

Resurrectional Apolytikion in the Third Mode

Let the Heavens rejoice; let earthly things be glad; for the Lord hath wrought might with His arm, He hath trampled upon death by death. The first-born of the dead hath He become. From the belly of Hades hath He delivered us, and hath granted great mercy to the world.

Apolytikion for Sun. of the 7th Ecumenical Council in the Plagal Fourth Mode

Most glorified art Thou, O Christ our God, Who hast established our Fathers as luminous stars upon the earth, and through them didst guide us all to the true Faith. O Most Merciful One, glory be to Thee.

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.

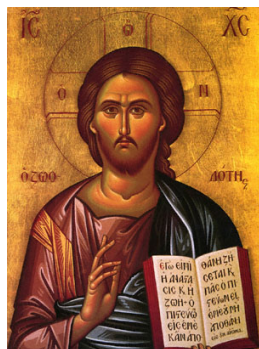
Seasonal Kontakion in the Second Mode

O Protection of Christians that cannot be put to shame, mediation unto the creator most constant: O despise not the voices of those who have sinned; but be quick, O good one, to come unto our aid, who in faith cry unto thee: Hasten to intercession and speed thou to make supplication, O thou who dost ever protect, O Theotokos, them that honor thee.

The reading is from St. Paul's Letter to Titus 3:8-15.

Titus, my son, the saying is sure. I desire you to insist on these things, so that those who have believed in God may be careful to apply themselves to good deeds; these are excellent and profitable to men. But avoid stupid controversies, genealogies, dissensions, and quarrels over the law, for they are unprofitable and futile. As for a man who is factious, after admonishing him once or twice, have nothing more to do with him, knowing that such a person is perverted and sinful; he is self-condemned. When I send Artemas or Tychicos to you, do your best to come to me at Nicopolis, for I have decided to spend the winter there. Do your best to speed Zenas the lawyer and Apollos on their way; see that they lack nothing. And let our people learn to apply themselves to good deeds, so as to help cases of urgent need, and not to be unfruitful. All who are with me send greeting to you. Greet those who love us in the faith. Grace be with you all. Amen.

The Gospel of Luke 8:5-15



The Lord said this parable: "A sower went out to sow his seed; and as he sowed, some fell along the path, and was trodden under foot, and the birds of the air devoured it. And some fell on the rock; and as it grew up, it withered away, because it had no moisture. And some fell among thorns; and the thorns grew with it and choked it. And some fell into good soil and grew, and yielded a hundredfold." And when his disciples asked him what this parable meant, he said, "To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of God; but for others they are in parables, so that seeing they may not see, and hearing they may not understand. Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God. The ones along the path are those who have heard; then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts, that they may not believe and be saved. And the ones on the rock are those who, when they hear the word, receive it with joy; but these have no root, they believe for a while and in time of temptation fall away. And as for what fell among the thorns, they are those who hear, but as they go on their way they are choked by the cares and riches and pleasures of life, and their fruit does not mature. And as for that in the good soil, they are those who, hearing the word, hold it fast in an honest and good heart, and bring forth fruit with patience." As he said these things, he cried out "He who has ears to hear, let him hear."

Ascension of Our Lord Greek Orthodox Church



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WEEKLY PARISH BULLETIN October 14 - 21, 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

"All of us sin constantly. We slip and fall. In reality, we fall into a trap set by the demons. The Holy Fathers and the Saints always tell us, 'It is important to get up immediately after a fall and to keep on walking toward God'. Even if we fall a hundred times a day, it does not matter; we must get up and go on walking toward God without looking back. What has happened has happened – it is in the past. Just keep on going, all the while asking for help from God."

