

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 Cyriacus the Anchorite in the First Mode

Thou didst prove to be a citizen of the desert, an angel in the flesh, and a wonderworker, O Cyriacus, our God-bearing Father. By fasting, vigil, and prayer thou didst obtain heavenly gifts, and thou healest the sick and the souls of them that have recourse to thee with faith. Glory to Him that hath given thee strength. Glory to Him that hath crowned thee. Glory to Him that worketh healings for all through thee.

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.

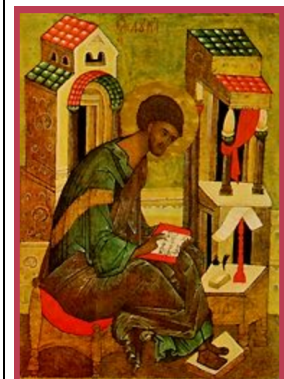
Ἀνελήφθης ἐν δόξῃ, Χριστέ ὁ Θεὸς ἡμῶν, χαροποιήσας τοὺς Μαθητάς, τῇ ἐπαγγελίᾳ τοῦ ἁγίου Πνεύματος· βεβαιωθέντων αὐτῶν διὰ τῆς εὐλογίας, ὅτι σὺ εἶ ὁ Υἱὸς τοῦ Θεοῦ, ὁ λυτρωτὴς τοῦ κόσμου.

Seasonal Kontakion in the 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 4:6-15.

Brethren, it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ. But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, to show that the transcendent power belongs to God and not to us. We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in our bodies. For while we live we are always being given up to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus may be manifested in our mortal flesh. So death is at work in us, but life in you. Since we have the same spirit of faith as he had who wrote, "I believed, and so I spoke," we too believe, and so we speak, knowing that He who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus and bring us with you into His presence. For it is all for your sake, so that as grace extends to more and more people it may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God.



The Gospel of Luke 6:31-36

The Lord said, "As you wish that men would do to you, do so to them. If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High; for He is kind to the ungrateful and the selfish. Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful."

+ 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 29 – October 5, 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

"When your heart is free of all resentment, then you're close to love. And when your heart acquires blessed peace towards all other people, then you're at the gates of love. But these gates are opened only by the Holy Spirit."

Saint Ignatius Brianchaninov

Weekly Calendar

Sunday 8:15 a.m. 9:15 a.m. 9:30 a.m.	September 29 Orthros Sunday Church School – Open House Divine Liturgy Memorial for Dimitria (10 yrs) & Spyridon (44 yrs) Tzakis Coffee Fellowship hosted by Parish Council Philoptochos PoP Breast Cancer Walk, Underwriters Lab, Northbrook	2nd Sunday of Luke
Monday 6:30 p.m. 7:30 p.m.	September 30 Stewardship Committee Meeting GOYA	
Tuesday 4:45 p.m.	October 1 Greek School	
Wednesday 6 a.m. 10 a.m. 6:30 p.m.	October 2 Encounter the Word HOPE Philoptochos Board Meeting	
Thursday 6:15 p.m. 7:45 p.m.	October 3 Greek School Beginners/Advanced Beginners Greek School Intermediate/Advanced	
Saturday 11 a.m. 3:30 p.m. 5 p.m.	October 5 Baptism: Chrysostomos, Son of Fr. Joshua & Presvytera Joanna Pappas <i>Sponsor: Elena Raptis</i> Byzantine Music Class Vespers	
Sunday 8:15 a.m. 9:15 a.m. 9:30 a.m.	October 6 Orthros Sunday Church School Divine Liturgy	3rd Sunday of Luke

Our Sunday Volunteers

Epistle Reader: Tom Kiriakos
Prophora Bakers: Elaine Metropoulos
Greeters: David & Kathie Rutkowski
Ushers: David Rutkowski (UIC), Kathie Rutkowski, Carol Stamas, Peter Venetos, Tom Kiriakos, Frank Kazas, Bill Smirles, Demetri Katsulis

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

Please do not bring strollers into the church. You may leave them in the Narthex or the hall.

Announcements

+ **THIS TUESDAY IS THE DEADLINE TO REGISTER 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.

+ **ENCOUNTER THE WORD (MEN'S BIBLE STUDY) THIS WEDNESDAY:** Join us this Wednesday morning at 6 a.m. at church for the Men's Bible Study Group. This year we will be studying the Acts of the Apostles. The Orthodox Study Bible, or Orthodox Study Bible app, is a good companion resource for this ministry. This week we will continue to study Chapter one with a focus on Pentecost. Please RSVP to david.rutkowski55@yahoo.com.

