

Resurrectional Apolytikion in the Plagal Second Mode

Angelic powers were above Thy tomb, and they that guarded Thee became as dead. And Mary stood by the grave seeking Thine immaculate Body. Thou hast despoiled Hades and wast not tried thereby. Thou didst meet the Virgin and didst grant us life. O Thou Who didst arise from the dead, Lord, glory be to Thee.

Apolytikion for Afterfeast of the Entry of the Theotokos 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.

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

The Savior's most pure and immaculate temple, the very precious bridal chamber and Virgin, who is the sacred treasure of the glory of God, on this day is introduced into the House of the Lord, and with herself she brings the grace in the divine Spirit. She is extolled by the Angels of God. A heavenly tabernacle is she.

The reading is from St. Paul's Letter to the Ephesians 2:4-10

Brethren, God who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), and raised us up with Him, and made us sit with Him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, that in the coming ages He might show the immeasurable riches of His grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith; and this is not your own doing, it is the gift of God: not because of works, lest any man should boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

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."

+ 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 November 24 – December 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

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

Weekly Calendar

Sunday	November 24	13th Sunday of Luke
8:15 a.m.	Orthros	
9:15 a.m.	Sunday Church School	
9:30 a.m.	Divine Liturgy	
	Artoclasia offered by the Buhler family on the occasion of the Feast Day of Saint Andrew	
	Memorial for Kyriaki Leiva (1 yr); Konstantinos Kapsalis, (11 yrs)	
	Coffee Hour hosted by parish members who celebrate the Feastday of St. Katherine ΧΡΟΝΙΑ ΠΟΛΛΑ!	
	Girls' Chanting Practice	
7 p.m.	Great Vespers at the St. Katherine Chapel of Assumption Church, Chicago	
Monday	November 25	St. Katherine the Great Martyr
8 a.m.	Orthros	
9 a.m.	Divine Liturgy	
Tuesday	November 26	
5 a.m.	Divine Liturgy	
Wednesday	November 27	
9 a.m.	Divine Liturgy	
Thursday	November 28	Thanksgiving Day
9 a.m.	Divine Liturgy	
	Church Office Closed	
Friday	November 29	
9 a.m.	Divine Liturgy	
	Church Office Closed	
7 p.m.	Great Vespers, St. Andrew Church, Chicago	
Saturday	November 30	St. Andrew the First-Called
8 a.m.	Orthros	
9 a.m.	Divine Liturgy	
11:30 a.m.	Baptism: Sophia, daughter of Jimmy Moshopoulos and Kai-Lin Garner	
Sunday	December 1	14th Sunday of Luke
8:15 a.m.	Orthros	
9:30 a.m.	Divine Liturgy	

STEWARDSHIP 2020 - CALLING ALL ASCENSION FAMILIES! November marks the official kick-off of the 2020 Stewardship campaign "A Time For Every Purpose Under Heaven (Ecclesiastes 3)." We need all Ascension families to commit their time, talent, and treasures to support and grow our thriving ministries, and to help our parish community be good stewards of the new house of worship with which we've been blessed. We are very thankful to the 51 families that have responded to the call and pledged \$155,000 for 2020 so far, in addition to their time and talent. For those that haven't yet submitted a 2020 pledge card, please do so now! Stewardship cards can be found in the narthex and on the stewardship table near the entrance to the fellowship hall; or, pledge online at www.ascensiongoc.com/aboutus/stewardship.

Our Sunday Volunteers

Epistle Reader: Nick Papastratakos
Prospora Bakers: Elaine Metropoulos & Iliana Radaios
Greeters: Eric & Marcia Moore
Ushers: David Rutkowski (UIC), Peter Venetos, Doug Hugdahl, Tom Papastefan, Mia Connolly, Frank Kazas, Nick Marino, Steve Sintetas

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, Chris, Don, Hariklia

Psalm of Thanksgiving

I give You thanks, O Lord, with my whole heart;
 before the angels I sing Your praise;
 I bow before Your holy presence and give thanks to Your name for Your steadfast love and Your faithfulness;
 For You have exalted above everything Your name and Your word.
 On the day I called, You answered me;
 my strength of soul You increased. Though I walk in the midst of trouble,
 You preserve my life;
 You stretch out Your hand against the wrath of my adversaries,
 and Your right hand delivers me.
 The Lord will fulfill His purpose for me;
 Your steadfast love, O Lord, endures forever.