Elder Thaddeus of Vitovnica

Weekly Calendar

Sunday 8:15 a.m. 9:15 a.m. 9:30 a.m.	October 14 7th Ecumenical Council Orthros Sunday Church School Divine Liturgy Coffee Fellowship hosted by The Pantazis & Hamburg Family Girls' Chanting Practice
Monday 10 a.m. 5:30 p.m. 7:30 p.m.	October 15 HOPE Group Outing at Didier Farm Jr. GOYA Bowling GOYA Bowling
Tuesday 4:45 p.m. 6:30 p.m.	October 16 Greek School, Daniel Wright Middle School SCS Teachers' Meeting
Wednesday 6:30 p.m.	October 17 Orthodoxy 101 Catechism Class, Church House
Thursday 8 a.m. 9 a.m. 10:30 a.m. 6:15 p.m. 7:45 p.m.	October 18 St. Luke the Evangelist Orthros Divine Liturgy Bible Study @ Marcia Moore's Home Greek School: Beginners/Advanced Beginners Greek School Intermediate/Advanced
Friday 6:30 p.m.	October 19 Faith/JOY
Saturday 8 a.m. 9 a.m. 9:30 a.m.	October 20 St. Gerasimos Orthros Divine Liturgy @ House Chapel <i>The Nones</i> Orthodox Christian Synergy Symposium, St. John the Baptist, Des Plaines
Sunday 8:15 a.m. 9:15 a.m. 9:30 a.m.	October 21 6th Sunday of Luke Orthros Sunday Church School Divine Liturgy

CONDOLENCES

OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY to Patricia Apostolakis, whose beloved husband, Bill, fell asleep in the Lord last Sunday, October 7th. We also extend our condolences to Bill and Patricia's sons, Peter and Robert. The funeral was held yesterday at Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral in Carmel, IN. We pray that God grant His servant, Bill, eternal rest in the Kingdom of Heaven and comfort to his family. May his memory be eternal.

Our Sunday Volunteers

Prospora: Tasia Alexakos & Anastasia Anton
Epistle Reader: Kathie Rutkowski
Greeters: Gerry and Despina Taranko
Ushers: David Rutkowski (UIC), Kathie Rutkowski, Carol Stamas, Doug Hugdahl, Peter Venetos, Tom Papastefan, Frank Kazas, Diane Sigalos

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

DID YOU KNOW?

Today the Church remembers the 350 Holy Fathers of the Seventh Ecumenical Council under the Holy Patriarch Tarasius. The Synod of 787 AD, the second to meet at Nicea, refuted the Iconoclast heresy during the reign of Empress Irene and her son Constantine VI. The Council decreed that the veneration of icons was not idolatry (Exodus 20:4-5), because the honor shown to them is not directed to the wood or paint, but passes to the prototype (the person depicted).

Source: Orthodox Church of America (<https://oca.org/saints/lives/2018/10/14/70-commemoration-of-the-holy-fathers-of-the-seventh-ecumenical-coun>)

