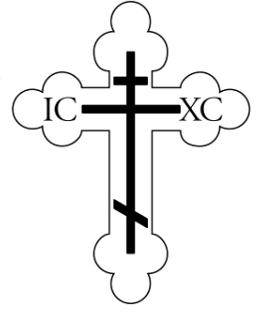
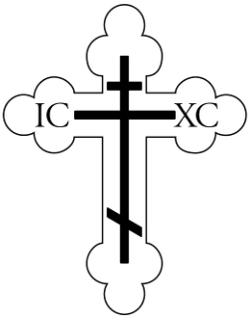


# Protection of the Virgin Mary

## Orthodox Church



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

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.**

## July 10, 2022

# Venerable Anthony of the Kiev Caves

Saint Anthony of the Kiev Caves was born in the year 983 at Liubech, not far from Chernigov, and was named Antipas in Baptism. Possessing the fear of God from his youth, he desired to be clothed in the monastic schema. When he reached a mature age, he wandered until he arrived on Mt. Athos, burning with the desire to emulate the deeds of its holy inhabitants. Here he received monastic tonsure, and the young monk pleased God in every aspect of his spiritual struggles on the path of virtue. He particularly excelled in humility and obedience, so that all the monks rejoiced to see his holy life.

The igumen saw in Saint Anthony the great future ascetic, and inspired by God, he sent him back to his native land, saying, "Anthony, it is time for you to guide others in holiness. Return to your own Russian land, and be an example for others. May the blessing of the Holy Mountain be with you."

Returning to the land of Rus, Anthony began to make the rounds of the monasteries about Kiev, but nowhere did he find that strict life which had drawn him to Mt. Athos.

Through the Providence of God, Anthony came to the hills of Kiev by the banks of the River Dnieper. The forested area near the village of Berestovo reminded him of his beloved Athos. There he found a cave which had been dug out by the Priest Hilarion, who later became Metropolitan of Kiev (October 21). Since he liked the spot, Anthony prayed with tears, "Lord, let the blessing of Mt. Athos be upon this spot, and strengthen me to remain here." He began to struggle in prayer, fasting, vigil and physical labor. Every other day, or every third day, he would eat only dry bread and a little water. Sometimes he did not eat for a week. People began to come to the ascetic for his blessing and counsel, and some decided to remain with the saint.

Among Anthony's first disciples was Saint Nikon (March 23), who tonsured Saint Theodosius of the Caves (May 3) at the monastery in the year 1032.

The virtuous life of Saint Anthony illumined the Russian land with the beauty of monasticism. Saint Anthony lovingly received those who yearned for the monastic life. After instructing them how to follow Christ, he asked Saint Nikon to tonsure them. When twelve disciples had gathered about Saint Anthony, the brethren dug a large cave and built a church and cells for the monks within it.

After he appointed Abbot Barlaam to guide the brethren, Saint Anthony withdrew from the monastery. He dug a new cave for himself, then hid himself within it. There too, monks began to settle around him. Afterwards, the saint built a small wooden church in honor of the Dormition of the Mother of God over the Far Caves.

At the insistence of Prince Izyaslav, the igumen Barlaam withdrew to the Dimitriev monastery. With the blessing of Saint Anthony and with the general agreement of the brethren, the meek and humble Theodosius was chosen as igumen. By this time, the number of brethren had already reached a hundred men. The Kiev Great Prince Izyaslav (+ 1078) gave the monks the hill on which the large church and cells were built, with a palisade all around. Thus,

the renowned monastery over the caves was established. Describing this, the chronicler remarks that while many monasteries were built by emperors and nobles, they could not compare with those which are built with holy prayers and tears, and by fasting and vigil. Although Saint Anthony had no gold, he built a monastery which became the first spiritual center of Rus.

For his holiness of life, God glorified Saint Anthony with the gift of clairvoyance and wonderworking. One example of this occurred during the construction of the Great Caves church. The Most Holy Theotokos Herself stood before him and Saint Theodosius in the Blachernae church in Constantinople, where they had been miraculously transported without leaving their own monastery. Actually, two angels appeared in Constantinople in their forms (See May 3, the account of the Kiev Caves Icon of the Most Holy Theotokos). Having received gold from the Mother of God, the saints commissioned master architects, who came from Constantinople to the Russian land on the command of the Queen of Heaven to build the church at the Monastery of the Caves. During this appearance, the Mother of God foretold the impending death of Saint Anthony, which occurred on July 10, 1073.

## 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 – Patronal Troparion**

Today the faithful celebrate the feast with joy,

illuminated 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 Anthony**

Having left the turmoil of the world,  
you renounced the world to follow Christ in accordance with the Gospel.  
Living a life equal to the Angels,  
you reached the quiet haven of the Holy Mountain of Athos.  
With the blessing of the Athonite fathers, you came to the hills of Kiev,  
where you labored with love and illumined your homeland.  
There you led a multitude of monastics to Christ  
showing them the path that leads to the Kingdom of Heaven.//  
Venerable Anthony, pray to Him that our souls may be saved!

#### **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 8 – Kontakion for St Anthony**

Having loved God above all from your childhood, O ven'rable one,  
you surrendered yourself to Him and followed Him with all your soul.  
Despising the material things of this world,  
you made a cave in the earth, where you fought the good fight  
against the invisible Enemy.  
Like a brilliant sun you illumined all the ends of the earth,  
and with rejoicing you passed into the heavenly chambers.  
Now as you stand with the Angels before the Throne of the Master,  
remember us who honor your memory as we cry to you://  
“Rejoice, our Fa-ther Anthony!”

#### **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 3 – Sunday Prokeimenon (Psalm 46)**

Sing praises to our God, sing praises!

Sing praises to our King, sing praises!

