

### Resurrectional Apolytikion in the First Mode

Although the stone was sealed by the Jews, and the soldiers guarded Your most pure body, You arose on the third day, O Savior, giving life to the world. For this reason, the Heavenly Powers cried out to you, O Giver of life: "Glory to Your resurrection, O Christ. Glory to Your Kingdom. Glory to Your dispensation, only Lover of Mankind.

### 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, 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 Letter to the Romans 2:10-16.

Brethren, glory and honor and peace for every one who does good, the Jew first and also the Greek. For God shows no partiality. All who have sinned without the law will also perish without the law, and all who have sinned under the law will be judged by the law. For it is not the hearers of the law who are righteous before God, but the doers of the law who will be justified. When Gentiles who have not the law do by nature what the law requires, they are a law to themselves, even though they do not have the law. They show that what the law requires is written on their hearts, while their conscience also bears witness and their conflicting thoughts accuse or perhaps excuse them on that day when, according to my gospel, God judges the secrets of men by Christ Jesus.

### The Gospel of Matthew 4:18-23



At that time, as Jesus walked by the Sea of Galilee, He saw two brothers, Simon who is called Peter and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea; for they were fishermen. And He said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men." Immediately they left their nets and followed Him. And going on from there He saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and He called them. Immediately they left their boat and their father, and followed Him. And He went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and preaching the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every infirmity among the people.

## Ascension of Our Lord Greek Orthodox Church



1207 Riverwoods Road – Lincolnshire, Illinois 60069

Fr. Sotirios P. Malamis, Proistamenos

TEL: (847) 482-1200 | FAX: (847) 482-9566 | [www.ascensiongoc.com](http://www.ascensiongoc.com)

Office e-mail: [info@ascensiongoc.com](mailto:info@ascensiongoc.com)

## WEEKLY PARISH BULLETIN June 21 - 28, 2020

### Spiritual Reflection

*"Prayer, fasting, vigil and all other Christian practices, however good they may be in themselves, do not constitute the aim of our Christian life, although they serve as the indispensable means of reaching this end. The true aim of our Christian life consists in the acquisition of the Holy Spirit of God."*

*St. Seraphim of Sarov*

## Weekly Calendar

|   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| <b>Sunday</b><br>8:15 a.m.<br>9:30 a.m.         | <b>June 21</b><br>Orthros<br>Divine Liturgy  | <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Matthew</b><br><b>Father's Day</b> |
| <b>Wednesday</b><br>8 a.m.<br>9 a.m.<br>12 p.m. | <b>June 24</b><br>Orthros<br>Divine Liturgy<br>Parish COVID Safety Team Zoom Meeting | <b>Nativity of St. John the Baptist</b>                        |
| <b>Saturday</b><br>4 p.m.<br><br>5 p.m.         | <b>June 27</b><br>40 Day Blessing - son of Thomas & Nicole<br>Amalia<br>Vespers      |  |
| <b>Sunday</b><br>8:15 a.m.<br>9:30 a.m.         | <b>June 28</b><br>Orthros<br>Divine Liturgy  | <b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Matthew</b>                        |

## 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, Alexander, Anthony, Matina, Panagiotis, Evangelos, Paraschos, Chris, Bill, Don, Hariklia, Evgenia, Justin, Ignacio, Kevin

## Stewardship

We thank the 275 families that have pledged \$375,148 to date to support our Ascension parish. Please join these stewards and submit your pledge online today at [ascensiongoc.com/stewardship](http://ascensiongoc.com/stewardship)

## Announcements

+ **TO ALL OUR Fathers, Grandfathers, and Godfathers, we wish you a very Happy and Blessed Father's Day!**

+ **A NOTE FROM YOUR STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE: Stewardship in Covid19 times**

As we all know, times are difficult and more so with our sister churches that depend on fund raising events to meet their operating budgets. Dinner Dances, Golf Outings and Greek Festivals are the sources of financing up to 50% of many communities' budgets. For our Ascension community that has little dependence on fundraising events, our stewardship contributions are immensely important. We also depend on tray and candle donations; however, when there are currently no worshippers at services, these sources are also below historic levels. Please consider to be more generous with your stewardship of treasures to help our community operate without deficits until we get back to pre-virus times. It appears as though our 2020 stewardship income will be impacted for most of this year. Your Ascension community thanks you for your sacrificial generosity.

