

Resurrectional Apolytikion in the Second Mode

When Thou didst descend unto death, O Life Immortal, then didst Thou slay Hades with the lightning of Thy Divinity. And when Thou didst also raise the dead out of the nethermost depths, all the powers in the Heavens cried out: O Life-giver, Christ our God, glory be to Thee.

Apolytikion for Beginning of the Indiction in the Second Mode

O Maker of all Creation, Who hast established the times and the seasons in Thine own power: Bless the crown of this year with Thy goodness, O Lord, and keep our rulers and Thy flock in peace, by the intercessions of the Theotokos, and save us.

Apolytikion for Synaxis of the Recovery of the Icon of the Most Holy Theotokos in the Grave Mode

Rejoice, thou who art full of grace, O Virgin Theotokos, haven and protection of the race of man; for the Redeemer of the world became incarnate of thee; for thou alone art both mother and virgin, ever blessed and glorified. Intercede with Christ God that peace be granted unto all the world.

Apolytikion for Righteous Symeon the Stylite in the First Mode

Thou becamest a pillar of patience and didst emulate the Forefathers, O righteous one: Job in his sufferings, Joseph in temptations, and the life of the bodiless while in the body, O Symeon, our righteous Father, intercede with Christ God that our souls be saved.

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.

Ἀνελήφθῃς 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

O God of all, Thou Who hast made all the ages, * O Sovereign Lord, truly transcendent in essence, * bestow Thy grace and blessing on the year to come; * and, O Most Compassionate, * in Thine infinite mercy * save all them that worship Thee, * Who alone art our Master, * and that with fear, O Saviour, cry to Thee: * Grant unto all men a fruitful and godly year.

The reading is from St. Paul's First Letter to Timothy 2:1-7.

Timothy, my son, first of all, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all men, for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life, godly and respectful in every way. This is good, and it is acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who gave Himself as a ransom for all, the testimony to which was borne at the proper time. For this I was appointed a preacher and apostle (I am telling the truth, I am not lying), a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.

The Gospel of Luke 4:16-22

At that time, Jesus came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up; and He went to the synagogue, as His custom was, on the Sabbath day. And He stood up to read; and there was given to Him the book of the prophet Isaiah. He opened the book and found the place where it was written, "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because He has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord." And he closed the book, and gave it back to the attendant, and sat down; and the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on Him. And He began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing." And all spoke well of Him, and wondered at the gracious words which proceeded out of His mouth.

+ 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

September 1 - 7, 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

“Don’t think that when we go to church, we are simply entering and exiting an ordinary building. Instead, we go up to, and make our entrance into, the Holy of Holies, into the heavens themselves. As we open the curtain of the Royal Doors, and Christ is present in the Holy Chalice, so too do we sinners open the doors of heaven and enter! Although we are sinners, when we enter into the Liturgy, we go up to the heavenly Jerusalem. It is then that you will realize what greatness our souls can experience! We sit down at the right hand of the Father, receiving honor from the honor of Christ, and taking the most honorable flesh of our Lord and God. When we enter church, then, we are traversing the distance from earth to heaven. We pass beyond the stars, we leave the angels below us, and we rise up to the heights of the Holy Trinity. This is the mystery of our Church.”

Elder Aimilianos of Simonopetra

Weekly Calendar

Sunday 8:15 a.m. 9:30 a.m.	September 1 Orthros Divine Liturgy followed by Agiasmos (Blessing of Waters for the Start of New Ecclesiastical Year) Memorial for Mike Nicolau (6 mo); Spiro Lamperis (40 yrs) 40-Day Blessing: Daughter of Chris & Stephanie Karahalios Coffee Fellowship hosted by The Alexakos Family	Beginning of the Ecclesiastical Year
Monday	September 2 Church Office Closed	Labor Day
Tuesday 5:30 p.m. 7 p.m.	September 3 Greek School Open House Golf Committee Planning Meeting	
Wednesday 6:30 p.m.	September 4 Paraklesis	
Sunday 8:15 a.m. 9:15 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 11:30 a.m.	September 8 Orthros Sunday Church School Divine Liturgy Parish Family Picnic @ Banner Day Camp	Nativity of the Theotokos

Our Sunday Volunteers

Prospora Bakers: Iliana Radaios & Elaine Stevens
Greeters: Elaine & Harry Metropoulos
Ushers: Nick Marino (UIC), Tom Kiriakos, Demetri Katsulis, Steve Sintetas, Doug Hugdahl, Diane Sigalos, Jeannie Thomas