## **Tone 7 – Prokeimenon for St Anthony (Psalm 115)**

Precious in the sight of the Lord / is the death of His saints!

## **Epistle: Romans 6.18-23 (Sunday)**

Brethren: Having been set free from sin, you became slaves of righteousness (I speak in human terms because of the weakness of your flesh). For just as you presented your members as slaves of uncleanness, and of lawlessness leading to more lawlessness, so now present your members as slaves of righteousness for holiness. For when you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. What fruit did you have then in the things of which you are now ashamed? For the end of those things is death. But now having been set free from sin, and having become slaves of God, you have your fruit to holiness, and the end, everlasting life. For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

## **Galatians 5.22 – 6.2 (St Anthony)**

Brethren: The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law. And those who are Christ's have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit. Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another. Brethren, if a man is overtaken in any trespass, you who are spiritual restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness, considering yourself lest you also be tempted. Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.

## **Gospel: Matthew 8.5-13 (Sunday)**

Now when Jesus had entered Capernaum, a centurion came to Him, pleading with Him, saying, "Lord, my servant is lying at home paralyzed, dreadfully tormented."

And Jesus said to him, "I will come and heal him."

The centurion answered and said, "Lord, I am not worthy that You should come under my roof. But only speak a word, and my servant will be healed. For I also am a man under authority, having soldiers

under me. And I say to this one, 'Go,' and he goes; and to another, 'Come,' and he comes; and to my servant, 'Do this,' and he does it."

When Jesus heard it, He marveled, and said to those who followed, "Assuredly, I say to you, I have not found such great faith, not even in Israel! And I say to you that many will come from east and west, and sit down with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven. But the sons of the kingdom will be cast out into outer darkness. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

Then Jesus said to the centurion, "Go your way; and as you have believed, so let it be done for you." And his servant was healed that same hour.

### **Matthew 4.25 – 5.12 (St Anthony)**

Great multitudes followed Him – from Galilee, and from Decapolis, Jerusalem, Judea, and beyond the Jordan. And seeing the multitudes, He went up on a mountain, and when He was seated His disciples came to Him. Then He opened His mouth and taught them, saying: "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be filled. Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God. Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when they revile and persecute you, and say all kinds of evil against you falsely for My sake. Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great is your reward in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

## **WE REMEMBER IN PRAYER**

**New Dep.** Maria Helen

Walter McLean

**Ev.Mem.** Vasilisa Prow ('52)

Alezander Sergiel ('60)

Tatiana Hootnick ('61)

Roman Mastabayov ('61)

Paul Chayhitz ('62)

Maxim Belko ('73)

Michael Danchi ('76)

Tasa Gulabovska ('81)

Pauline Kowalenko (1985)

John Kostelnik ('92)

**Health & Salv.**

Archpr. Peter

Mat. Anne

Pr. Christopher

Mat. Jennifer

Andrew

Gideon

Kevin

Jon

Tanya

Jovan

Tom

Jennifer	Ken	Hanna
Larry	William	Alex
Rollie	Wanda	Carl
Joseph	Ivanka	Laura
Nadia	Aaron	Chrisan
Mark	Karen	Janice
Jerry	Sandra	Gerald
Joseph	Linda	Olga
Linda	Jim	Janie
Claudia	John	David
Carol	Martha	Sharon
Snezana	Mark	Tanya
Ryan	Michelle	Renee
Nathan	Irene	Carissa
Kara	Michelle	Ashton
Djuro	Erika	Doris
Dominic	Luke	Laura
Declan	Jo	Duane
Hudson	Stephanie	Elizabeth
Ayden	Mary Ann	Karen
Hyland	Robb	Alexa
Jason	Desiree	Miriana
Ted	Hanna	Olga
James	Jaroslava	Richard
Pamela	Andrew	Steven
Alexander	Andrew	Brenda
Ronald	Vadim	Nicodemus

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

### **Special Petitions at the Augmented Litany:**

We pray, O Lord our God, for all those who suffer from acts of war, especially for the victims in Ukraine. We pray for Your peace and Your mercy in the midst of the great suffering of Your people. Vouchsafe to accept the prayers of the Church, so that by Your goodness, peace may return to all peoples; O Lord, hear us and have mercy.

We also pray You, O Lord our God, to remember and have mercy on our Orthodox brothers and sisters in Russia and Ukraine, who are involved in violent conflict. Remove from their midst all hostility, confusion and hatred. Lead everyone along the path of reconciliation and peace, we pray You, hear us and have mercy.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

For **Bible Study this week**, read Judith 9-12.

Our first **Women's Book Club** meeting will be on Thursday, August 4th at 6 pm in the Parish Hall. We will meet every other Thursday evening. We are reading *Bringing Jesus to the Desert*. For anyone that is still interested in signing up, please see Matushka Jenna or Tiffany O'Day.

The **20<sup>th</sup> All American Council of the OCA** will take place **July 18-22** in Baltimore. Our lay delegate, Michael Gruszyk, and Fr Jacob will be there to represent our parish and report back to you about the proceedings. On the first day of the council, the delegates of our diocese will vote whether to nominate Daniel, our current locum tenens, as our next diocesan bishop.

## Mark your calendars:

July 12: **Moleben for Peace in Ukraine @ 10am**  
**Ladies' Sodality @ 10:30am**  
**Parish Council @ 7pm**

July 13: **Bible Study @ 7pm**

July 14: **Faith Enrichment @ 10am**

July 17: **Blessing of Vehicles** after Divine Liturgy, in remembrance of the Holy Prophet Elijah (July 20)

July 24: **Church Picnic** in honor of St. Clement after Divine Liturgy

**Last week's gifts to the Lord: \$2,554**

# Glory to God for all things!