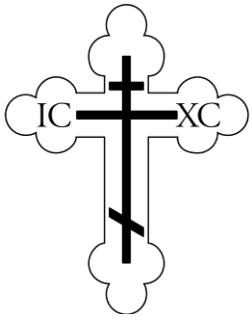


Protection of the Virgin Mary

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

Great Vespers: 6pm Saturdays

Divine Liturgy: 10am Sundays

Confession is available before or
after Vespers or by appointment

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

September 12, 2021

Leavetaking of the

Nativity of the 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 of the Feast

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 of the Feast

By your nativity, O 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)

The Lord is my strength and my song; He has become my salvation!

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 (for 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 (for the Feast)

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 (for 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 (for the Feast)

Now it happened as they went, that He entered a certain village; and a certain woman named Martha welcomed Him into her house. And she had a sister called Mary, who also 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. Gordon McCune
Archpr. Anastasy Richter
Archpr. Sergei Glagolev
Mark Bertram
Mat. Tresja Denysenko
Charles Swallow

Thomas Kurth
Ev.Mem. Ann Sobal ('68)
John Bochorov ('37)
Kuzma Kornikov ('37)
William Shepit ('36)
Suzanne (2001)

Health & Salv.

Archpr. Peter
Mat. Margaret
Mat. Anne
Mat. Trudi
Michal
Annika
Sarah
Archpr. Michael
Pr. Christopher
Mat. Jennifer
Andrew
Gideon
Dn. Nicholas
Sophia
Kevin
Jon
Tanya
Jovan
Julia
Tom
Tina

Jennifer
Gail
Stacy
Jeramie
Olivia
Parker
Christine
Larry
Rollie
Joseph
Nadia
Brendan
Tanya
Christopher
Nina
Renee
Carissa
Cynthia
John
Olga
Mark
Jerry

Michael
Anthony
Daryl
Diane
Carla
Susan
Timothy
William
Paul
Joseph
Linda
Claudia
Elizabeth
Snezana
Nathan
Kara
Ryan
Carol
Christine
Jon
Zoey
Dominic

Declan	Mary	Ivanka
Hudson	Timothy	Susan
Ayden	Lisa	Denise
Hyland	Lois	Valerie
Jason	Michael	Jeffrey
Ted	Janice	Aaron
James	Ken	William
Pamela	Debbie	Jamie
Erin	Jacqueline	Karen
Alexander	Dara	Dale
Ronald	Cindy	Jack
Theodore	Daniel	Joyce
Robert	Laura	Junia
Craig	Dorothy	Anna
Chuck	Vasiliy	Sandra
Scott	William	Linda
Mark	Wanda	Stephen
Christine	Cindy	Megan
Dale	Mary	
Pauline	Linda	

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thank you everyone who came for the fall clean-up Friday.

For **Bible Study** this week, read 4 Kingdoms (a.k.a. 2 Kings) 5-8.

On **Saturday morning, September 25**, our bakers will offer a **tutorial on baking the prosphora** (offering bread) for any who would like to learn. We will start at 9am and finish with lunch together, which will be provided. Please let Elizabeth Pedersen or Fr Jacob know if you plan to attend, so that we can be sure to have enough supplies.

Congregations of Merrillville is holding a luncheon **fundraiser for the Feed the Flock** ministry on Saturday, September 25. Details are on fliers in the narthex. See Mary Ann Bertram or Janet Andrus during coffee hour for tickets.

Our **parish feast day and anniversary celebration** are around the corner! Archbishop Paul will join us for the services of the Protection of the Virgin Mary on September 30 and October 1. Great Vespers with a Lity will begin at 6pm followed by a reception in our

hall. Divine Liturgy is at 9am, followed by a luncheon. Fr Peter and Mat. Cynthia Bodnar will be in town for the celebration and to receive an award from His Eminence. On Sunday, October 3 we will hold our 110th Anniversary celebration following the Divine Liturgy with a catered dinner. No tickets necessary, but there will be a free-will offering taken to help cover the expense.

The **icons of the Life of the Theotokos** in memory of Archpriest Spiro Tanaskoski have been completed. From this point on, if anyone would like to sponsor more iconography in the Church, please see Fr Jacob to discuss options. Right now, icons of Archangel Michael, St. John the Baptist, and Thomas Sunday are slated to be done on the ground level of our East Wall by the end of this year. A perpetual plaque will be installed in the entryway of the Church to commemorate those in whose memory icons are being completed.

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

Visitation for Fr Stacey Richter beginning @ 2:30pm

Funeral service @ 6:30pm (Archbishop Paul presiding)

Sept 15: Memorial Divine Liturgy for Fr Stacey Richter @ 9:30am, followed by interment at Chesteron Cemetery

Sept 25: Prosphora baking tutorial @ 9am

Sept 30: Great Vespers with Archbishop Paul for our Parish Feast @ 6pm, followed by a reception

Oct 1: Feast of the Protection of the Virgin Mary: Divine Liturgy with Archbishop Paul @ 9am

Oct 3: 110th Anniversary Celebration dinner following Divine Liturgy

Last week's gifts to the Lord: \$3,238

In Memoriam: Fr. Anastasy Richter

Archpriest Anastasy Richter, the beloved husband and father, and Rector of Saint Elizabeth Orthodox Church, Chesterton, IN, unexpectedly fell asleep in the Lord on September 05, 2021. Known by family and friends as Stacey Richter, he was born with his

identical twin brother on December 22, 1968 in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada. He met his wife Trudi at Camp Arnes in Manitoba in the summer of 1988 and they were married on May 8, 1993. They were happily married for 28 years. In March of 1995, he graduated with his Geological Engineering degree from the University of Manitoba which led him to work as a mining and ventilation engineer in northern Manitoba. Father Anastasy often shared about his calling to life in the Church well before finishing his engineering degree. He was encouraged by a good pastor and friend to complete his degree before entering seminary. In 1997, together with his wife and eldest daughter, he began seminary at Saint Andrew's College in Winnipeg and graduated with his bachelor's degree in Biblical Studies. Father Anastasy was ordained to the priesthood in August 2001.

He served 20 years as a priest in the Orthodox Church of America (OCA) at many parishes across the United States and Canada: Saint Herman of Alaska in Edmonton, Alberta, Holy Trinity in Regina, Saskatchewan, Saint Mary's Orthodox Cathedral in Minneapolis, Minnesota, Holy Assumption in Canton, Ohio, Saint Peter the Aleut in Minot, North Dakota, and finally, Saint Elizabeth the New Martyr in Chesterton, Indiana. He was truly a father to many and by God's grace brought many souls to the Faith. Father Stacey was always learning and reading about theology, and was especially dedicated to studying Biblical scripture in Greek and Hebrew. Anyone who has seen his personal daily prayer sessions can attest that these could easily last hours! He was genuine and authentic in his faith, not only "talking the talk", but "walking the walk". He did his best to be free of judgment towards others, treating his neighbor with Christ-like love, and through his love for Christ and His Church, lived as a free man. Truly his faith never wavered.

Stacey loved being outside, watching trains at the railyard, going on adventures, swimming, riding his bike, and learning about the stars. Anika would like everyone to know that he was a pain to watch movies with. He loved his wife and daughters (including their dog Lady) very deeply. He will always be remembered as a vibrant, lively person, often accompanied by a frequent and booming laugh. He laughed especially hard at his own jokes. Stacey will be missed more than words can describe.

Glory to God for all things!