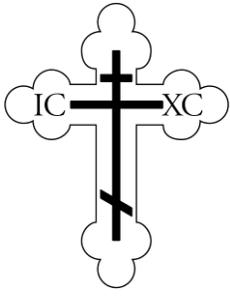
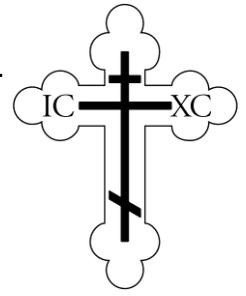


# Protection of the Virgin Mary Orthodox Church



A Parish of the  
Diocese of Chicago  
and the Midwest  
Orthodox Church in  
America



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Rev. Dr. Jacob Van Sickle  
(219) 384-6826 • [frjacobvansickle@gmail.com](mailto:frjacobvansickle@gmail.com)

Great Vespers: 6pm Saturdays

Divine Liturgy: 10am Sundays

Confessions are heard before or  
after Vespers or by appointment.

**Welcome visitors!  
Please join us in the  
parish hall after  
Divine Liturgy for  
coffee hour.**

## August 12, 2018

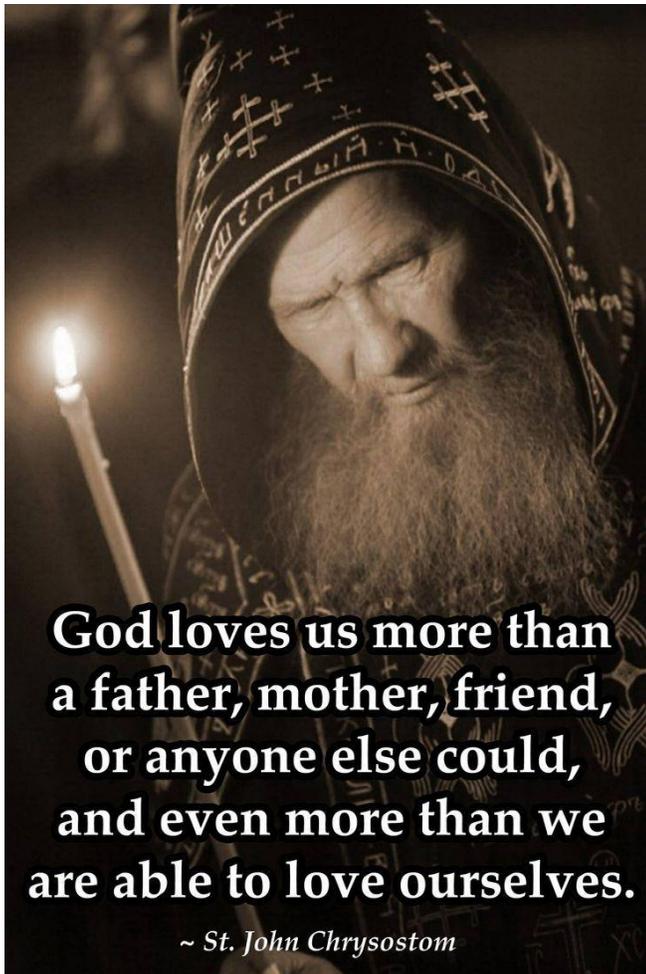
**Afterfeast of the Transfiguration of our Lord  
Martyrs Anicetus and Photius, St. Maximus the Confessor**

From the *Chapters on Love* by St. Maximus:

1.13 The one who loves God cannot help but love also every person as himself even though he is displeased by the passions of those who are not yet purified. Thus, when he sees their conversion and amendment, he rejoices with an unbounded and unspeakable joy.

1.17 Blessed is the man who has learned to love all persons equally.

1.23 The one who loves God surely loves his neighbor as well. Such a person cannot hold on to money but rather gives it out in God's fashion to each one who has need.



**God loves us more than  
a father, mother, friend,  
or anyone else could,  
and even more than we  
are able to love ourselves.**

*~ St. John Chrysostom*

1.31 As the mere memory of fire cannot warm the body, so faith without love does not bring about the illumination of knowledge in the soul.

1.40 The work of love is the deliberate doing of good to one's neighbor as well as long-suffering and patience and the use of all things in the proper way.

1.42 The one who loves God leads an angelic life on earth, fasting and being watchful and singing psalms and praying and always thinking good of everyone.

## HYMNS OF THE DAY

### Tone 2 – Resurrectional Troparion

When You descended to death, O Life Immortal,  
You slew hell with the splendor of Your Godhead.  
And when from the depths You raised the dead,  
all the powers of heaven cried out://  
“O Giver of life, Christ our God, glory to You!”