Psalm 138:1-3,7-8

Announcements

- + **PHILOPTOCHOS WOULD LIKE TO THANK** all those who picked stars from our Giving Tree and supported our "Shower of Stars" kitchen shower. We were fortunate to receive so many lovely gifts and generous donations from the parish. Thank you all very much. Philoptochos wishes everyone a blessed Thanksgiving with family and friends.
- + **THE NATIVITY FAST** During the November 15 – December 24 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 refer to the Nativity webpage on our website for the service schedule, as well as many other resources including information on how to submit names for the health of loved ones and for those reposed in the Lord. If you would like to schedule the Sacrament of Confession with Fr. Sotiri during this period of spiritual reflection, please call the Church office.
- + **OUR CHAPEL:** With the blessings of His Eminence Metropolitan Nathanael, and at the request of our generous donor, our chapel is going to be named after St. Katherine the Great Martyr. Please join for the 40 Day Liturgies held in the chapel **and especially for the Feast Day of St. Katherine tomorrow, November 25th (Orthros 8 a.m. | Liturgy 9 a.m.)**
- + **DONATIONS FOR THE NATIVITY SEASON:** During the upcoming Nativity Fast, additional Ecclesiastical supplies, as well as poinsettia plants, will be purchased to use in worship and to adorn the Church. We humbly request any contributions to offset these costs. To make a donation, please contact Renee Maltezos in the Church office (847.482.1200 or renee.maltezos@ascension.com).
- + **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 4th to take part in our 2019 Christmas greeting card. New this year, you may also submit your card online via a link on our homepage.
- + **FAITH AND JOY** All youth in grades K-5, please join us for our 5th annual Christmas Party/Mock Lock-In on Friday, December 6th from 7 – 8:30 p.m. Come dressed in your pjs and bring a comfy blanket or sleeping bag. We will watch a festive movie and enjoy lots of snacks! Please RSVP to faithjoyascension@gmail.com.
- + **PLEASE JOIN THE MARRIAGE MINISTRY** December 6th at 7 p.m. when we will meet at church for another open discussion and white elephant gift exchange! That's right -- bring that gift you never opened from last year and we'll pass it along to someone else! Lenten treats and festive sweaters are welcome!
- + **RESERVE YOUR SPOT TODAY: LENTEN BREAKFAST WITH SANTA & MRS. CLAUS AND GINGERBREAD HOUSE EVENT** Bring your children, grandchildren, and godchildren to the Lenten "Breakfast with Santa/Mrs. Claus and Gingerbread House Decorating" event on Saturday, December 7th following the Divine Liturgy. It will be a fun-filled day for all! See insert for more details and note an update to the schedule: Santa has rearranged his itinerary in order to stay with us until 11 a.m. If you have any questions, please contact Maria Vlahos @ 224.688.0214 / smileygrk@gmail.com.
- + **ARE YOU A NICK, NICOLE, NIKKI, NICOLETTA? THE DECEMBER 8th COFFEE FELLOWSHIP IS FOR YOU!** On Sunday, December 8th, 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 cut and plated nut-free platter of fasting goodies, fruit, or whatever you wish to share with the parish to the fellowship area on Sunday morning prior to Liturgy. ΧΡΟΝΙΑ ΠΟΛΛΑ!
- + **PHILOPTOCHOS SNAPSHOT OF SUPPORT: NOVEMBER DONATIONS:** · Ecumenical Patriarchate; · National Sisterhood of Presvyteres APC-NSP Benevolent Fund; · Feed My Starving Children
- + **ATTENTION MEN OF ASCENSION!** Our Koinonia Men's Ministry is looking for men interested in being on our leadership team to help drive all the ministry's important initiatives and events. If you are interested please contact Alex Marx, alxmrx@sbcglobal.net, or Tom Kiriakos, tskiriakos@icloud.com. Thank you!
- + **JUST IN TIME FOR THE HOLIDAYS!** Preserve the memory of the opening of our new church with a beautiful, boxed commemorative ornament of Ascension. For sale by Philoptochos each Sunday after Liturgy for \$25 while supplies last.
- + **SAVE THE DATE: METROPOLIS OF CHICAGO CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE:** Sunday, December 15th from 3 – 7 p.m. at the National Hellenic Museum, Chicago.
- + **MARRIAGE MINISTRY TRIVIA NIGHT WITH SSPP!** Mark your calendar for a big Marriage Ministry event in January 2020! The Orthodox Couples Group from SS. Peter and Paul in Glenview is hosting a Trivia Night and has graciously invited the Ascension's Marriage Ministry to attend. The event is open to all Ascension married couples and will be held January 11, 2020 at 6 p.m. at SSPP. Register at <https://ssppglenview.org/events/> by December 15th for the early bird rate. Buy your tickets early, as this event will likely sell out! For more information, contact Loukas Jonson at loukasjonson@gmail.com and check out the Marriage Ministry's webpage.