

### 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 Apostle Bartholomew in the Third Mode

O Holy Apostles, intercede with the merciful God that He grant unto our souls forgiveness of offenses.

### 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 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."

+ OUT OF RESPECT FOR THE ICONS PRINTED ON THE BULLETIN, PLEASE RECYCLE RATHER THAN DISCARD IN THE GARBAGE +

## Ascension of Our Lord Greek Orthodox Church



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## WEEKLY PARISH BULLETIN August 25 – September 1, 2019

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

*"Life on earth is a gift. The work we do is also a gift if we see it as an opportunity to serve God and others. Saint Paul instructs us, 'Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men....' (Colossians 3:23). As Christian Stewards we are called to give back to God from the "first fruits" of our labor. We support our parish and her ministries in an intentional way and not with only what it left after everything else has been taken care of. In whatever work we do, we are called to give glory to God for the abilities and opportunities He provides. We do this by caring for the work we do, applying our God-given abilities to our work, and by respecting the responsibilities with which we have been entrusted. We do our best and give the glory to God."*

Greek Orthodox Archdiocese Department of Stewardship, Outreach & Evangelism

## Weekly Calendar

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>August 25</b>	<b>10<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Matthew</b>
8:15 a.m.	Orthros	
9:30 a.m.	Divine Liturgy	
	Memorial for Constantine Xintaris (6 mo); Anthony Aiello (1 yr); louanna Aiello (1 yr); Despina Caparos (10 yrs)	
	Blessing of Phanouropitas	
	Coffee Fellowship hosted by The Beck Family	
11:15 a.m.	Ministry Mania, Fellowship Hall	
2:30 p.m.	Wedding: John Seremetis & Stavroula Rekkas	
	<i>Sponsor: Stavros Dimopoulos</i>	
<b>Monday</b>	<b>August 26</b>	
7 p.m.	YAL Conference Committee Meeting	
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>August 27</b>	<b>St. Phanourios the Great</b>
8 a.m.	Orthros	
9 a.m.	Divine Liturgy	
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>August 29</b>	<b>Beheading of St. John the Baptist</b>
	<i>Services at St. John the Baptist, Des Plaines, beginning at 8:30 a.m.</i>	
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>August 31</b>	
8:30 a.m.	Koinonia Men's Ministry Health Challenge Meeting	
5 p.m.	Vespers	
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>September 1</b>	<b>Beginning of the Ecclesiastical Year</b>
8:15 a.m.	Orthros	
9:30 a.m.	Divine Liturgy	

+ **MAKE YOUR WAY INTO THE FELLOWSHIP HALL FOR SOME MINISTRY MANIA!** Thank you to all of our ministries for preparing the excellent material and promotional pieces you will find right around the corner after Liturgy. Don't miss the opportunity to get involved! There's no better time to join the energy and momentum!

+ **ONLINE REGISTRATION NOW OPEN FOR ALL OF ASCENSION'S YOUTH MINISTRIES** Visit the ministry tab on our website at [www.ascensiongoc.com](http://www.ascensiongoc.com), or call the office for more information. **NEW THIS YEAR:** You can register and pay online! See the box to the right for ministry start dates. We encourage you to register as soon as possible for Sunday Church School and Greek School to secure enrollment so we can adequately prepare for classes prior to the first day.

+ **SUNDAY CHURCH SCHOOL OPPORTUNITY:** We are preparing for our 2019-2020 Sunday Church School year and are looking for teachers and assistants. Please contact Fr. Sotiri or Katherine Schreiber if you're interested in helping.

+ **RECRUITING ALTAR BOYS:** All Orthodox young men and/or boys 10 years and older are invited to participate in the sacred privilege of serving in the altar. Altar boys must have a teachable spirit, demonstrate respect for liturgical tradition and commit to serving consistently. If your son is interested in participating in this formational year-round ministry, please see Justin at Ministry Mania or contact him at ([justinglav@ascensiongoc.com](mailto:justinglav@ascensiongoc.com)). There will be a meeting for altar boys on September 15<sup>th</sup> following Liturgy.

## Our Sunday Volunteers

**Prospora:** Elaine Metropoulos & Sofia Caronis  
**Epistle Reader:** Nick Papastratakos  
**Greeters:** Steven & Faye Kopplin  
**Ushers:** Doug Hugdahl (UIC), Steve Sintetas, Mia Connolly, Tom Papastefan, Carol Stamas, , Bill Smirles, Tom Kiriakos

## 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, Fred, Katerini, James, Theresa, Peter, Anna, Ignacio, Alexander, Anthony, Matina, Panagiotis, Evangelos, Paraschos, Stefanos, Chris, Don

### MINISTRY START DATES!

Sunday Church School: 9/8  
 Men's Ministry: 9/8  
 Jr. GOYA: 9/9  
 GOYA: 9/9  
 Greek School: 9/10  
 Philoptochos: 9/12  
 Encounter the Word: 9/18  
 HOPE: 9/18  
 Adult Greek School: 9/19  
 FAITH/JOY: 9/20  
 Marriage Ministry: 9/20  
 Ascending in Orthodoxy: 9/23  
 Senior Synaxis: 9/26

Ongoing:  
 Stewardship  
 Acolytes  
 Orthodox Campus Fellowship

## Announcements

+ **SIGN UP TO PLAY IN THE 2019 ASCENSION GOLF OUTING!** The Koinonia Men's Ministry will be hosting the 20th Anniversary Ascension Golf Outing and Family Dinner on Thursday, September 19<sup>th</sup>, at the Chevy Chase Golf Course. Please plan to join us for this great day of fellowship and help make our 20th Anniversary Golf Outing a success! Several new sponsorship opportunities are available this year. The net proceeds of this year's event will go to help fund a classroom in our new building. Please register and pay directly on the Koinonia's Men's Ministry Golf web page on Ascension's website; or visit the Koinonia Golf Outing Table during the Ministry Mania event today!

