

**The reading is from St. Paul's Second Letter to the Corinthians 11:21-33; 12:1-9**

Brethren, whatever anyone dares to boast of -- I am speaking as a fool -- I also dare to boast of that. Are they Hebrews? So am I. Are they Israelites? So am I. Are they descendants of Abraham? So am I. Are they servants of Christ? I am a better one -- I am talking like a madman -- with far greater labors, far more imprisonments, with countless beatings, and often near death. Five times I have received at the hands of the Jews the forty lashes less one. Three times I have been beaten with rods; once I was stoned. Three times I have been shipwrecked; a night and a day I have been adrift at sea; on frequent journeys, in danger from rivers, danger from robbers, danger from my own people, danger from Gentiles, danger in the city, danger in the wilderness, danger at sea, danger from false brethren; in toil and hardship, through many a sleepless night, in hunger and thirst, often without food, in cold and exposure. And, apart from other things, there is the daily pressure upon me of my anxiety for all the churches. Who is weak, and I am not weak? Who is made to fall, and I am not indignant?

If I must boast, I will boast of the things that show my weakness. The God and Father of the Lord Jesus, he who is blessed for ever, knows that I do not lie. At Damascus, the governor under King Aretas guarded the city of Damascus in order to seize me, but I was let down in a basket through a window in the wall, and escaped his hands.

I must boast; there is nothing to be gained by it, but I will go on to visions and revelations of the Lord. I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven -- whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows. And I know that this man was caught up into Paradise -- whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows -- and he heard things that cannot be told, which man may not utter. On behalf of this man I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my weaknesses. Though if I wish to boast, I shall not be a fool, for I shall be speaking the truth. But I refrain from it, so that no one may think more of me than he sees in me or hears from me. And to keep me from being too elated by the abundance of revelations, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan, to harass me, to keep me from being too elated. Three times I besought the Lord about this, that it should leave me; but he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." I will all the more gladly boast of my weaknesses, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

**The Gospel According to Matthew 16:13-19**

At that time, when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do men say that the Son of man is?" And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter replied, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar Jona! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven."

*Annunciation Greek Orthodox Cathedral of Chicago*

**ΚΑΘΕΔΡΙΚΟΣ ΝΑΟΣ ΙΕΡΑΣ ΜΗΤΡΟΠΟΛΕΩΣ ΣΙΚΑΓΟΥ  
ΕΥΑΓΓΕΛΙΣΜΟΣ ΤΗΣ ΘΕΟΤΟΚΟΥ**

*Celebrating 133 years of continuous ministry  
in the vineyard of our Lord!*



**1017 North LaSalle Drive, Chicago, IL 60610**

**t: 312-664-5485 f: 312-664-5921**

**e: [cathedraloffice@annunciationcathedralchicago.org](mailto:cathedraloffice@annunciationcathedralchicago.org)**

**w: [annunciationcathedralchicago.org](http://annunciationcathedralchicago.org)**

**Office Hours:**

**Monday, Wednesday & Friday 10:30 am – 2:30 pm**

**Tuesday & Thursday 10:00 am – 4:00 pm**

*Like us on Facebook & Instagram!*

**Rev. Fr. Stamatios G. Sfikas - Cathedral Dean**

**[Frstamati@annunciationcathedralchicago.org](mailto:Frstamati@annunciationcathedralchicago.org)**

**FREE VALET PARKING AVAILABLE EVERY SUNDAY**

**June 29, 2025**  
**+ Peter and Paul, the Holy Apostles**

**Thank you to our many sponsors, volunteers and our dedicated Gold Coast Festival Committee for all the support and dedication to our historic and blessed Annunciation Cathedral!**

**We welcome Fr. Evagoras Constantinides to the Cathedral this morning!**

**MEMORIAL**

30 year memorial for the late Mary Theodosis.  
*May her memory be eternal!*

**We welcome this morning Ms. Amanda Schafer and her family to the Cathedral! Amanda has completed her catechetical studies and will be received into the Orthodox faith this morning through the sacrament of Holy Chrismation. We wish her many blessed years of health and spiritual wellbeing!**