Announcements

- + **WE NEED YOUR HELP! ACTIVATE YOUR STEWARDSHIP TALENTS:** In Christian stewardship, the offering of our time and talents is equally as important as supporting our parish financially. We are seeking parishioners to put their time and talents into action by participating in Sunday Liturgy. Our Parish is currently in need of volunteers to: 1) read the Epistle; 2) greet parishioners as they enter the church; and 3) bake the prospora bread that is blessed and used for Holy Communion and Antidoron. This is a great opportunity to contribute your time and talent directly to the Divine Liturgy! If you are interested in volunteering, please call the office or email suzannesaric@ascensiongoc.com. Thank you!
- + **HOPE GROUP'S ANNUAL FALL OUTING!** Join us tomorrow, October 15th at 10 a.m. for the HOPE Ministry's annual fall outing at Didier Farm! All parents and grandparents along with their babies and toddlers from 40 days to 4 years old are welcomed and encouraged to join in on the fun! See more details in the flyer and contact Presvytera Stefanie at presstefanie@yahoo.com with any questions.
- + **THIS THURSDAY: A NEW BIBLE STUDY MINISTRY:** Please join us this Thursday, 10/18 at 10:30 a.m. for a new bible study group. This year we will be studying the Gospel of Matthew. No preparation for the class is required and everyone is welcome. The group discussion will be led by Helen Theodoropoulos, PhD, MA (Doctor of Theology from University of Chicago and Masters from Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology). She is an Adjunct Professor at St. Sava Serbian Orthodox School of Theology. Subsequent sessions will be held on Thursdays Nov. 1, 15, 29 and Dec. 13. Please RSVP to marcia.moore1780@gmail.com who will then follow up with more information on location, etc.
- + **MEN'S BIBLE STUDY GROUP: ENCOUNTER THE WORD:** Also beginning this fall, a Men's Bible Study Group will meet on Wednesday mornings from 6 am -7 am at the Church House. The meetings, which will be led by Fr. Sotiri, will be held on October 24, November 7, December 5 and 19. Please RSVP to david.rutkowski55@yahoo.com.
- + **KOINONIA MEN'S MINISTRY FIRST MEETING OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL YEAR** will take place on Tuesday, October 23rd - 6:30 Fellowship, 7 pm meeting -- at LightSource Unlimited, 980 Corporate Woods Pkwy, Vernon Hills. We will discuss our plans for the 2018/19 year, and enjoy some meaningful fellowship. ALL MEN, not just Koinonia members, are welcome and encouraged to attend. Any questions, please contact Demetri Katsulis, (847) 370-3719, or Doug Hugdahl, (847) 910-6090.
- + **SENIOR SYNAXIS OCTOBER OUTING: NOTE CHANGE OF PLANS** Our Senior Synaxis Ministry's next meeting will take place on October 25th from 2 - 5 p.m. at Portillo's Restaurant, 221 E. Townline Rd., Vernon Hills. Seniors will gather for lunch, fellowship and bingo. Please note the change of date and venue and RSVP to Elaine Beck by October 18th: 847.367.5227.
- + **CALLING ALL MARRIED COUPLES!** Please join us on October 26th for a Marriage Ministry Social Outing! We will be meeting from 6:30 to 8:30 at Thrown Elements Pottery Studio in Arlington Heights (260 N Evergreen Ave, Arlington Heights, IL 60004). The cost is \$25 per couple, it's BYOB and also allows us a space for fellowship and discussion. Please reply with your confirmation if you will attend the social gathering. There is a minimum amount of people we must meet to hold the reservation. Couples of all stages are welcome! This is a great setting to bring in new couples and get to know each other (and take care of some early Christmas gifts!!) We hope to see you there!
- + **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 with the first 4 meetings taking place: October 6 @ 10 am | Oct. 17 @ 6:30 pm | Nov. 17 @ 10:30 am | December 12 @ 6:30 p.m. Each class will last an hour and a half and will build on the one prior to it 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
- + **DIVORCE REBUILDERS:** Sts. Peter and Paul's Divorce Rebuilders offers support, guidance and hope to those who are separated and divorced. Meetings will begin this Fall starting on Monday, October 8 through November 12, at 7-8:30 p.m. for six weeks in the church library. This group provides a place where you can learn, heal and rebuild from the hurt of divorce. In addition, our group participates in ongoing social activities. Leader: Maria Boyle, Counseling, Northwestern University. To enroll in this program, please email: sspp.divorcerebuilders@gmail.com and please note in the subject heading: *Divorce Rebuilders*. There is no cost for this program. "No Christian should walk through the pain of divorce alone."
- + **SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE TO UNIVERSITY STUDENTS** through the *Hellenic Link-Midwest Board* (applications due tomorrow, October 15, 2018) and *The PanHellenic Scholarship Foundation*, which just posted its 2018/19 application at <https://www.panhellenicsf.org/apply/> (due January 31, 2019). For more information on available scholarship programs, visit Ascension's website and click on the Orthodox Christian Fellowship link within the Ministry section.