple, but it is, on the contrary, something very lofty, not easily attained by many. Such faith is born of boldness before God; but such boldness comes (only) from pleasing God. Beloved, great labour is needed to acquire, through pleasing God, such boldness before Him that one firmly believes that He will grant all that one asks; as it is written, Ask, and it shall be given to you.”

Weekly Calendar

Sunday	August 5	10th Sunday of Matthew
8:15 a.m.	Orthros	
9:30 a.m.	Divine Liturgy Coffee Fellowship	
7 p.m.	Great Vespers @ Transfiguration Monastery, Harvard	
Monday	August 6	Transfiguration of Our Lord
Tuesday	August 7	
7 p.m.	Great Paraklesis	
Wednesday	August 8	
7 p.m.	Small Paraklesis	
Thursday	August 9	
10 a.m.	Fr. Sotiri serving Liturgy @ Greek American Rehab Center, Wheeling	
7 p.m.	Great Paraklesis	
Friday	August 10	
7 p.m.	Small Paraklesis	
Saturday	August 11	
5 p.m.	Vespers	
Sunday	August 12	11th Sunday of Matthew
8:15 a.m.	Orthros	
9:30 a.m.	Divine Liturgy Coffee Fellowship	

Our Sunday Volunteers

Prospora: Maria Karalis & Elaine Metropoulos
Epistle Reader: Elaine Simos
Greeters: Mary & Thomas Gough
Ushers: Tom Kiriakos (UIC), Carol Stamas, Bill Athenson, Nick Marino, Peter Venetos, Diane Sigalos, Demetri Katsulis, Jeannie Thomas

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, Don, Nace

Announcements

- + **PARAKLESIS SERVICES: PARKING NOTE:** The Fast of the Theotokos began on August 1st and ends with the Feast of the Dormition on August 15th. Services will be held at the house chapel located at 1221 N. Riverwoods Rd., just south of our church construction project. **Please note:** parking is available in the gravel lot area that is located between the house and the church and is surrounded by white fencing. For easy access, please park in the lot in lieu of the long driveway in front of the house.
- + **YOUR ATTENTION PLEASE: WE ARE IN NEED OF COFFEE FELLOWSHIP HOSTS THIS SUMMER & FALL:** Please volunteer to host coffee fellowship after Liturgy with your family, or together with another family, so that we may continue our fellowship throughout the summer and into the fall. Recommendations for simple offerings can be found on our website. You may sign up online via our website, or by calling the church office. Thank you in advance for offering your love and commitment to this important ministry.
- + **MEN'S MINISTRY RETREAT: TAKE ADVANTAGE OF EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT UNTIL THIS FRIDAY, AUGUST 10th!** The first annual Men's Ministry Retreat, hosted by Koinonia Men's Ministry, will take place on 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. Grenaias. Cost, which includes breakfast and lunch, is \$50. Please RSVP by September 9th, or, register by this Friday, August 10th to receive the early bird rate of \$40. For more information, contact David Rutkowski at 847-650-0559; or, stop by the registration table after Church.
- + **GOYANS: TAKE NOTE OF OUR UPCOMING FIRESIDE CHAT** On Monday, August 13th immediately following the Paraklesis service at the chapel house, GOYA will be having a fireside chat with Fr. Sotiri. If you are in high school, please join us!
- + **SAVE THE DATE: SENIOR SYNAXIS 10th ANNUAL PICNIC** will take place on Thursday, August 16th, from noon to 4 p.m. at the Wheeling Park District, Wheeling. More information will be forthcoming. If you plan to attend, please contact Elaine Beck at 847.367.5227.
- + **ONLINE REGISTRATION NOW OPEN FOR ASCENSION'S SUNDAY CHURCH SCHOOL (SCS) AND GREEK SCHOOL PROGRAMS** Visit the ministry tab on our website at www.ascensiongoc.com, or call the office for more information and registration materials. The first day of SCS is Sunday, September 9, 2018 and the Tuesday and Thursday Greek School programs begin the week of September 10th. We encourage you to register as soon as possible to secure enrollment so we can adequately prepare for classes prior to the first day.
- + **SAVE THE DATE: ASCENSION'S ANNUAL FAMILY PICNIC** will take place on Sunday, September 9th, immediately following Liturgy! This picnic will again take place on the grounds of Banner Camp, just north of the Church. Don't miss this wonderful way to kick off the new Ecclesiastical Year with parish family & friends, while enjoying the delicious menu served by our hosts, the Koinonia Men's Ministry.
- + **REGISTRATION OPEN FOR THE LABOR DAY WEEKEND CHICAGO FAMILY SYNAXIS RETREAT:** This year's retreat is entitled "The Vocation of Parenthood" and features Dr. Philip Mamalakis, Assistant Professor of Pastoral Care at Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology and father of 7! Sponsored by the Metropolis of Chicago, the retreat takes place August 31 – September 2 at the St. Iakovos Retreat Center and will offer "a great way to reconnect with your family and connect your family with God." Find more information and register online at: <https://sites.google.com/view/chicagofamilysynaxis/2018-labor-day-weekend-retreat>
- + **UPCOMING GREEK FESTIVALS: Support our local Metropolis Churches and celebrate summer Greek-style!**
August 17 – 18: SS. Constantine & Helen, Palos Hills
August 24 – 26: Taste of Greektown, Halsted Street

FAST OF THE THEOTOKOS

THE FAST OF THEOTOKOS begins this Wednesday, August 1st. We fast for the first 15 days of August to honor the Mother of God prior to her Falling Asleep (August 15th). A fast is followed on most of the days (no meat, dairy, or fish). On the Feast of the Transfiguration, fish is allowed. Just as Jesus fasted, so did the early Christians, and we follow that tradition today. Fasting is a means of disciplining the body and overcoming the passions.

This fast is also accompanied by the Supplication Canons, (Paraklesis) chanted almost every evening that are full of beautiful melodies with rich meaning and also fortify the prayers of Christians. Please see the insert and join us for these beautiful services.