

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.

Apolytikion for Hieromartyr Phocas in the Fourth Mode

As a sharer of the ways and a successor to the throne of the Apostles, O inspired of God, thou foundest discipline to be a means of ascent to divine vision. Wherefore, having rightly divided the word of truth, thou didst also contest for the Faith even unto blood, O Hieromartyr Phocas. Intercede with Christ our God that our souls be saved.

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, 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 Second Letter to the Corinthians 1:21-24; 2:1-4.

Brethren, it is God who establishes us with you in Christ, and has commissioned us; he has put his seal upon us and given us his Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee. But I call God to witness against me - it was to spare you that I refrained from coming to Corinth. Not that we lord it over your faith; we work with you for your joy, for you stand firm in your faith. For I made up my mind not to make you another painful visit. For if I cause you pain, who is there to make me glad but the one whom I have pained? And I wrote as I did, so that when I came I might not suffer pain from those who should have made me rejoice, for I felt sure of all of you, that my joy would be the joy of you all. For I wrote you out of much affliction and anguish of heart and with many tears, not to cause you pain but to let you know the abundant love that I have for you.



The Gospel of Luke 5:1-11

At that time, as Jesus was standing by the lake of Gennesaret, He saw two boats by the lake; but the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. Getting into one of the boats, which was Simon's, He asked him to put out a little from the land. And He sat down and taught the people from the boat. And when He had ceased speaking, He said to Simon, "Put out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch." And Simon answered, "Master, we toiled all night and took nothing! But at Your word I will let down the nets." And when they had done this, they enclosed a great shoal of fish; and as their nets were breaking, they beckoned to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both the boats, so that they began to sink. But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord." For he was astonished, and all who were with him, at the catch of fish which they had taken; and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. And Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; henceforth you will be catching men." And when they had brought their boats to land, they left everything and followed Him.

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WEEKLY PARISH BULLETIN September 22 - 28, 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

"Compassion is the sensitivity of good souls who love their neighbors. Compassionate people suffer with those in pain and regard any trouble afflicting their neighbor as their own. They hasten to help and are relieved when those who are suffering gain respite. They want to expunge unhappiness from the world and to spread joy and gladness to every corner of it."

Saint Nektarios of Pentapolis

Weekly Calendar

Sunday	September 22	1st Sunday of Luke
8:15 a.m.	Orthros	
9:15 a.m.	Sunday Church School	
9:30 a.m.	Divine Liturgy	
11:30 a.m.	Ministry Mania	
	Memorial for Lew Dumas (3 years)	
	Coffee Fellowship hosted by Despina & Jerry Taranko and Gloria & Mike Theodosopoulos	
11:30 a.m.	Ministry Mania, Fellowship Hall	
	Girls' Chanting Practice	
1 p.m.	Baptism: Arianthe, Daughter of Chris and Alina Diamond	
	<i>Sponsors: Alina Pritsker</i>	
Monday	September 23	
10 a.m.	HOPE meets at Didier Farms, Buffalo Grove	
10:30 a.m.	Ascending in Orthodoxy Women's Bible Study	
6 p.m.	Jr. GOYA	
7:30 p.m.	GOYA	
Tuesday	September 24	
4:45 p.m.	Greek School	
Wednesday	September 25	
	Metropolis Clergy-Laity Conference, Minneapolis St-Paul through Saturday	
Thursday	September 26	Falling Asleep of St. John the Theologian
11 a.m.	Senior Synaxis General Meeting	
6:15 p.m.	Greek School Beginners/Advanced Beginners	
7:45 p.m.	Greek School Intermediate/Advanced	
Sunday	September 29	2nd Sunday of Luke
8:15 a.m.	Orthros	
9:15 a.m.	Sunday Church School – Open House	
9:30 a.m.	Divine Liturgy	
	Philoptochos PoP Breast Cancer Walk, Underwriters Lab, Northbrook	

+ **MAKE YOUR WAY INTO THE FELLOWSHIP HALL FOR SOME MINISTRY MANIA!** Back by popular demand, Ascension's ministries are once again holding a fair to showcase all of the fun, philanthropic and spiritually fulfilling events scheduled this upcoming Ecclesiastical year. It's not too late to join and get involved. Thank you to all of our ministries for preparing the excellent material and promotional pieces you will find right around the corner after Liturgy!

+ **PARENTS: SAVE THESE DATES FOR TWO UPCOMING PROGRAMS/EVENTS:** October 18th: Ascension is hosting "Parenting U" a program sponsored by the Metropolis of Chicago where well-regarded speakers present relevant and emerging topics impacting families today. The topic will be on social media. Details will be forthcoming. On November 1st, join other parish families at our first Parish Family Night! The evening guarantees to be spiritually enriching and fun! Parents and kids of all ages are welcome! More details to follow.

