

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 Martyr Menas in the Fourth Mode

Thy Martyrs, O Lord, in their courageous contest for Thee received as the prize the crowns of incorruption and life from Thee, our immortal God. For since they possessed Thy strength, they cast down the tyrants and wholly destroyed the demons' strengthless presumption. O Christ God, by their prayers, save our souls, since Thou art merciful.

Memorial Hymn

Remember, O Lord, as You are good, Your servant, and forgive every sin he 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, 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 Second Letter to the Corinthians 4:6-15.

Brethren, it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ.

But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, to show that the transcendent power belongs to God and not to us. We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in our bodies. For while we live we are always being given up to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus may be manifested in our mortal flesh. So death is at work in us, but life in you.

Since we have the same spirit of faith as he had who wrote, "I believed, and so I spoke," we too believe, and so we speak, knowing that he who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus and bring us with you into his presence. For it is all for your sake, so that as grace extends to more and more people it may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God.

The Gospel of Luke 10:25-37



At that time, a lawyer stood up to put Jesus to the test, saying, "Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" He said to him, "What is written in the law? How do you read?" And he answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself." And He said to him, "You have answered right; do this, and you will live."

But he, desiring to justify himself, said to Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and he fell among robbers, who stripped him and beat him, and departed, leaving him half dead. Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him he passed by on the other side. So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan, as he journeyed, came to where he was; and when he saw him, he had compassion, and went to him and bound up his wounds, pouring on oil and wine; then he set him on his own beast and brought him to an inn, and took care of him. And the next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper, saying, 'Take care of him; and whatever more you spend, I will repay you when I come back.' Which of these three, do you think, proved neighbor to the man who fell among the robbers?" He said, "The one who showed mercy on him." And Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

Ascension of Our Lord Greek Orthodox Church



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WEEKLY PARISH BULLETIN November 11 - 18, 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

"One may start out well, but if he is not careful, egoism will get involved and lead him astray. When our self, our ego, enters into our actions, passions are created, and then the devil comes to do his winnowing. This is why you must try to love inwardly, humbly, working inconspicuously in order to obtain divine enlightenment. Whoever lives inwardly, humbly, rises above human triviality, fanaticism and so forth, and becomes a zealot, in the good sense of the term."

St. Paisios

Weekly Calendar

Sunday	November 11	8th Sunday of Luke
8:15 a.m.	Orthros	Stewardship Sunday
9:15 a.m.	Sunday Church School	
9:30 a.m.	Divine Liturgy Memorial for the Soul of the Servant of God, Bill Apostolakis (40 Days) Coffee Hour hosted by the Pre-K – 3 rd Grade SCS Families Girls' Chanting Practice Parish General Assembly	
Monday	November 12	
6 p.m.	Great Vespers followed by Orthros @ St. John Chrysostom Monastery, Kenosha	
6 - 7:30 p.m.	Jr. GOYA @ Feed My Starving Children, Libertyville	
8 - 9:30 p.m.	GOYA @ Feed My Starving Children	
Tuesday	November 13	St. John Chrysostomos
8 a.m.	Orthros	
9 a.m.	Divine Liturgy	
4:45 p.m.	Greek School, Daniel Wright Middle School	
Wednesday	November 14	
10 a.m.	HOPE Ministry	
Thursday	November 15	Nativity Fast Begins
9 a.m.	Divine Liturgy	
10 a.m.	Clergy Syndesmos, St. Basil, Chicago	
10:30 a.m.	Senior Synaxis General Meeting @ LightSource	
10:30 a.m.	Bible Study@ Church House	
6:15 p.m.	Greek School: Beginners/Advanced Beginners	
7:45 p.m.	Greek School Intermediate/Advanced	
7 p.m.	Philoptochos Meeting @ Home of Maria Lampros	
Friday	November 16	St. Matthew the Apostle & Evangelist
9 a.m.	Divine Liturgy	
6:30 p.m.	Faith/Joy Meeting	
Saturday	November 17	
9 a.m.	Divine Liturgy	
10:30 a.m.	Orthodoxy 101 Catechism Class @ Church House	
3 p.m.	Wedding: Iliana Anthimiades and William Gaston <i>Sponsor: Lena Stipanicev</i>	
Sunday	November 18	9th Sunday of Luke
8:15 a.m.	Orthros	
9:15 a.m.	Sunday Church School	
9:30 a.m.	Divine Liturgy	

Our Sunday Volunteers

Prosphora: Iliana Radaios
Epistle Reader: Bill Athenson
Greeters: Mary and Gust Gatsis
Ushers: Doug Hugdahl (UIC), Bill Athenson, Peter Venetos, Alex Marx, Carol Stamas, Mia Connolly, Tom Papastefan, Bill Smirles, Mike Sutherland

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, Ignacio, Kiriaki

PARISH PERSPECTIVE

Why are you a Steward at Ascension?

Cardone Family

"It truly was God that led us to Ascension. When we walked in for the first time we felt at home. After meeting Father Sotiri and Presvytera Stefanie we felt it was truly meant for us to be there. My husband and I then chose to convert. We realized so many times that it really is the best choice we've ever made for our family. We are so proud to be a part of such an amazing church community. We feel like we've made it home and have never been closer to God."

