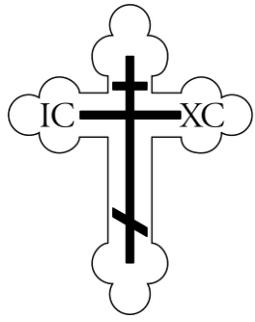
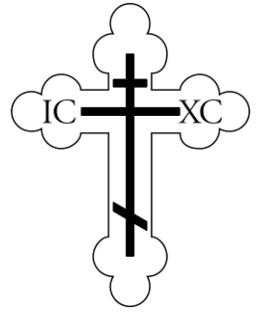


Protection of the Virgin Mary



Orthodox Church



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



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Merrillville, IN 46410
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Rev. Dr. Jacob Van Sickle
(219)384-6826 • 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 6, 2019

Sunday after the Feast of the

Protection of the Virgin Mary

St. Innocent, Apostle to America († 1879)

The miraculous appearance of the Mother of God occurred in the mid-tenth century in Constantinople, in the Blachernae church where her robe, veil, and part of her belt were preserved after being transferred from Palestine in the fifth century.

On Sunday, October 1, during the all-night Vigil, when the church was overflowing with those at prayer, the Fool-for-Christ St. Andrew, at the fourth hour, lifted up his eyes toward the heavens and beheld our most holy Lady

Theotokos coming through the air, resplendent with heavenly light and surrounded by an assembly of the Saints. On bended knees the most holy Virgin tearfully prayed for Christians for a long time. Then, coming near the bishop's throne, she continued her prayer.

After completing her prayer, she took her veil and spread it over the people praying in church, protecting them from enemies both visible and invisible. The most holy Lady Theotokos was resplendent with heavenly glory, and the protecting veil in her hands gleamed "more than the rays of the sun." St. Andrew gazed trembling at the miraculous vision, and he asked his disciple, the blessed Epiphanius standing beside him, "Do you see, brother, the Holy Theotokos, praying for all the world?" Epiphanius answered, "I do see, holy father, and I am in awe."

The ever-blessed Mother of God implored the Lord Jesus Christ to accept the prayers of all the people calling on His most holy Name, and to respond speedily to her intercession: "O Heavenly King, accept all those who pray to You and call on my name for help."

HYMNS OF THE DAY

Tone 7 – Resurrectional Troparion

By Your Cross You destroyed death.

To the thief You opened Paradise.

For the Myrrhbearers You changed weeping into joy.

And You commanded Your disciples, O Christ God,

to proclaim that You are 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.

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 St. Innocent

O Holy Father Innocent,
in obedience to the will of God,
you accepted dangers and tribulations,
bringing many peoples to the knowledge of truth.
You showed us the way;
now by your prayers help lead us//
into the Kingdom of Heaven!

Tone 7 – Resurrectional Kontakion

The dominion of death
can no longer hold men captive,
for Christ descended, shattering and destroying its powers.
Hell is bound, while the Prophets rejoice and cry:
“The Savior has come to those in faith;//
enter, you faithful, into the Resurrection!”

Tone 2 – Kontakion for St. Innocent

Your life, holy Father Innocent, Apostle to our land,
proclaims the dispensation and grace of God!
For, laboring in dangers and hardships for the Gospel of Christ,
you were kept unharmed and exalted in humility;//
Pray that He may guide our steps in the way we should go!

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

Tone 7 – Sunday Prokeimenon (Psalm 28)

The Lord shall give strength to His people! / The Lord
shall bless His people with peace!

Tone 3 – Song of the Theotokos (Luke 1)

My soul magnifies the Lord, / and my Spirit rejoices in
God my Savior!

Epistle: 2 Corinthians 6.1-10 (Sunday)

We then, brethren, as fellow-workers with Him, also plead with you not to receive the grace of God in vain. For He says: "In an acceptable time I have heard you, and in the day of salvation I have helped you."

Behold, now is the acceptable time; behold, now is the day of salvation! We give no offense in anything, that our ministry may not be blamed. But in all things we commend ourselves as ministers of God: in much patience, in tribulations, in needs, in distresses, in beatings, in imprisonments, in unrest, in labors, in sleeplessness, in fasting; by purity, by knowledge, by longsuffering, by kindness, by the Holy Spirit, by sincere love, by the word of truth, by the power of God, by the armor of righteousness on the right hand and on the left, by honor and dishonor, by evil report and good report; as deceivers, and yet true; as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and behold we live; as chastened, and yet not killed; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing all things.