+ **PHILOPTOCHOS WOULD LIKE TO THANK EVERYONE** who attended our Kick-Off Meeting and Membership Drive last Thursday evening. We had a wonderful turn-out and look forward to an exciting year of fun, fellowship and philanthropy. As a result of your generosity, we were able to donate 20 boxes of supplies to schools in Round Lake and Waukegan as part of our Operation Classroom initiative. At the meeting, we introduced our **Giving Tree** which will remain in the Fellowship Hall until our November 21 Kitchen and Fellowship Hall Shower. **All members of the parish are encouraged to participate** by choosing a star (or item) from the *Giving Tree* and purchasing a gift for our new kitchen and fellowship hall. You can and either drop the item off at church or bring it to the November meeting. Monetary donations are also graciously accepted. If you haven't had a chance to join Philoptochos yet, it's never too late to become a member. Please visit the website to download and complete a membership form and view our exciting calendar of events. We hope to see you at the Pop Walk for Breast Cancer on September 29 and also at our Membership Luncheon at Royal Melbourne!

Our Sunday Volunteers

Epistle Reader: Jim Anast
Prophora Bakers: Mary Kakavas & Maria Karalis
Greeter: Elaine Stevens
Ushers: Bill Athenson (UIC), Carol Stamas, Mia Connolly, Peter Venetos, Tom Papastefan, Doug Hugdahl, 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, Chris, Don

Announcements

+ **THERE'S STILL TIME TO REGISTER FOR SUNDAY CHURCH SCHOOL** If you haven't registered your child(ren) yet, please do so as soon as possible on the website. **Open House takes place next Sunday, September 29th!** Pre-K – 2nd grade parents accompany their children to the classroom from 9:15 – 9:45 a.m.; and, 3rd - 8th grade parents attend Open House immediately following Holy Communion. Please direct any questions to your child(ren)'s teacher or Katherine Schreiber (katherineschreiber6@gmail.com). We look forward to seeing you there!

+ **HOPE GROUP'S ANNUAL FALL OUTING!** Join us this Monday, September 23rd 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.

+ **ASCENDING IN ORTHODOXY WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY BEGINS TOMORROW!** During the 2019/20 Ecclesiastical year, the ministry will again be studying the Gospel of Matthew. With the exception of the first meeting, which will take place tomorrow, Monday, September 23rd, sessions will meet on Thursday mornings at 10:30 a.m. at the church. This week we will discuss Matthew 5:33-6:34. Please see the website for this year's schedule and contact Marcia Moore (marcia.moore1780@gmail.com) for more information. No preparation for the class is required and everyone is welcome!

+ **BYZANTINE MUSIC CLASSES:** If you have an interest in learning traditional Orthodox Ecclesiastical music, and a basic level of experience in singing, the Byzantine music classes now offered at Ascension are for you! Classes for beginners, intermediate and advanced students take place every Saturday from 3:30 – 5 p.m. The course is free and students are welcome to join at the chanter's stand to chant the Vespers service directly after the lessons. Please register by the October 5th deadline. For more information, call or text Dr. Sotiri Vasilopoulos (906.361.0203); or Mrs. Georgia Vasilopoulos (906.361.4145); or email them at svasilop@hotmail.com. Thank you!

+ **TIME IS RUNNING OUT TO RSVP FOR THE MEN'S MINISTRY RETREAT** The second annual Men's Ministry Retreat, hosted by Koinonia Men's Ministry takes place on Saturday, October 19th from 9 a.m – 4 p.m. right here in our new church fellowship center! RSVP deadline is October 1st. Please see insert for more information.

+ **THE ANNUAL POP 'MAKING STRIDES AGAINST BREAST CANCER'** walk is scheduled for next Sunday, 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 on the enclosed flyer. For more information, please contact Marcia Moore at marcia.moore1780@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 19, 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.

+ **THE PICK UP YOUR CROSS AND FOLLOW ME** Ministry Annual Day Camp fall session, "Lord Have Mercy", will take place at the St. Iakovos Retreat Center on Saturday, October 12th from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. This ministry is for the benefit of our young people with special needs and their families. For more information, email Presvytera Toni Mihalopoulos: toni.poteris@gmail.com.

+ **SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE TO UNIVERSITY STUDENTS OF HELLENIC DESCENT** through the Hellenic Link-Midwest Board (applications due October 15, 2019). Scholarships are \$2,000 or more and applicants must have completed one year of college. For more information on available scholarship programs, visit Ascension's website and click on the Orthodox Christian Fellowship link within the Ministry section.

+ **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." 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.**