

Resurrectional Apolytikion in the Plagal First Mode

Let us worship the Word, O ye faithful, praising Him that with the Father and the Spirit is co-beginningless God, Who was born of a pure Virgin that we all be saved; for He was pleased to mount the Cross in the flesh that He assumed, accepting thus to endure death. And by His glorious rising, He also willed to resurrect the dead.

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, Χριστὲ ὁ Θεὸς ἡμῶν, χαροποιήσας τοὺς Μαθητάς, τῆ ἐπαγγελίᾳ τοῦ ἁγίου Πνεύματος· βεβαιωθέντων αὐτῶν διὰ τῆς εὐλογίας, ὅτι σὺ εἶ ὁ Υἱὸς τοῦ Θεοῦ, ὁ λυτρωτὴς τοῦ κόσμου.

Seasonal Kontakion in the Plagal Fourth Mode

Though You went down into the tomb, You destroyed Hades' power, and You rose the victor, Christ God, saying to the myrrh-bearing women, "Hail!" and granting peace to Your disciples, You who raise up the fallen.

The reading is from Acts of the Apostles 16:16-34.

IN THOSE DAYS, as we apostles were going to the place of prayer, we were met by a slave girl who had a spirit of divination and brought her owners much gain by soothsaying. She followed Paul and us, crying, "These men are servants of the Most High God, who proclaim to you the way of salvation." And this she did for many days. But Paul was annoyed, and turned and said to the spirit, "I charge you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her." And it came out that very hour. But when her owners saw that their hope of gain was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the market place before the rulers; and when they had brought them to the magistrates they said, "These men are Jews and they are disturbing our city. They advocate customs which it is not lawful for us Romans to accept or practice." The crowd joined in attacking them; and the magistrates tore the garments off them and gave orders to beat them with rods. And when they had inflicted many blows upon them, they threw them into prison, charging the jailer to keep them safely. Having received this charge, he put them into the inner prison and fastened their feet in the stocks. But about midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them, and suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and every one's fetters were unfastened. When the jailer woke and saw that the prison doors were open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, supposing that the prisoners had escaped. But Paul cried with a loud voice, "Do not harm yourself, for we are all here." And he called for lights and rushed in, and trembling with fear he fell down before Paul and Silas, and brought them out and said, "Men, what must I do to be saved?" And they said, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household." And they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all that were in his house. And he took them the same hour of the night, and washed their wounds, and he was baptized at once, with all his family. Then he brought them up into his house, and set food before them; and he rejoiced with all his household that he had believed in God.

The Gospel of John 9:1-38

At that time, as Jesus passed by, He saw a man blind from his birth. And His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be made manifest in him. We must work the works of Him who sent me, while it is day; night comes, when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." As He said this, He spat on the ground and made clay of the spittle and anointed the man's eyes with the clay, saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). So he went and washed and came back seeing. The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar, said, "Is not this the man who used to sit and beg?" Some said, "It is he"; others said, "No, but he is like him." He said, "I am the man." They said to him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" He answered, "The man called Jesus made clay and anointed my eyes and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash'; so I went and washed and received my sight." They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know."

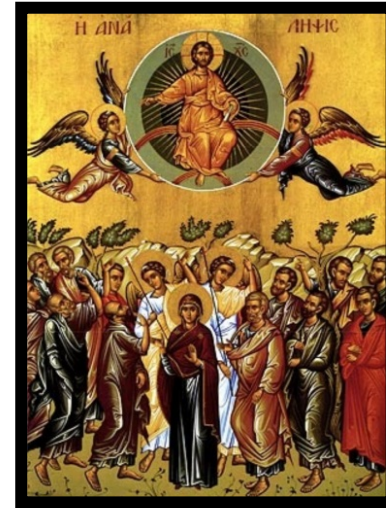
They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the clay and opened his eyes. The Pharisees again asked him how he had received his sight. And he said to them, "He put clay on my eyes and I washed, and I see." Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for He does not keep the Sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?" There was a division among them. So they again said to the blind man, "What do you say about him, since he has opened your eyes?" He said, "He is a prophet."

The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight, until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight, and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" His parents answered, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but how he now sees we do not know, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age, he will speak for himself." His parents said this because they feared the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that if anyone should confess him to be Christ he was to be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, "He is of age, ask him."