**Coffee hour is hosted by Mr. Tony Theodosis and family.**

**SUNDAY, JUNE 29**

7:00 p.m. - Great Vespers  
at Holy Apostles Church, Westchester

**MONDAY, JUNE 30**

8:30 a.m. - Orthros & Hierarchical  
Divine Liturgy  
**+ Synaxis of the Holy Apostles**  
at Holy Apostles Church, Westchester

**TUESDAY, JULY 1**

11:30 a.m. - Metropolis Feed the Hungry  
5:30 p.m. - Greek Class (verb review)  
6:45 p.m. - Greek Class (crash course)

**THURSDAY, JULY 3**

5:30 p.m. - Greek Class (advanced dialogue)

**FRIDAY, JULY 4**

CATHEDRAL OFFICE CLOSED

**WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS**

We are glad you came, and we hope your visit was memorable and meaningful in every way. Our doors and hearts are always open to you. Please feel free to introduce yourself after the liturgy to our Clergy and members of our parish council. They will answer questions you may have and provide you with information regarding the programs we offer.

**A NOTE TO VISITORS ABOUT HOLY COMMUNION**

We welcome to this celebration those Christians who are not united with us. It is a sad consequence of the divisions in Christianity that we cannot extend a general invitation to receive Holy Communion. We thank you, though, for joining us in prayer and invite you to partake of the blessed bread at the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy.

**CATHEDRAL GREEK LANGUAGE COURSES FOR CHILDREN & ADULTS!**

The Cathedral through the efforts of our Greek Language Director, Dimitra Georgouses has been blessed with several semesters of full classes! Continue to spread the word about our amazing Greek Language program for Adults and Children! Registration is now open for 2025-26 including our tween/teen class!

**WE NEED YOUR EMAIL!**

When submitting your Stewardship card, please write your email account so that you may receive information about services activities and events that are happening at our church. If you are not receiving our emails, call the church office or visit our website and submit your email address.

**WHAT IS STEWARDSHIP?**

Orthodox Christian Stewardship is a way of life, which acknowledges accountability, reverence, and responsibility before God. *A primary goal of Stewardship is to promote spiritual growth and strengthen faith.* Please consider becoming a steward of the Cathedral TODAY!

**ONLINE GIVING**

Did you know that you can offer your 2025 Stewardship online? Stewards are able to offer a one time gift or set up a recurring payment to fulfill the stewardship for 2025. Those who set up online giving in 2024 should reset the giving for 2025 as it will not roll over. Once you set up your online account you are able to visit the Cathedral Stewardship tab on our website and make adjustments to your account anytime. Thank you for your support and offering to our blessed Cathedral

**JOIN THE CATHEDRAL PHILOPTOCHOS SOCIETY**

Philoptochos Membership Forms are now available-please pick one up at the Pangari to fill out & return to Polyxeni Kapsalis. If you have any questions please feel free to contact her at 815-353-3999 and/or polyxenikapsalis@gmail.com.

**MOMMY AND ME**

A ministry of the Cathedral for parents and children 40 days - 4 years old. If you are a new mom looking to meet the other moms of the community and begin to foster a Christian relationship amongst your families, please join us! For information call the Cathedral office. Classes will resume in September.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL**

Please note, Sunday School will meet after Holy Communion on Sunday mornings and will end at the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy. All children of the Cathedral and children visiting may participate. Classes will resume in September.

**LET'S STAY IN TOUCH**

- Did you know that the Cathedral can be found on Facebook and Instagram? Like us or follow us to stay in touch!
- Have you added the Cathedral Calendar to your personal Calendar so you don't miss upcoming events and services? Visit our website and follow the link to add the Calendar to your personal digital Calendar!
- Are you receiving our weekly emails & bulletins? Visit us online to subscribe to our email server and click "Join our Email list" on our homepage!

**JULY CATHEDRAL OFFICE HOURS**

Monday through Friday from 10a.m.CT - 2p.m. CT.