

### 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 Apodosis of the Entry in the Fourth Mode

Today is the prelude of God's good will and the heralding of the salvation of mankind. In the temple of God, the Virgin is presented openly, and she proclaimeth Christ unto all. To her, then, with a great voice let us cry aloud: Rejoice, O thou fulfilment of the Creator's dispensation.

### Apolytikion for Great Martyr Catherine in the Plagal First Mode

Let us praise the all-lauded and noble bride of Christ, the godly Catherine, the guardian of Sinai and its defence, who is also our support and succour and our help; for with the Holy Spirit's sword she hath silenced brilliantly the clever among the godless; and being crowned as a Martyr, she now doth ask great mercy for us all.

### 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 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 Letter to the Galatians 3:23-29; 4:1-5.

Brethren, before faith came, we were confined under the law, kept under restraint until faith should be revealed. So that the law was our custodian until Christ came, that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a custodian; for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith. For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus. And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to promise. I mean that the heir, as long as he is a child, is no better than a slave, though he is the owner of all the estate; but he is under guardians and trustees until the date set by the father. So with us; when we were children, we were slaves to the elemental spirits of the universe. But when the time had fully come, God sent forth his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons.

### The Gospel of Luke 18:18-27

At that time, a ruler came to Jesus and asked him, "Good Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" And Jesus said to him, "Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the commandments: 'Do not commit adultery, Do not kill, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Honor your father and mother.' " And he said, "All these I have observed from my youth." And when Jesus heard it, He said to him, "One thing you still lack. Sell all that you have and distribute it to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me." But when he heard this he became sad, for he was very rich. Jesus looking at him said, "How hard it is for those who have riches to enter the kingdom of God! For it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God." Those who heard it said, "Then who can be saved?" But He said, "What is impossible with men is possible with God."

## Ascension of Our Lord Greek Orthodox Church



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## WEEKLY PARISH BULLETIN November 25 - December 2, 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

A reflection from St. John Climacus for today's Gospel Reading

*"Poverty is the resignation of cares, life without anxiety, an unencumbered traveler, alienation from sorrow, fidelity to the commandments."*

**St. John Climacus**

## Weekly Calendar

<b>Sunday</b> 8:15 a.m. 9:30 a.m.	<b>November 25</b> Orthros Divine Liturgy Artoclasias (Blessing of 5 Loaves) for the Tamvakis Family and for the Pappas and Boufis families Memorial for the Soul of the Servant of God, Despina Vlahos (6 mo) 40-Day Blessing, son of Frank and Maria Weld Coffee Hour hosted by Parish Members who celebrate the Feastday of St. Katherine ΧΡΟΝΙΑ ΠΟΛΛΑ!	<b>13<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Luke</b> <b>St. Katherine the Great Martyr</b>
<b>Monday</b> 9 a.m. 6 p.m. 7:30 p.m.	<b>November 26</b> Divine Liturgy @ Church House Jr. GOYA GOYA (meet at Panera, Bannockburn)	
<b>Tuesday</b> 9 a.m. 4:45 pm.	<b>November 27</b> Divine Liturgy Greek School	
<b>Wednesday</b> 9 a.m. 10 a.m.	<b>November 28</b> Divine Liturgy HOPE	
<b>Thursday</b> 9 a.m. 10:30 a.m. 7 p.m. 6:15 p.m. 7:45 p.m.	<b>November 29</b> Divine Liturgy Bible Study @ Church House Great Vespers @ St. Andrew Church, Chicago Greek School: Beginners/Advanced Beginners Greek School Intermediate/Advanced	
<b>Friday</b> 8 a.m. 9 a.m. 7 p.m.	<b>November 30</b> Orthros Divine Liturgy Marriage Ministry	<b>St. Andrew the First-Called</b>
<b>Saturday</b> 9 a.m.	<b>December 1</b> Divine Liturgy	
<b>Sunday</b> 8:15 a.m. 9:15 a.m. 9:30 a.m.	<b>December 2</b> Orthros Sunday Church School Divine Liturgy	<b>14<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Luke</b>

## Our Sunday Volunteers

**Prospora:** Despina Taranko  
**Epistle Reader:** James Facklis  
**Greeters:** Olga Kalis  
**Ushers:** Carol Stamas (UIC), Tom Kiriakos, Peter Venetos, David Rutkowski, Kathie Rutkowski, Demetri Katsulis, Doug Hugdahl, Alex Marx

## 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

## CONDOLENCES

OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY to Denise (George) Hefner, whose loving mother Lena Verges, devoted yiayia of Laura, Nicole and Peter Hefner, fell asleep in the Lord on November 20th. The funeral took place yesterday at SS Peter and Paul Greek Orthodox Church, Glenview. We pray that God grant His servant, Lena, eternal rest in the Kingdom of Heaven and comfort to her family. May her memory be eternal.