So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and said to him, "Give God the praise; we know that this man is a sinner." He answered, "Whether He is a sinner, I do not know; one thing I know, that though I was blind, now I see." They said to him, "What did He do to you? How did He open your eyes?" He answered them, "I have told you already and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you too want to become his disciples?" And they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where He comes from." The man answered, "Why, this is a marvel! You do not know where He comes from, and yet He opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but if anyone is a worshiper of God and does His will, God listens to him. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a man born blind. If this man were not from God, He could do nothing." They answered him, "You were born in utter sin, and would you teach us?" And they cast him out.

Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found him He said, "Do you believe in the Son of man?" He answered, "And who is He, sir, that I may believe in Him?" Jesus said to him, "You have seen Him, and it is He who speaks to you." He said, "Lord, I believe"; and he worshiped Him.

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WEEKLY PARISH BULLETIN

June 2 - 9, 2019

Χριστός Ανέστη! Αληθώς Ανέστη!

Christ is Risen! Truly He is Risen!

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.

Resurrection Hymn

Christ is risen from the dead, by death, trampling down upon death, and to those in the tombs, He has granted life.

Χριστός ανέστη εκ νεκρῶν, θανάτῳ θάνατον πατήσας, και τοις εν τοις μνήμασι ζῶν χαρισάμενος.

Christos anesti eknekron, thanato thanaton patisas, ke tis en tis mnimasi, zoin charisamenos

Spiritual Reflection

"In the first place, church attendance is a need of the soul. Just as the hungry have need of food and the thirsty require water, so, too, do Christians have need of their 'daily bread', which is the word of God and the spotless sacraments, the Body and Blood of Christ. Just as we can't live without food and water, neither can we do without the word of God and Holy Communion."

Weekly Calendar

Sunday 8:15 a.m. 9:30 a.m.	June 2 Orthros Divine Liturgy Memorial for Metropolitan IAKOVOS (2 yrs) Coffee Fellowship hosted by Parents of Graduates	Sunday of the Blind Man
3:30 p.m.	Baptism: Gianluca Cardone, Son of Salvatore and Briana Cardone <i>Sponsors: Domenico & Gina Cappelluti</i>	
Monday 6 p.m.	June 3 Thyranoixia Planning Meeting	
Wednesday 7 p.m.	June 5 Hierarchical Great Vespers with Artoklasia DETAILS & LOCATION TO BE ANNOUNCED	Apodosis of Pascha
Thursday 8:15 a.m. 9:30 a.m.	June 6 Orthros Hierarchical Divine Liturgy and Artoklasia DETAILS & LOCATION TO BE ANNOUNCED	Ascension of Our Lord
Saturday 3:30 p.m.	June 8 Wedding: John Koutsoufis & Ann Kutulas <i>Sponsor: Eleni Kutulas</i>	
Sunday 8:15 a.m. 9:30 a.m.	June 9 Orthros Divine Liturgy Memorial for the Souls of the Servants of Ascension	Fathers of the Ecumenical Council
4:30 p.m.	Dome Sweet Home dinner dance, Chevy Chase, Wheeling	

+ **WE HAVE REACHED FULL CAPACITY FOR THE JUNE 9th DOME SWEET HOME DINNER DANCE** We are thrilled with the overwhelming response and look forward to celebrating this monumental event in the history of our parish! Please note that all reservations and meals have been called into Chevy Chase and we cannot accommodate additional reservations at the door.

+ **FEAST DAY PLAN AND LOCATION TO BE ANNOUNCED:** Hierarchical Great Vespers will take place the evening of Wednesday, June 5th and Orthros & Hierarchical Divine Liturgy will take place on Thursday morning, June 6th. *At the time of printing, we are unable to make an announcement regarding the Thyranoixia and location of our Feast Day services. Be assured that we will be reporting more information as soon as we can. Thank you for your patience and understanding.*

+ **ON THE OCCASION OF THE JUNE 11th FEAST DAY OF THE HOLY APOSTLE BARTHOLOMEW, PATRON SAINT OF METROPOLITAN NATHANAEL OF CHICAGO,** The Holy Metropolis of Chicago invites the faithful to the following: Monday, June 10: Great Vespers 7 p.m. followed by an Open House Reception at St. Nectarios, Palatine. On Tuesday, June 11th, a Hierarchical Divine Liturgy will be celebrated at Annunciation Cathedral with Orthros at 8:30 a.m. and Divine Liturgy at 9:30 a.m. A luncheon will follow.