### Tone 7 – Troparion for Transfiguration

You were transfigured on the mountain, O Christ God,  
revealing Your glory to Your Disciples as far as they could bear it.  
Let Your everlasting Light also shine upon us sinners,  
through the prayers of the Theotokos!//  
O Giver of Light, glory to You!

### Tone 4 – Patronal Troparion

Today the faithful celebrate the feast with joy,  
Illumined by your coming, O Mother of God.  
Beholding your pure image we fervently cry to you:  
Encompass us beneath the precious veil of your protection  
And deliver us from every form of evil.  
By entreating Christ, your Son and our God//  
That He may save our souls.

#### **Tone 4 – Troparion for the Martyrs**

Your holy martyrs Anicétus and Photius, O Lord,  
through their sufferings have received incorruptible crowns from  
You, our God.

For having Your strength, they laid low their adversaries,  
and shattered the powerless boldness of demons.//  
Through their intercessions, save our souls!

#### **Tone 8 – Troparion for St. Maximus**

Champion of Orthodoxy, teacher of purity and of true worship,  
enlightener of the universe and adornment of the hierarchs:  
all-wise Father Maximus, your teachings have gleamed with  
light upon all things.//

Intercede before Christ God to save our souls!

#### **Tone 2 – Resurrectional Kontakion**

Hell became afraid, O almighty Savior,  
seeing the miracle of Your Resurrection from the tomb!  
The dead arose! Creation with Adam beheld this and rejoiced  
with You,//  
and the world, O my Savior, praises You forever.

#### **Tone 2 – Kontakion for St. Maximus**

Maximus, divinely inspired champion of the Church,  
sure and illumined exponent of Orthodoxy,  
harp and trumpet of godliness,  
divine and holy adornment of monks;//  
never cease to intercede for us all.

#### **Tone 7 – Kontakion for Transfiguration**

On the mountain You were transfigured, O Christ God,  
and Your Disciples beheld Your glory as far as they could see it;  
so that when they would behold You crucified,  
they would understand that Your suffering was voluntary,  
and would proclaim to the world//  
that You are truly the Radiance of the Father.

## SCRIPTURE READINGS

### **Epistle: 1 Corinthians 9.2-12**

Brethren, if I am not an apostle to others, yet doubtless I am to you. For you are the seal of my apostleship in the Lord. My defense to those who examine me is this: Do we have no right to eat and drink? Do we have no right to take along a believing wife as do also the other apostles, the brothers of the Lord, and Cephas? Or is it only Barnabas and I who have no right to refrain from working for a living? What soldier ever goes to war at his own expense? Who plants a vineyard and does not eat of its fruit? Or who tends a flock without getting some of the milk?

Do I say these things as a mere man? Or does not the law also say the same? For it is written in the law of Moses, "You shall not muzzle an ox while it treads out the grain." Is it oxen God is concerned about? Or does He say it entirely for our sake? For our sake, no doubt, this is written, that he who plows should plow in hope, and he who threshes in hope should partake of the crop.

If we have sown spiritual things for you, is it too much if we reap your material things? If others have this right over you, should we not even more? Nevertheless we have not used this right, but endure all things lest we hinder the gospel of Christ.

### **Gospel: Matthew 18.23-35**

At that time, Jesus spoke this parable, saying: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants. When he began to settle, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents. And as he was not able to pay, his master ordered him to be sold with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made. So the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, 'Master, have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' Then the master of that servant was moved with compassion, released him, and forgave him the debt.

But that same servant went out and found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him, he began to choke him, saying, 'Pay me what you owe.' So his

fellow servant fell down at his knees, imploring him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' He refused and went and put him in prison until he should pay the debt.

When his fellow servants saw what had taken place, they were greatly distressed, and they went and told their master all that had taken place. Then his master summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you begged me. Should you not also have had compassion on your fellow servant, just as I had mercy on you?' And in anger his master delivered him to the torturers until he should pay all that was due to him. So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you if you do not forgive your brother from your heart."