## Announcements

+ **STEWARDSHIP** Thank you to all the families who have submitted their 2019 pledge cards during our stewardship campaign kick-off! So far we have had 101 families pledge their time and talents to our ministries as well as \$155,000 toward our 2019 Ecclesiastical activities. Let's keep the momentum going! If you are a new or existing steward of Ascension and haven't submitted your 2019 pledge yet, *please complete the pledge card that was mailed to you a few weeks ago and submit it during the month of November.* If you need a 2019 pledge card, please see one of our Parish Council members near the candle stand, or visit our website's stewardship page. Thank you!

+ **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. The service schedule and prayer request form is available on our Nativity webpage ([www.ascensiongoc.com/aboutus/nativity-season](http://www.ascensiongoc.com/aboutus/nativity-season)). 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.

+ **CONSTRUCTION FUNDING UPDATE:** As we look toward occupying our new church by Pascha, we are within reach of our final funding to be in our new spiritual home *debt-free*: a final \$335,000 in new pledges needs to be raised, and a total of \$315,000 on existing pledges needs to be collected, to be mortgage-free. The time has come to donate if you have not yet donated. We need your help! Please consider donating today! Also, if you have had an existing pledge, but have not yet had an opportunity to fulfill it, we would be grateful if you were able to do so prior to calendar year-end. Every dollar spent on paying down debt is money taken away from growing our ministries. Be sure to visit our website at [ascensiongoc.com](http://ascensiongoc.com) to view an exciting video tour of the construction progress to date of our new church! Please contact Fr. Sotirios at 847-482-1200, or by email at [frsotirios@ascensiongoc.com](mailto:frsotirios@ascensiongoc.com), to donate today. Thank you!

+ **2019 PARISH CHRISTMAS CARD:** Join the many families of our Parish in expressing Christmas greetings to all members and friends of our Ascension Church. Return the insert by December 5th to take part in our 2018 Christmas greeting card.

+ **ARE YOU A NICK, NICOLE, NIKKI, NICOLETTA? NEXT WEEK'S COFFEE FELLOWSHIP IS FOR YOU!** Next Sunday, December 2nd, coffee fellowship will be hosted by those in our parish who wish to celebrate or honor loved ones who bear the name of St. Nicholas. Please bring your platter of fasting goodies, fruit, or whatever you wish to share with the parish to the fellowship area on Sunday morning. ΧΡΟΝΙΑ ΠΟΛΛΑ!

+ **ASCENSION'S BIBLE STUDY MINISTRY WILL MEET AT THE CHURCH HOUSE THIS THURSDAY:** Join us this Thursday, November 29th 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](mailto:marcia.moore1780@gmail.com). Mark your calendar for the next session on Dec. 13.

+ **THE NEXT MARRIAGE MINISTRY MEETING WILL TAKE PLACE** at the church house this Friday November 30th at 7 p.m. Father Sotiri will lead a discussion entitled, "Enriching Our Marriage with Christ." If you have any questions, contact Loukas at [loukasjonson@gmail.com](mailto:loukasjonson@gmail.com). Hope to see you there!

+ **FAITH AND JOY** Please join us for our 4th annual Christmas Party/Mock Lock-In on Friday, December 7th from 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. at the house at 1221 N. Riverwoods Road. Come in your pjs and bring a comfy blanket to sit on. We will have lots of snacks and watch a festive movie! Please RSVP to [faithjoyascension@gmail.com](mailto:faithjoyascension@gmail.com).

+ **PHILOPTOCHOS SNAPSHOT OF SUPPORT: NOVEMBER DONATIONS:** Ecumenical Patriarchate; National Sisterhood of Presvyteres APC-NSP Benevolent Fund, Human Trafficking, Feed My Starving Children

+ **THE 2018 PANORTHODOX CHRISTMAS CONCERT, "Make a Joyful noise to God all the Earth."** (Psalm 65:1) will take place on Sunday, December 9th at 3 p.m. at St. John the Baptist, 2350 E. Dempster St., Des Plaines. The concert will feature a variety of Orthodox Christian talent and traditions from the Chicagoland area. Suggested ticket donation: \$10/person. Proceeds from the concert will benefit Project Mexico & St. Innocent Orphanage.