+ **THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO HAVE VOLUNTEERED TO MAKE MASKS FOR THE "Masks Matter" Campaign.** The Metropolis Philoptochos recently introduced a campaign to help slow the spread of Covid-19 by sewing, assembling and distributing masks to various service groups with a goal to make 10,000 masks. To date, 5639 masks have been produced, which is fabulous! If you like to sew, or just want to be a part of this humanitarian aid effort, please contact Maria Lampros, *Masks Matter* Campaign Chairperson at [mvl101@aol.com](mailto:mvl101@aol.com) for specifics on how you can help. If you don't sew, but would like to contribute, donations to help cover the cost of supplies and fabric are appreciated. Please make checks payable to Ascension Philoptochos with "Masks Matter" in the memo line.

+ **2020 FAITH SCHOLARSHIPS FOR ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE:** FAITH, an Endowment for Orthodoxy and Hellenism, is sponsoring a series of merit-based FAITH Scholarships for Academic Excellence for the sixteenth consecutive year. The deadline to apply is June 26, 2020. Full directions can be found in the application. Visit [www.thefaithendowment.org/scholarships](http://www.thefaithendowment.org/scholarships) for more information. Questions can be directed to (212) 803 – 9363 or [info@thefaithendowment.org](mailto:info@thefaithendowment.org).

+ **ORTHODOX OBSERVER FORMAT NOW COMPLETELY ONLINE: UPDATE FROM THE GREEK ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE OF AMERICA** Based completely online, the new Orthodox Observer intentionally provides significant multimedia content about the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America in order to inform and inspire the faithful. The Orthodox Observer will feature regular postings across its website and social media accounts combined with a weekly email bulletin. To sign up for the Orthodox Observer Weekly Newsletter and Updates, please visit <https://bit.ly/observersubscribe>

+ **SUPPORT ASCENSION WHILE SHOPPING ON AMAZON!** When you make a purchase on [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) and designate Ascension as your charity of choice, 0.5% of eligible purchases will be donated to our church! Just start each shopping session at the URL [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com). On your first visit to AmazonSmile, select Ascension of Our Lord Greek Orthodox Church before you begin shopping. Amazon will remember your selection, and then every eligible purchase you make at [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) will result in a donation. Thank you for participating in this simple way to raise funds for our parish.

+ **THE APOSTLES FAST BEGAN THIS PAST MONDAY, June 15<sup>th</sup>** and lasts through Monday, June 29<sup>th</sup>. Fish, wine and oil are permitted on all days except the strict fast days of Wednesday and Friday.

+ **REOPENING UPDATE:** We are currently in Level 2 of the Metropolis Parish Preparedness plan which enables us to open the church to a total of 10 people, including clergy, chanters and acolytes. During this level, the Safety Team and ushers are implementing, testing and adjusting safety protocols that will be activated once we receive the Metropolis blessing to proceed to Level 3. It is our fervent hope that we will receive this blessing early this week. Once this happens, we will announce a registration process and guidelines for returning to church. Please stay tuned to our communications.

+ **WEEKLY "SANCTUARY VIGIL LIGHT" DONATIONS** may be offered for the health of individuals, family members or in memory of departed loved ones. Vigil lights burn perpetually in the altar. A \$75.00 donation for each week's vigil lights is requested. Names will be acknowledged in the Sunday Bulletin. Call the Church Office to reserve your week.

+ **LIVESTREAM ASCENSION'S SERVICES:** With God's help, until we can worship together in our Church Home, we will stream services live on our website; on our Facebook Page; and on our YouTube channel. The weekly service schedule is posted on our livestream webpage ([www.ascensiongoc.com/livestream](http://www.ascensiongoc.com/livestream)) as well as archived services and links to the text of each service through the AGES Initiatives Daily Chant Stand. Please also continue to follow our COVID-19 resource webpage as it is updated whenever new correspondence is released.