+ **PHILOPTOCHOS INVITES EVERYONE TO THIS YEAR'S KICK-OFF MEETING ON Thursday, September 12<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 pm** at Church in our Fellowship Hall. Visit the Philoptochos table at Ministry Mania to hear about this year's theme as well as all of the exciting events that are coming up! Additionally, please support "**Operation Classroom**", a National Philoptochos initiative designed to offer assistance to teachers and students in underfunded communities. We are collecting new school supplies for Lake County Schools needing help. Supply requests include pencils (#2 and colored), tissues, hand sanitizer, vinyl folders, wide-ruled spiral notebooks, yellow highlighters, glue sticks, crayons, markers, sticky notes, dry erase markers, pink erasers and disinfecting wipes. Please bring the items to the church or to our kickoff meeting on September 12th. Contact Faye Kopplin at [koppfm@gmail.com](mailto:koppfm@gmail.com) or 847-561-2324 with any questions.

+ **ADD SOME SWEETNESS TO THE PARISH FAMILY PICNIC!** The Men's Koinonia ministry is hosting the annual **Parish Family Picnic** on Sunday, **September 8** and it's lining up to be another great event! We are seeking volunteers to provide baked goods for the dessert table. Please see the enclosed flyer for information!

+ **BOOKSTORE UPDATE:** We've unpacked the boxes and the books are on the new bookshelves, but the bookstore isn't complete yet! We're still in the process of getting everything together, so until we're officially open please don't remove any of the books from the shelves. If you need help with anything, please see Caity Anast during coffee hour. We will be in need of more volunteers to help staff the bookstore after coffee hour on Sundays once we're open, if you're interested, contact Caity ([anast1028@gmail.com](mailto:anast1028@gmail.com)), or visit the bookstore table at Ministry Mania today.

+ **STEWARDSHIP 2019:** Christian stewardship calls on us to realize that we are not owners of our time and talents. We are truly stewards, called to manage these gifts for a brief time, always responsible to the God Who entrusts them to us. It is often easy for us to give God and His Church a minimum of our time, talents and treasures, but by doing so God remains on the fringe of our lives. Stewardship aims to move God from the fringe to the center of our lives. As Christ says in Matthew 6:21, "Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also." If we place God first in our lives and invest our talents and treasures in Him, our heart will follow. **It's not too late to turn in your 2019 pledge.** Please visit the stewardship table today at Ministry Mania.

+ **SCS CONTINUES ITS KIDS HELPING KIDS FUNDRAISER!** Our Sunday Church School ministry will be holding a final fundraiser in advance of the Philoptochos Children's Medical Fund luncheon (see announcement below) to raise money for ill or fragile children whose families are unable to afford the necessary medical treatment. Craving a frappe? Visit the SCS Frappe Stand at the Parish Family Picnic in 2 weeks and support our kids as they continue to learn the true meaning of philanthropy by helping children of all backgrounds throughout the Metropolis. Our Sunday Church School Ministry is hoping to make a significant donation to this cause and appreciates your support!

+ **RSVPs BEING TAKEN FOR CHILDREN'S MEDICAL FUND LUNCHEON:** Do not forget to make your reservation for the **Children's Medical Fund Luncheon** taking place on Saturday, **November 16, 2019** at the Chicago Marriott Hotel. The Metropolis of Chicago Philoptochos is honored to be hosting this worthwhile event in support of children in need. For reservations, please contact Anna Duros at [annaduros@gmail.com](mailto:annaduros@gmail.com) or 847-370-2662.

+ **ORTHODOX WOMEN IN THE HEALING MINISTRIES** just announced it's annual retreat to take place October 4-6 at the Holy Dormition Monastery in Rives Junction, MI. The Very Reverent Dimitrie Vincent will present "My Grace is Sufficient for You, My Strength is Made Perfect in Weakness." For more information, go to [owhm.org](http://owhm.org).

+ **REGISTRATION OPEN FOR The 4th annual Midwest Hellenic Dance Festival** will take place October 11-12, at the Hilton Rosemont, Chicago O'Hare. Marriott Oakbrook. The festival is one of the newer ministries within the Metropolis of Chicago and dedicated to promoting, preserving and perpetuating the traditional Greek dance, music and fellowship of our Hellenic Heritage. For more information, go to [www.mhdf.il.goarch.org/](http://www.mhdf.il.goarch.org/) or contact Tina Lambros Anagnos ([tlanagnos@gmail.com](mailto:tlanagnos@gmail.com)).

+ **"WHEN IT SEEMS LIKE GOD ISN'T THERE: OUR STRUGGLE BETWEEN FAITH AND DOUBT"** will be the theme of Chicago Orthodox Synergy's 25th Annual Symposium on Saturday, October 10, 2019 at St. Demetrios Church, Elmhurst, beginning at 10 a.m. The featured speaker will be Steven Christoforou, Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministries for the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America. Registration, which includes lunch, is \$25.00. For more information, go to [chicagosynergy.org](http://chicagosynergy.org).