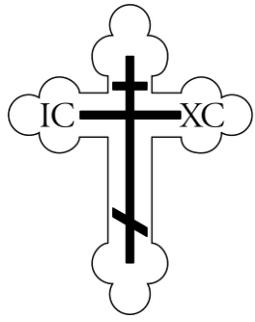
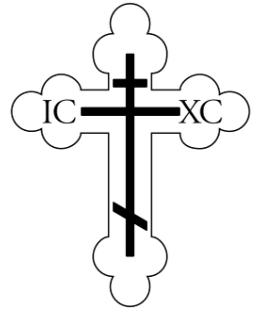


# Protection of the Virgin Mary



## 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  
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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.**

## September 8, 2019

### Nativity of the Most Holy Theotokos Sunday before the Exaltation of the Cross

#### HYMNS OF THE DAY

**Tone 3 – Resurrectional Troparion**

Let the heavens rejoice!

Let the earth be glad!

For the Lord has shown strength with His arm.

He has trampled down death by death.

He has become the first born of the dead.

He has delivered us from the depths of hell,

and has granted to the world//

great mercy.

### **Tone 4 – Troparion for the Nativity of the Theotokos**

Your nativity, O Virgin,  
has proclaimed joy to the whole universe!  
The Sun of righteousness, Christ our God,  
has shone from you, O Theotokos.  
By annulling the curse,  
He bestowed a blessing.//  
By destroying death, He has granted us eternal life.

### **Tone 3 – Resurrectional Kontakion**

On this day You rose from the tomb, O Merciful One,  
leading us from the gates of death.  
On this day Adam exults as Eve rejoices  
with the Prophets and Patriarchs.//  
They unceasingly praise the divine majesty of Your power.

### **Tone 4 – Kontakion for the Nativity of the Theotokos**

By your nativity, most pure Virgin,  
Joachim and Anna are freed from barrenness,  
Adam and Eve, from the corruption of death.  
And we, your people, freed from the guilt of sin, celebrate  
and sing to you://  
“The barren woman gives birth to the Theotokos, the  
nourisher of our Life.”

## **SCRIPTURE READINGS**

### **Tone 6 – Prokeimenon for the Cross (Psalm 27)**

O Lord, save Your people, and bless Your inheritance!

### **Tone 3 – Song of the Theotokos (Luke 1)**

My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God  
my Savior.

### **Epistle: Galatians 6.11-18 (Sunday before the Cross)**

Brethren: See with what large letters I have written to  
you with my own hand! As many as desire to make a good  
showing in the flesh, these would compel you to be  
circumcised, only that they may not suffer persecution for  
the cross of Christ. For not even those who are circumcised  
keep the law, but they desire to have you circumcised that

they may boast in your flesh. But God forbid that I should boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision avails anything, but a new creation. And as many as walk according to this rule, peace and mercy be upon them, and upon the Israel of God. From now on let no one trouble me, for I bear in my body the marks of the Lord Jesus. Brethren, the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit. Amen.

### **1 Corinthians 15.1-11 (Sunday)**

Brethren: I declare to you the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received and in which you stand, by which also you are saved, if you hold fast that word which I preached to you – unless you believed in vain. For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures, and that He was seen by Cephas, then by the twelve. After that He was seen by over five hundred brethren at once, of whom the greater part remains to the present, but some have fallen asleep. After that He was seen by James, then by all the apostles. Then last of all He was seen by me also, as by one born out of due time. For I am the least of the apostles, who am not worthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and His grace toward me was not in vain; but I labored more abundantly than they all, yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me. Therefore, whether it was I or they, so we preach and so you believed.

### **Philippians 2.5-11 (Nativity of the Theotokos)**

Brethren: Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross. Therefore, God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above

every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

### **Gospel: John 3.13-17 (Sunday before the Cross)**

The Lord said to the Jews who came to Him: No one has ascended to heaven but He who came down from heaven, that is, the Son of Man who is in heaven. And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.

### **Matthew 19.16-26 (Sunday)**

Now behold, one came to Jesus and said to Him, “Good Teacher, what good thing shall I do that I may have eternal life?”

So He said to him, “Why do you call Me good? No one is good but One, that is, God. But if you want to enter into life, keep the commandments.”

He said to Him, “Which ones?”

Jesus said, “‘You shall not murder,’ ‘You shall not commit adultery,’ ‘You shall not steal,’ ‘You shall not bear false witness,’ ‘Honor your father and your mother,’ and, ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’”

The young man said to Him, “All these things I have kept from my youth. What do I still lack?”

Jesus said to him, “If you want to be perfect, go, sell what you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me.”

But when the young man heard that saying, he went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions. Then Jesus said to His disciples, “Assuredly, I say to you that it is hard for a rich man to enter the kingdom of heaven. And again I say to you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God.

When His disciples heard it, they were greatly astonished, saying, "Who then can be saved?"

But Jesus looked at them and said to them, "With men this is impossible, but with God all things are possible."

### **Luke 10.38-42; 11.27-28 (Nativity of the Theotokos)**

At that time, Jesus entered a certain village; and a woman named Martha welcomed Him into her house. And she had a sister called Mary, who sat at Jesus' feet and heard His word.

But Martha was distracted with much serving, and she approached Him and said, "Lord, do You not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Therefore, tell her to help me."

And Jesus answered and said to her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and troubled about many things. But one thing is needed, and Mary has chosen that good part, which will not be taken away from her."

And it happened, as He spoke these things, that a certain woman from the crowd raised her voice and said to Him, "Blessed is the womb that bore You, and the breasts which nursed You!"

