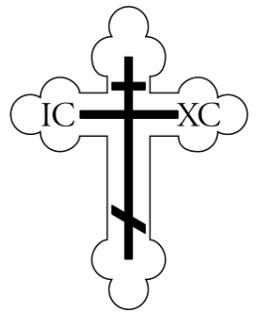


# Protection of the Virgin Mary



## Orthodox Church



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



8600 Grand Blvd.  
Merrillville, IN 46410  
(219)947-4748  
Hall: (219)730-4698  
[www.ptvm.com](http://www.ptvm.com)

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.**

## October 21, 2018

### Venerable Hilarion the Great Ascetic

**A Morning Prayer by the Elder Sophrony:**

Lord eternal and Creator of all things, who of Your inscrutable goodness called us to this life, who bestowed on us the grace of baptism and the seal of Your Holy Spirit, who imbued us with the desire to seek You, the one true God: Hear our prayer. We have no life, no light, no joy or wisdom, no strength except in You, O God. Because of our unrighteousness, we dare not raise our eyes to You. But You said to Your disciples, 'Whatever you shall ask in prayer believing, you shall receive,' and 'Whatever you shall ask in my name, that will I do.' For this reason we dare to invoke You. Purify us from all defilement of flesh and spirit. Teach us to pray aright. Bless this day, which You have given us, Your unworthy servants. By the power of Your blessing enable us at all times to speak and act to Your glory with a pure spirit, with humility, patience, love, gentleness, peace, courage, and wisdom, aware always of Your presence. Of Your immense

goodness, Lord God, show us the path of Your will and grant us to walk in Your sight without sin. O Lord, unto whom all hearts are open, You have what we need. You are acquainted with our blindness and our ignorance. You know our weaknesses and our souls' corruption; but neither are our pain and anguish hidden from You. Therefore, we beseech You, hear our prayer and by Your Holy Spirit teach us the way in which we should walk. And when our perverted wills would lead us down other paths, spare us, O Lord, and force us back to You. By the power of Your love, grant us to hold fast to that which is good. Preserve us from every word or deed that corrupts the soul, from every impulse displeasing in Your sight and hurtful to our brethren. Teach us what we should say and how we should speak. If it be Your will that we make no answer, inspire us to keep silent in a spirit of peace that causes neither sorrow nor hurt to our fellow man. Establish us in the path of Your commandments and to our last breath let us not stray from the light of Your ordinances, that Your commandments may become the sole law of our being on this earth and all eternity. Yes Lord, we pray to You, have pity on us. Spare us in our affliction and our misery, and do not hide the way of salvation from us. In our foolishness, O God, we plead with You for many and great things. Yet we are ever mindful of our wickedness, our baseness, our vileness. Have mercy on us. Do not cast us away from Your presence because of our presumption. Rather, increase in us this presumption and grant to us, the worst of men, to love You as You have commanded, with all our heart and with all our soul and with all our mind and with all our strength: with our whole being. Yes Lord, by Your Holy Spirit teach us good judgment and knowledge. Grant us to know Your truth before we go down into the grave. Maintain our life in this world until we may offer You worthy repentance. Take us not away in the midst of our days, nor while our mind is still blind. When You wish to bring our life to an end, forewarn us that we may prepare our soul to come before You. Be with us, Lord, at that dread hour and grant us the joy of salvation. Cleanse us from secret faults, from all iniquity that is hidden in us, and give us a right answer before Your judgment seat. Yes Lord, of Your great mercy and immeasurable love for mankind. Amen.

# HYMNS OF THE DAY

## **Tone 4 – Resurrectional Troparion**

When the women Disciples of the Lord  
learned from the Angel the joyous message of Your Resurrection,  
they cast away the ancestral curse  
and elatedly told the Apostles:

“Death is overthrown!  
Christ our God is risen, //  
granting the world great mercy!”

## **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 8 – Troparion for St. Hilarion**

By a flood of tears you made the desert fertile,  
and your longing for God brough forth fruits in abundance.  
By the radiance of miracles you illumined the whole universe.  
Our Father Hilarion, pray to Christ God to save our souls!

## **Tone 4 – Resurrectional Kontakion**

My Savior and Redeemer, as God,  
rose from the tomb and delivered the earth-born from their chains.  
He has shattered the gates of hell,  
and as Master, //  
He has risen on the third day!

## **Tone 3 – Kontakion for St. Hilarion**

Today we gather to praise you with hymns,  
O unfading light of the Spiritual Sun;  
For you illumined those in the darkness of ignorance,  
leading all to the heights of God, as they cried: //  
“Rejoice, Father Hilarion, rampart of ascetics!”

### **Tone 3 – Patronal Kontakion**

Today the Virgin stands in the midst of the Church,  
And with choirs of saints she invisibly prays to God for us.  
Angels and bishops worship.  
Apostles and prophets rejoice together,//  
Since for our sake she prays to the eternal God.

## **SCRIPTURE READINGS**

### **Epistle: Galatians 2:16-20**

Brethren, because we know that a man is not justified by the works of the law but by faith in Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, that we might be justified by faith in Christ and not by the works of the law; for by the works of the law no flesh shall be justified. But if, while we seek to be justified by Christ, we ourselves also are found sinners, is Christ therefore a minister of sin? Certainly not! For if I build again those things which I destroyed, I make myself a transgressor. For through the law I died to the law that I might live to God. I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.

### **Gospel: Luke 16:19-31**

Jesus spoke this parable, saying: “There was a certain rich man who was clothed in purple and fine linen and fared sumptuously every day. But there was a certain beggar named Lazarus, full of sores, who was laid at his gate, desiring to be fed with the crumbs which fell from the rich man’s table. Moreover, the dogs came and licked his sores.