Announcements

+ **2019 STEWARDSHIP KICK-OFF - ALL HANDS ON DECK!** The first three Sundays of November mark the beginning our 2019 Stewardship campaign. *The call to action is simple for all existing and new stewards of Ascension: Please complete the 2019 Stewardship Pledge Cards that were mailed out earlier this week and bring them with you to church by 11/18.* Ascension is hoping to ascend to new heights in stewardship participation this coming year, both fiscally and with active participation in our thriving ministries. By handing in your completed pledge card during our kick-off campaign, you will help our parish build strong momentum going into what will be a historic 2019! When the scaffolding comes down at the church construction site, our work as stewards of everything God has bestowed on us continues in earnest. Intervene in 2019 – it's an exciting time to be involved in the heart of this parish; and, the opportunities to work for the glory of God are endless.

+ **THE NATIVITY FAST** takes place November 15—December 24. Fish, wine and olive oil are permitted, except on Wednesdays and Fridays, until December 17. During the Nativity Fast, we will celebrate 40 Liturgies for the faithful—Sarantaliturgo – to pray for the well-being of our parish families, as well as for the souls of the deceased. Please see insert for the service schedule and prayer request form. May God bless us as we enter the Nativity Fast, and grant us the ability to focus on Christ's birth through additional prayer, fasting and almsgiving during this blessed advent season.

+ **PARISH GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING TODAY!** Please attend this important meeting, which will begin Immediately following Divine Liturgy. If you haven't signed in as a steward to participate, please do so at the table at the entrance. Should the table no longer be in place after Liturgy, please seek out Nick Marino or one of the other Parish Council members to be signed in.

+ **FAITH AND JOY FOOD DRIVE** Our next meeting will be held this Friday, November 16th from 6:30 - 8 p.m. at the house, and our lesson will focus on the Parable of the Talents. We will be conducting a food drive for those in need in Lake County. Any donations of canned or dry goods are welcome (see insert). Please RSVP to faithjoyascension@gmail.com if you are able to attend.

+ **THE NOVEMBER SENIOR SYNAXIS GENERAL MEETING** takes place this Thursday, November 15th at 10:30 a.m. at LightSource Unlimited, 980 Corporate Woods Pkwy, Vernon Hills. Join us for a light lunch and movie. Please call Elaine Beck for more information at 847.367.5227.

+ **THE PHILOPTOCHOS NOVEMBER GENERAL MEETING will be held on Thursday, November 15th at 7 pm** at the home of Maria Lampros. (Please read the attached flyer for details.) Chicago is in the top 5 cities in the nation for sex trafficking. As part of a National Philoptochos Initiative, we will learn about human trafficking from speakers from **Selah Freedom**. Selah Freedom exists to end sex trafficking and bring freedom to the exploited by providing **Residential** safe housing, **Outreach** in the jails and on the street, **Prevention** and **Awareness** to combat this issue and save the lives of our own American children. (Learn more at www.selahfreedom.com) Please RSVP at ascensionphilo@gmail.com. We hope to see you there!

+ **ASCENSION'S BIBLE STUDY MINISTRY WILL MEET AT THE CHURCH HOUSE THIS THURSDAY:** Join us this Thursday, November 15th at 10:30 a.m. for Bible Study. This year we are studying the Gospel of Matthew. For questions and to RSVP, please contact marcia.moore1780@gmail.com. Mark your calendar for future sessions to be held on Thursdays Nov 29 and Dec. 13.

+ **FAITH AND JOY FOOD DRIVE** Our next meeting will be held this Friday, November 16th from 6:30 - 8 p.m. at the house, and our lesson will focus on the Parable of the Talents. We will be conducting a food drive for those in need in Lake County. Any donations of canned or dry goods are welcome (see insert). Please RSVP to faithjoyascension@gmail.com if you are able to attend.

+ **ASCENSION ORTHODOX CATECHISM CLASSES:** Fr. Sotiri is offering an Orthodox Catechism Class that began in early October for all who desire to learn about the faith or take a refresher "Orthodoxy 101" course. Approximately 10 sessions will be held throughout the coming year at the 1221 Riverwoods house. **The third session will take place this Saturday, Nov. 17 @ 10:30 am** and the last one scheduled in this calendar year will be on December 12 @ 6:30 p.m. Each class will last an hour and a half and builds on previous sessions so participants are encouraged to make a commitment to the entire program. If you are interested in attending, please contact the church office at 847.482.1200, or email suzannesaric@ascensiongoc.com

+ **HANDMADE ORTHODOX ADVENT CALENDARS FOR SALE BY SCS:** Do you know which saint was given the name "God-Bearer" because he always had the name of Jesus in his heart and on his lips? How about where the shape of candy canes came from? Find the answers on your family's very own Orthodox Advent calendar. The Sunday Church School will be selling a limited quantity of advent calendars as a Capital Campaign fundraiser. Pick up an educational, interactive, and reusable calendar for \$15 during coffee hour today!

+ **DO YOU CELEBRATE THE FEASTDAY OF ST. KATHERINE?** Sunday November 25th falls on the Feastday of St. Katherine the Great Martyr. Coffee fellowship will be hosted that day by those in our parish who wish to celebrate or honor a loved one who bears the Saint's name. If you would like to participate, please bring your platter of fasting goodies, fruit, or whatever you wish to share with the parish to the fellowship area on Sunday morning prior to Liturgy. The Sunday after that – December 2nd -- coffee fellowship will be hosted by those in our parish who wish to celebrate or honor a loved one who bears the name of St. Nicholas. XPONIA ΠΟΛΛΑ to all!