But He said, "More than that, blessed are those who hear the word of God and keep it!"

## **WE REMEMBER IN PRAYER**

**N.Dep.** Archbishop Nikon

James Dragon

Archpr. John Matusiak

Protopr. George Havrila

**Ev.Mem.** Helen Christov ('76)

Stephen Lashnik ('68)

Anna Shevchuk ('34)

Alexander Rusak ('15)

Adam Danchula ('14)

Nicholas Krochta

Anna Krochta

Anatol Meuch

**Health &**

**Salvation:**

Mat. Anna

Archpr. Peter

Pr. John

Pr. Christopher

Mat. Jennifer

Andrew

Gideon

Kevin

Jon

Tanya

Jovan

Julia

Warren

Carol

Tom

Elizabeth

Tina

Adam

Brittany

Jennifer

Lennox

Laila

Paula	Snezana	Phyllis
Alvin	Barbara	Kay
Kenneth	Thomas	Fred
Anna	Carol	Larry
Justin	Jessica	Rollie
Nika	Eduardo	Martin
Leo	Christine	Alexandra
Melissa	Tom	Mark
Jonathan	Nicholas	Alexa
Matthew	Natalie	Paula
Shaun	Barbara	Alexandra
Gail	Kristin	James
Maria	Linda	

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

### **A Prayer for the beginning of the Church School year:**

O Lord our God, Who have honored us with Your own image, Who have taught Your elect, so that most wise are they who give heed to Your teaching, Who reveal wisdom to babes and teach Your law to those who seek You in purity of heart: Open the hearts, the minds, and the lips of these students, that they might perceive the power of Your law and successfully apprehend the useful precepts which shall be taught to them, to the glory of Your Holy Name and the benefit and upbuilding of Your Holy Church. Deliver them from every snare of the enemy; preserve them in the true faith and in all righteousness and purity all the days of their lives, that they might advance in wisdom and in the fulfillment of Your commandments and may be shown to be worshippers of Your most Holy Name and heirs of Your Kingdom.

Bless also their teachers, O Lord. Grant that their words may be free from every worldly deceit and vanity and may always clearly proclaim the Word of Your truth.

For You are the God of Mercy and gracious in strength, and to You we send up glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Today after venerating the cross we will sing the **1-year memorial for Olive Leskow.**

**Feeding the Flock** is holding a **fashion show fundraiser** at Avalon Manor on Saturday, September 21, 11am-2:30pm. Tickets are \$40/person and are available from Mary Ann.

For **Bible Study** this Wednesday please read Exodus 1-4.

### **Mark your calendars:**

Sept 13: Great Vespers for the **Exaltation of the Cross @ 6pm**

Sept 14: Divine Liturgy for the **Exaltation of the Cross @ 10am**

Sept 30: Festal Vigil for the **Feast of Protection (Pokrov) @ 6:30pm** followed by a reception.

Oct 1: Divine Liturgy for the **Feast of Protection @ 10am**

Oct 6: **108<sup>th</sup> Parish Anniversary** celebration!

**Last week's offerings to the Lord: \$1,699**

## **Archpastoral Message of His Grace, our Bishop Paul**

To all Rectors, Priests-in-Charge, Deacons, Monastics and Laity of the Midwest,

We embark upon another new school year at St. Vladimir's (SVS) and St. Tikhon's Seminaries (STS). At this time of the year we call upon our parishes to collect funds to "Support our Seminarians."

Attending STS this year from our Diocese are:

- Deacon Ephraim Tauck (3rd year)
- Sub-deacon Peter Simko (2nd year)
- Matthew McDonald (2nd year)

It is my expectation that this semester, Deacon Ephrem will be ordained to the Priesthood, and Sub-deacon Peter, and Matthew will be ordained to the Diaconate.

Also beginning M.Div. studies at STS this year are:

- Reader Jacob Ponomarenko from St. Theodosius Cathedral in Cleveland, OH

- Matthew Pings from St. Matthew Orthodox Church in Green Bay, WI
- Payton Saunders from Holy Ascension Orthodox Church in Albion, MI

Attending SVS this year is Aaron Rutz (3rd year). No students have enrolled at SVS for the upcoming year. This past year, Deacon Basil (Brian) Crivella graduated from SVS with an M.Div. He is attached to his former Parish, St. Nicholas Orthodox Church in Mentor, OH to serve as a deacon for a short while with the hope that ordination to the Priesthood will happen a year from now.

As your bishop, I am beginning to “feel the pinch,” so to speak, for candidates to fill present and future positions. We have several new mission opportunities. We have an opportunity for one parish in decline that has liquidated some properties so that we can assign a priest there to see what can be accomplished in the next four years. This is in addition to several parish vacancies that will occur by the summer of June of 2020. The problem is I don’t have anyone to put in these places for now. All the more why we need to encourage our parishes to bring potential candidates for seminary to my attention. We need this annual seminary collection to further support the seven students that are attending this year. These \$1,000 diocesan scholarships per semester are greatly appreciated by our students. I often have received thank you cards or messages of gratitude from students when they receive this support.

There are many options parishes can pursue to collect these funds. Our youth can plan and offer bake sales, car washes, or talent shows. Parishes can put out an extra basket for the month of September for our seminarians. Or parishes may have “Support our Seminarians” as a line item in their budget. Do what you can to help our students. I am grateful to our Lord for whatever you can do. The blessing of the Lord be upon you.

With love in Christ,

+PAUL

Bishop of Chicago and the Midwest