Our Sunday Volunteers

Prospora: Sophie Beris & Sofia Caronis
Epistle Reader: Dr. Tom Poulakidas
Greeters: Jeannie & John Thomas
Ushers: Peter Venetos (UIC), Tom Kiriakos, Doug Hugdahl, Carol Stamas, Diane Sigalos, Andrea Rogers, Jeannie Thomas, Chris Chatzidakis

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

Announcements

+ **TWO YEAR MEMORIAL FOR METROPOLITAN IAKOVOS:** Today, June 2nd marks the 2-year anniversary since the falling asleep in the Lord of Metropolitan Iakovos. Following Divine Liturgy, each of the parishes in the Metropolis will offer a memorial service that will grant our entire Metropolis family the opportunity to pray for the repose of Metropolitan Iakovos. May his memory be eternal.

+ **TODAY IS GRADUATE SUNDAY** – This morning Ascension will honor our 2019 Graduates with a gift on behalf of the entire Congregation. Please refer to the enclosed list in this Sunday's Bulletin. We congratulate the graduates of the class of 2019 for all of their hard work and wish them many blessings as they begin the next chapter of their lives.

+ **ASCENSION'S GREEK SCHOOL CULMINATED THIS PAST TUESDAY** with a beautiful program given by the students appropriately called "Summer in Greece." Thank you also to all of the families who were part of Ascension's Greek School program this year. Applications for the 2019/20 school year will be available in mid-July. Please be ambassadors of our program and help to spread the word about both the youth and adult offerings we have available.

+ **THE ANNUAL PHILOPTOCHOS CELEBRATION OF GIVING DINNER TOOK PLACE THIS PAST THURSDAY** after the Philoptochos Board Elections. We had a splendid turnout and are looking forward to the new board being sworn in in the upcoming month. We also reviewed our past year of philanthropy and philoxenia via our 4th annual yearbook, and enjoyed a wonderful dinner at Dover Straits. Thank you all for your generous support and compassion to those in need.

+ **THE METROPOLIS OF CHICAGO PHILOPTOCHOS** is honored to be hosting the biennial Children's Medical Fund Luncheon taking place on Saturday, November 16, 2019 at the Chicago Marriott Hotel. Please join us at this worthwhile event in support of children in need. For more information, contact Carol Stamas at cestamas@comcast.net.

+ **WE NEED COFFEE FELLOWSHIP HOSTS IN JUNE AND THROUGHOUT THE SUMMER:** Please consider hosting coffee fellowship after Liturgy with your family, or together with another family, so that we may continue our fellowship throughout the summer. 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.

+ **SAVE THE DATE for the 4th ANNUAL MID-SUMMER SOCIAL, July 28th!** Sponsored by Men's Koinonia, this gathering gives the families and youth in our Parish the opportunity to enjoy ice cream, hotdogs, fun and fellowship immediately following Liturgy.

+ **KOINONIA MEN'S MINISTRY SAVE THE DATES:** Thursday, 9/19: Golf Outing at Chevy Chase, Wheeling. Saturday 10/19, 2nd Annual Men's Retreat at our new Church Home!

+ **IMPORTANT PARKING ANNOUNCEMENT AT CHURCH HOUSE:** If you are visiting the church house, please park only on the driveway. We can no longer use the gravel lot located between the house and the church. We apologize for any inconvenience and appreciate your cooperation!

+ **THE GREEK FEST SEASON IS UP AND RUNNING:** Support our local Metropolis Churches and celebrate summer Greek-style!

May 31, June 1-2: St. George, Chicago
June 14 -16: St. Demetrios, Elmhurst
June 15 - 16: Assumption Church, Chicago
June 15-16: St. Nicholas, Oak Lawn
June 21 -23: Annunciation, Chicago

June 21-23: Annunciation, Milwaukee, WI
June 21-23: Kimissis Tis Theotokou, Racine, WI
June 21-23: Holy Cross Greek Fest, Justice
June 21-23: St. Nectarios, Palatine