## **WE REMEMBER IN PRAYER**

<b>Repose:</b>	Theodore
<b>N.Dep.</b> Marian Havrila	Nada
Radosava Delich	Olive
Sophie Rosca	Mary
<b>Ev.Mem.</b> Rose Dimit	Michael
Afanasi Thomashewsky	Julia
Alexander Honchar	Warren
	Mary
<b>Health &amp; Salvation:</b>	Loretta
Protopresbyter George	Willy
Matushka Anna	Gilbert
Archpriest Frederick	Joseph
Matushka Carol	Carol
Kevin	Peter
Jon	Janie
Tanya	Diane
Kimberly	Tom
Gail	Elizabeth
Gerald	Infant Adam
William	Infant Benjamin
Jovan	Infant Juliana
Charles	<b>N.III.</b> infant Joseph
Barbara	

\*If you know someone who needs prayer, please give their name to Fr Jacob

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our next day to **Feed the Flock** is this Saturday, Aug 18. Please ask Sherry (219-476-9492) how you can help.

Next Sunday Sodality will host a **pancake breakfast** following Liturgy

On Sunday, Aug 26 the "O" Club is sponsoring a **Summer Pool Party** at the home of Tom & Brenda Mosak in Crown Point. Everyone is welcome. RSVP with a side dish in the narthex.

Fr. Jacob & Mat. Jenna are hosting a **Labor Day open house** cook-out from 12-8pm for parishioners and friends. 10343 Nicklaus St., Winfield. Please stop by if you can.

Church School begins Sept 9. We need to know about how many children we will have at what ages. Please register your kids by filling out the form in the narthex.

A **women's book group** will begin on Sept 10 meeting Mondays @ Mat. Jenna's home, 7:30-9pm. First book will run for 8 weeks: *How to be a Sinner* by Peter Bouteneff. Contact Mat. Jenna if you are interested in joining.

*"Prayer is the place of refuge for every worry, a foundation for cheerfulness, a source of constant happiness, a protection against sadness."*

*- St. John Chrysostom*

### Mark your calendars:

Aug 14: Great Vespers with **Lamentations** @ 6pm

Aug 15: Divine Liturgy for the **Dormition of the Theotokos** @ 9am

Aug 18: **Feed the Flock** @ First Presbyterian in Merrillville

Aug 19: **Summer Pool Party** @ Mosaks' after Liturgy

Sept 3: **Labor Day open house** @ Van Sickles', 12-8pm

Sept 9: First day of **church school**.

Sept 30: Parish **Feast-Day celebration** (moved from Oct 1)

Oct 1: Divine Liturgy for the **Protection of the Virgin** @ 9am

Oct 14: **Fall Fashion Show** at Avalon Banquet Hall after Liturgy

## **Last Week's Offerings to the Lord:**

General Fund: \$1373      Mortgage: \$248

## **Today's prosphora bread was offered by:**

Ivanka Tanaskoski

## ***Making Time for Prayer***

by His Grace, our Bishop Paul

In the late 1970s, I was a childcare worker at a Catholic Home that provided care for physically and emotionally disturbed children, who followed a morning routine that started with a simple limit. After waking up, before they could leave their rooms, they had to make their beds and get dressed for school. They then called for a room check. Once those things were done, they would be allowed to leave their rooms and go on with their morning routine.

When it comes to making room for Christ in one's busy family life, is there anything that can be learned from this example when it comes to offering our prayers each day? What is the first thing you do when you get up? Is your first priority to pray, or do you need to brush your teeth, have coffee, make your bed, and then pray? If prayer is last on the list, what are the chances that there will be no time for prayer whatsoever? So when it comes to individual prayer, can a routine similar to the example above be adopted by family members? What if no one left their room until morning prayers have been offered? This of course depends on age. But children who are seven and older can say the Trisagion Prayers and the Prayer of the Hours. There are lots of prayer books available that are helpful. For children under seven years old, something simpler may be needed, and there are prayer books for young children. Ask your priest about them if you are not sure. For teens, this is a bit trickier. At what point does one allow them to take responsibility for their prayer rule without putting limits on them, as one would with those who are aged 13 and under?

My point is that if we are going to make room for Jesus in our busy family lives, it boils down to prioritizing our choices. If prayer to Him when we arise is not the first choice we make

in our stewardship of time, chances are He will get lost in the sea of choices we make in the morning and throughout the rest of the day. But there are other ways to not let that happen. Hear the heart of the soul as prayed by the priest in the first of the twelve prayers of the Matins service:

*We give thanks unto You, O Lord our God, Who have raised us up from our beds, and have put into our mouths the word of praise that we may worship and call upon Your holy name. We pray, by Your compassion, which You have always exercised in our life, send forth now also Your aid upon those who stand before the presence of Your holy glory and await the rich mercy which comes from You. And grant that they always with fear and love may adore, praise and hymn You, and worship Your indescribable goodness.*

More will follow on family prayer next week.

The blessing of the Lord be upon you,

+Paul of Chicago

**Glory to God for all things!**