+ **BYZANTINE MUSIC CLASSES: REGISTER BY THIS SATURDAY'S DEADLINE!** 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!

+ **FEDERATION OF GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH MUSICIANS EVENT:** Family and friends of the Federation Conference and St. Basil Church are invited to the "Greek Glendi", Saturday, October 5th at 8 p.m. at St. Basil, Chicago, featuring Greek band Rythmos. Advanced ticket sales only on sale until October 2nd. For more information, go to www.stbasilchicago.org/rythmos

+ **HOPE GROUP'S ANNUAL FALL OUTING RESCHEDULED** to Monday, October 7 at 10 a.m. 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! Please contact Presvytera Stefanie at presstefanie@yahoo.com with any questions.

+ **ANNOUNCING ASCENSION'S NEWEST MINISTRY - ST. ANNA'S ORTHODOX MOTHERS' MINISTRY** - Our new ministry is dedicated to St. Anna and formed for Ascension moms to support one another in raising our children in our holy Orthodox faith. Meetings will include spiritual readings and discussion as well as special events to learn and carry on the Church's rich traditions. We will meet on designated Tuesdays and on occasion on a Saturday. Please note this is not a ministry where children will be present so that mothers can dedicate time for themselves to grow spiritually. Please see flyer for more information.

+ **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.

+ **"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.

+ **PHILOPTOCHOS FEASTDAY LUNCHEON:** Reservations are being taken for the annual Ascension Philoptochos Luncheon that will take place on Sunday, October 27th immediately following Liturgy at the Royal Melbourne Country Club. This event has sold out every year so please make your reservations today during coffee hour: \$35 for adults and \$20 for children 12 and under. This year's Raffle Grand Prize is a weekend family get-away to Lake Geneva! The package includes: 2 nights Deluxe Accommodations for a Family of 4 at the Grand Geneva- skiing or water park tickets included. *Please note that you do not have to be at the event to win the raffle!* To enter the raffle, purchase your lucky *STAR CHOCOLATE* for \$20. We will be selling the stars every Sunday after Church. If you haven't joined 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.

+ **THE PHILOPTOCHOS GIVING TREE can be found** 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. Thank you!

+ **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.

+ **ASCENSION TO HOST FIRST OF A TWO-PART "PARENTING UNIVERSITY" SERIES** On Friday, October 18th, Ascension will be hosting the first in a two-part series sponsored and offered by the Metropolis of Chicago Family Synaxis "Parenting University" program. The evening will begin with Paraklesis at 5:45 p.m. followed by an original documentary, entitled, "LIKE", which explores the impact of social media on our lives. A panel of specialists, discussion and fellowship will follow. *Parent University* is a program that offers Orthodox parents an opportunity to explore relevant and emerging topics impacting families today. Children ages 12 and up are welcome to attend these two upcoming sessions. For more information and to register, see the enclosed flyer and visit www.gocfamilysynaxis.org.

+ **SAVE THE DATE! ASCENSION FAMILY NIGHT:** Join us on Friday, November 1st from 7 - 8:30 p.m. for an evening of fellowship and fun at our first-ever Ascension Family Night! Activities and spiritual enrichment for parents and children of all ages! Please rsvp to ascensionfamilynight@gmail.com by **October 25th** and stay tuned for more information on how to sign up to bring a fast-worthy snack that evening. Hope to see you there!

+ **YOUR STEWARDSHIP SUPPORTS OUR IMPORTANT MINISTRY WORK** Stewardship at Ascension provides the foundation for our Parish Ministries and our efforts in meeting the challenge of spreading Christ's Word and our Orthodox Faith. Now more than ever, we need the love, commitment, and devotion of every faithful steward of Ascension. As a reminder, Christian Stewardship is not only about monetary commitment, but also includes committing our Time and Talents to our church. God has given each of us special and unique gifts, and we must become good caretakers of all that God has given us. We are thankful for the 319 families that have pledged \$357,000 to Ascension so far this year. It's not too late to become a steward in 2019! Pick up a Stewardship pledge card from the table in the hallway between church and the fellowship hall and contribute your time, talents, and treasures to our beloved Ascension parish.

+ **SIMPLE WAYS TO GIVE: Does your company offer a matching gift program?** Please consider designating Ascension of Our Lord as your charity of choice. **Another simple way to support Ascension is when shopping on Amazon!** AmazonSmile is the charitable division of Amazon.com. When you make a purchase on smile.amazon.com, 0.5% of the total purchase amount will be donated to Ascension of Our Lord. Just designate Ascension as your charity of choice before completing your purchase and AmazonSmile will make a contribution directly to our church! Thank you for your consideration and please feel free to contact the church office for assistance.