“So it was that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels to Abraham’s bosom. The rich man also died and was buried. And being in torments in Hades, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom.

“Then he cried and said, ‘Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus that he may dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame.’

“But Abraham said, ‘Son, remember that in your lifetime you received your good things, and likewise Lazarus evil

things; but now he is comforted, and you are tormented. And besides all this, between us and you there is a great gulf fixed, so that those who want to pass from here to you cannot, nor can those from there pass to us.'

"Then he said, 'I beg you therefore, father, that you would send him to my father's house, for I have five brothers, that he may testify to them, lest they also come to this place of torment.'

"Abraham said to him, 'They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them.'

"And he said, 'No, father Abraham; but if one goes to them from the dead, they will repent.'

"But he said to him, 'If they do not hear Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded though one rise from the dead.'"

## WE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

### Repose:

N.Dep. Edward Nachoff

Mary Ann Meyer

Olive Leskow

Ev.Mem. Nicholas Yacuk

Leroy Behnke

Sonia Leskow

### Health & Salvation:

Protopres. George Havrila

Mat. Anna Havrila

Archpr. Frederick

Mat. Carol

Archpr. Peter Bodnar

Archpr. William Bass

Mat. Jean Bass

Priest John

Priest Christopher Moore

Mat. Jennifer Moore

Andrew Moore

Gideon Moore

Kevin

Jon

Tanya

Kimberly

Gail

William

Jovan

Charles

Barbara

Theodore

Michael

Julia

Warren

Mary

Loretta

Gilbert

Carol

Peter

Janie

Tom

Elizabeth Stanko

Adam

Myah  
Margaret  
Diane  
Madelin  
Villian  
Deborah  
Jovan  
Claudia  
John  
Joey  
Carissa

Natalia  
Elizabeth  
Tom  
Alexander  
Roger  
Tina  
Infant Benjamin  
Infant Juliana  
Infant Lennox  
Infant Laila

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

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

We will pray the **40-day memorial** for Mary Ann Meyer and Olive Leskow following the veneration of the cross.

Last week's **Fashion Show** fundraiser netted \$24,358. A big **thank you** to everyone who volunteered and contributed!

**Fellowship Night** is this Wednesday. After a fasting pot-luck, we'll learn from the Scriptures about confession.

This Thursday @ 10am we will pilot a Fellowship Night morning alternative called **Faith Enrichment**. The topic for discussion will be the same as Wednesday night, but we'll start with morning prayers and finish with lunch.

This Saturday, the choir of St. George Serbian Orthodox Church in Schererville is giving a festival concert at the Halls of St. George. Music starts @ 7pm.

After coffee hour on Sunday, October 28, the PTC will sponsor a trip for our Sunday School kids to **Harvest Tyme Pumpkin Patch** in Lowell. Please let Melody or Mat. Jenna know if your kids will come, so that we can make arrangements.

The **O-Club** received a thank you letter this week detailing the impact of their financial support for **Meals on Wheels**. It is posted on the bulletin board.

## Mark your calendars:

Oct 24: **Fellowship Night** – Potluck @ 6pm followed by teaching and Small Compline @ 7:30pm

Oct 25: **Faith Enrichment** – Morning Prayers @ 10am followed by teaching and potluck @ 11:30.

Oct 28: Sunday School trip to the **pumpkin patch**.

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

General Fund: \$860

Mortgage: \$135

Today's prosphora bread was offered by Ivanka Tanaskoski.

## *Judgment in the Church*

A reflection by his Grace, our Bishop Paul

*For what have I to do with judging outsiders? Is it not those inside the church whom you are to judge? God judges those outside. "Drive out the wicked person from among you"*

- 1 Corinthians 5:12-13

I would like to clarify a few things concerning these verses to which I alluded in last week's reflection. What is the intent here when Saint Paul says, "Is it not those inside the church whom you are to judge? ... Drive out the wicked person from among you."

When a person is received into the Orthodox Church, it is with the understanding that he or she freely embraces the non-negotiable teachings of the Church. This is a choice they make after being properly catechized. But once someone rejects or disavows those non-negotiable teachings, this opens a person up to the discipline of the Church. But when a person faces discipline in the Church, even if it means being excluded from Holy Communion, the aim is not punishment; rather, the intent is to bring him or her to the state of repentance. One might even say that a person is not excluded from Communion, but that one excludes oneself from Communion by the choice he or she has made. This is what I

think St. Paul means when he says we are to judge those inside the Church.

Furthermore, when a person is judged inside the Church, this does not mean he or she is condemned to damnation. Rather, it is like the Prodigal Son in Luke's Gospel. In his alienation from his father, which he chose to embrace, he couldn't get any further away from or become further alienated than when he found himself in a pigsty, craving the food the pigs were eating. He lost everything; he hit rock bottom. But when he remembered what he had with his father, he "came to his senses" and returned home, hoping to be treated as one of his father's hired servants. He came back to a father who welcomed him with open arms. The father threw a feast for him. He celebrated the reality that his son, who had been dead, was now alive; he who had been lost was now found [Luke 15:32].

The same thing happens when parents put their children on a timeout for misbehaving. Isn't this a form of exclusion or alienation? What does a child do during a time out? He or she takes the time to get a handle on his or her emotions and reflect on what he or she had done, then comes back to the parents in order to learn how to act differently, and take responsibility for the misbehavior. This is the meaning of discipline. After "repenting," so to speak, he or she is allowed to rejoin the group and be restored to communion with the rest of the family. Though the words "drive out the evil person from among you" sound harsh to today's mind, the goal of this act is to lead a person to experience a change of mind and heart, so that he or she might be restored to communion.

The Lord's blessing be upon you,

The unworthy +Paul

# Glory to God for all things!