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

+ **JOIN US NEXT SUNDAY AFTER LITURGY AT ASCENSION'S ANNUAL FAMILY PICNIC**, which will again take place on the grounds of Banner Camp, just north of the Church. Don't miss this wonderful way to kick off the new Ecclesiastical Year with parish family & friends, while enjoying the delicious menu served by our hosts, the Koinonia Men's Ministry. Overflow parking will be available at Banner Day Camp and a shuttle will run between Banner and the church. Bring a comfortable change of clothes and get ready to participate in all of the fun! We are seeking volunteers to provide baked goods for the dessert table. Please see the enclosed flyer for information!

+ **SEPTEMBER 8th RSVP DEADLINE APPROACHING! SIGN UP TO PLAY IN THE 2019 ASCENSION GOLF OUTING OR JOIN US FOR DINNER!** The Koinonia Men's Ministry will be hosting the 20th Anniversary Ascension Golf Outing and Family Dinner on Thursday, September 19th, 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! The net proceeds of this year's event will go to help fund a classroom in our new building. If you are interested in joining us for dinner, please register by September 8th. You can 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 coffee hour!

+ **PHILOPTOCHOS INVITES EVERYONE TO THIS YEAR'S KICK-OFF MEETING ON Thursday, September 12th, 6:30 pm** at Church in our Fellowship Hall. The new Ecclesiastical year is upon us and the realization of the dream to be in our new church has finally become a reality. It's time now to make our new church *feel* like home, which is why we've selected "*Reach for the Stars*" as this year's theme. The possibilities are endless so bring your energy and enthusiasm and join this dynamic group of women at this year's kick-off meeting. This year's calendar is posted on the Ascension Philoptochos web page. See enclosed flyer and membership form and please RSVP to Andrea Rogers at ascensionphilo@gmail.com or call at 847-682-4816.

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 or 847-561-2324 with any questions.

+ **OUR ANNUAL POP 'MAKING STRIDES AGAINST BREAST CANCER'** walk is scheduled for September 29th at Underwriter Labs in Northbrook. We will again be walking with our sister parish, Sts. Peter and Paul, in support of those who continue the fight and to remember loved ones lost. Registration information can be found on our website or at the 9/12 Philoptochos kick-off meeting. For more information, please contact Marcia Moore at marcia.moore1780@gmail.com.

+ **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 or 847-370-2662.

+ **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." We are thankful for the 306 families that have pledged \$349,480 to Ascension so far this year. If you haven't pledged for 2019, please take the time to consider how you can invest your time, talents, and treasures in service of God. Pick up a stewardship card in the Narthex.

+ **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/ or contact Tina Lambros Anagnos (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.

+ **SUNDAY CHURCH SCHOOL STARTS NEXT WEEK! PLEASE REGISTER ASAP!** 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. Click the ministry tab on our website at www.ascensiongoc.com to register and pay online, or visit the registration table during coffee hour today. See the box to the right for ministry start dates. We also look forward to our GOYA, Jr. GOYA and Philoptochos ministries kicking off their exciting programs the week of September 8th.

+ **INTERESTED IN LEARNING MORE ABOUT ASCENSION'S GREEK SCHOOL PROGRAM?** Attend the open house meetings that have been arranged to showcase this enriching, multi-faceted program! The Tuesday evening program for children ages 4-15 will hold it's open house this Tuesday, September 3rd at 5:30 p.m.; and, the Thursday evening program for Adults/Adolescents will host its open house on September 12th at 6:30 p.m. For more information, visit the registration table today after Liturgy, or ascensiongoc.com.

+ **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 contact him at (justinglav@ascensiongoc.com). There will be a meeting for altar boys on September 15th following Liturgy.

+ **ANNOUNCING ASCENSION OF OUR LORD SECOND ANNUAL MEN'S MINISTRY RETREAT!!** Hosted by Koinonia Men's Ministry, this event is open to all men of Ascension. The theme of this year's retreat is: *On Phones and Friendship: Orthodox Insights for Spiritual Health and Growth*, and our keynote speaker will be Rev. Dr. Perry Hamalis. Please join us on Saturday, October 19th from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. right here in our new church fellowship center! Cost, which includes breakfast and lunch, is \$50. Please RSVP by October 1, or, register by September 8 to receive the early bird rate of \$40! For more information, contact David Rutkowski at david.rutkowski55@yahoo.com.