Hebrews 9.1-7 (Theotokos)

Brethren: Even the first covenant had ordinances for divine service and an earthly sanctuary. For a tabernacle was prepared: the first part, which is called the sanctuary, contained the lampstand, the table, and the showbread; and behind the second veil, the part of the tabernacle which is called the Holiest of All contained the golden censer and the ark of the covenant overlaid on all sides with gold, in which were the golden pot that had the manna, Aaron's rod that budded, and the tablets of the Law. And above it were the cherubim of glory, overshadowing the mercy seat. Of these things we cannot now speak in detail.

Now, when these things had been prepared, the priests would always go into the first part of the tabernacle to perform the services. But the high priest went alone into the second part only once a year, not without blood, which he

offered for himself and for the people's sins committed in ignorance.

Gospel: Luke 7.11-16 (Sunday)

At that time, it happened that Jesus went into a city called Nain; and many of His disciples went with Him, and a large crowd. And when He came near the gate of the city, behold, a dead man was being carried out, the only son of his mother; and she was a widow. And a large crowd from the city was with her. When the Lord saw her, He had compassion on her and said to her, "Do not weep."

Then He came and touched the open coffin, and those who carried him stood still. And He said, "Young man, I say to you, arise."

So he who was dead sat up and began to speak. And He presented him to his mother. Then fear came upon all, and they glorified God, saying, "A great prophet has risen up among us," and, "God has visited His people."

Luke 10.38-42; 11.27-28

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. Constantin Ardeleanu
Alvin Erbesti
Rosemary Brill
Archbishop Nikon

Ev.Mem. Paraskeva Rusak ('55)
Katherine Nestoruk ('26)
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
Stacey
Jeramie
Olivia
Parker
Melissa
Jonathan
Matthew
Shaun
Gail
Maria
Snezana
Barbara
Thomas
Carol
Jessica
Eduardo
Christine
Tom
Nicholas
Natalie

Barbara
Kristin
Linda
Phyllis
Kay
Fred
Larry
Rollie
Martin
Alexandra
Mark
Alexa
Paula
Alexandra
James
Nada
Joanne
Ronald
Michael
Joseph
Rachel
Kathleen

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thank you to all who worked to make our Patronal Feast Day celebration beautiful and enjoyable!

Following the Divine Liturgy today, in place of coffee hour we will have a dinner to celebrate the **108th anniversary** of our

church. There is no charge; however, please consider making a donation to help cover our costs.

This Tuesday is the annual **Midwest Diocesan Assembly** in Cleveland, OH. Our elected lay delegate, Jakob Delich, is unable to make the trip, so the parish council has selected Nick Rozdelsky as alternate in his stead.

A **parents group** will begin meeting to discuss Dr. Philip Mamalakis' book *Parenting Toward the Kingdom*. The first meeting is Oct. 13. See Mat. Jenna if you would like to join.

Mark your calendars:

Oct 8: **Women's Sodality** meeting @ 10am

Oct 9: **Bible Study** @ 7pm

Oct 10: **Faith Enrichment** @ 10am

Nov 3: O-Club **Trivia Night** to support IOCC's hurricane response in the Bahamas and Carolinas.

Last week's offerings to the Lord: \$3,745

Father's Wish List:	Embroidered altar & table cloths: \$1,300/set White, Blue, Purple, Green, or Gold
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To contribute toward an item, add the amount to your regular gift, noting this on your envelope and (if appropriate) in whose memory.

College Student Sunday

A Message from the
Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops

Beloved Clergy and Faithful,

We greet you with joy as we announce the date for College Student Sunday, benefiting Orthodox Christian Fellowship (OCF). To support the incredible efforts of our students, College Student Sunday will be the first Sunday of

October, running in conjunction with OCF's Orthodox Awareness Month. This year the date falls on October 6.

We are asking that a special collection be taken on College Student Sunday in support of the good work of OCF, and we encourage the entire faithful family—clergy, parents, grandparents, godparents, aunts, uncles, and friends of our treasured college students—to be generous in your offering of support to this ministry on their behalf.

The vision of the Orthodox Christian Fellowship is to be the loving presence of Christ and the Orthodox Church on college campuses; to be an integral part of students' spiritual formation by challenging them to explore the Faith; and to inspire students to commit to living an Orthodox Christian way of life daily. This is accomplished via a growing network of on-campus OCF chapters led by talented students, clergy, and lay advisors as well as through programs such as Regional Retreats, College Conference, Real Break, and the Summer Leadership Institute.

We are grateful for both your prayers and support. May our Lord God and Savior Jesus Christ who calls all of us to contribute to the ministry of His Church guide and strengthen our cherished and beloved college students.

Working in His Vineyard with much love,

+Metropolitan Gregory of Nyssa

Liaison to OCF for the Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops of the United States of America

<http://www.assemblyofbishops.org/news/2019/college-student-sunday>

Glory to God for all things!