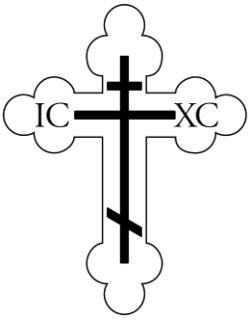


# Protection of the Virgin Mary Orthodox Church



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.**

## August 7, 2022

# Holy Martyr Dometius of Persia Afterfeast of Transfiguration

Saint Dometius lived in Persia during the fourth century. In his youth he was converted to the Faith by a Christian named Uaros. Forsaking Persia, he withdrew to the frontier city of Nisibis (in Mesopotamia), where he was baptized in one of the monasteries and also received the monastic tonsure.

Fleeing the ill-will of some of the monks, St Dometius moved to the monastery of Sts Sergius and Bacchus. The monastery was then under the guidance of an archimandrite named Urbelos, a strict ascetic, of whom it was said that for sixty years he did not taste

cooked food, nor did he lay down for sleep, but rather took his rest standing up, supporting himself upon his staff.

In this monastery St Dometius was ordained a deacon, but when the archimandrite decided to have him made a presbyter, the saint, considering himself unworthy, hid himself on a desolate mountain in Syria, in the region of Cyrrhus.

Stories about him constantly spread among the local inhabitants. They began to come to him for healing and for help. Many pagans were brought to faith in Christ by Dometius. It happened that the emperor Julian the Apostate (361-363) was passing through the area where St Dometius lived, traveling on his campaign against the Persians. Some of his soldiers found St Dometius praying with his disciples in a cave, and, by order of the emperor, they walled them up alive inside.

## 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 7 – Troparion of Transfiguration**

You were transfigured on the mountain, O Christ God,

revealing Your glory to Your Disciples as far as they could bear it.

Let Your everlasting Light also shine upon us sinners,

through the prayers of the Theotokos!//

O Giver of Light, glory to You!

### **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 Dometius**

Trained in asceticism on the mountain,  
with the weapon of the Cross you destroyed the spiritual assaults of  
the hostile powers, O all-blessed one;  
once again you bravely prepared for combat  
and for both struggles you have been crowned by God, //  
Monk-martyr Dometius of eternal memory.

#### **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 7 – Kontakion of Transfiguration**

On the mountain You were transfigured, O Christ God,  
and Your Disciples beheld Your glory as far as they could see it;  
so that when they would behold You crucified,  
they would understand that Your suffering was voluntary,  
and would proclaim to the world //  
that You are truly the Radiance of the Father.

## **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 4 – Prokeimenon for Transfiguration (Psalm 103)**

O Lord, how manifold are Your works;  
in wisdom have You made them all!

#### **Epistle: 1 Corinthians 1.10-18**

Brethren, I plead with you by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
that you all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions  
among you, but that you be perfectly joined together in the same  
mind and in the same judgment. For it has been declared to me  
concerning you, my brethren, by those of Chloe’s household, that  
there are contentions among you.

Now I say this, that each of you says, "I am of Paul," or "I am of Apollos," or "I am of Cephas," or "I am of Christ." Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, lest anyone should say that I had baptized in my own name. Yes, I also baptized the household of Stephanas. Besides, I do not know whether I baptized any other. For Christ did not send me to baptize, but to preach the gospel, not with wisdom of words, lest the cross of Christ should be made of no effect. For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

### **Gospel: Matthew 14.14-22**

At that time, when Jesus went out, He saw a great multitude; and He was moved with compassion for them, and healed their sick. When it was evening, His disciples came to Him, saying, "This is a deserted place, and the hour is already late. Send the multitudes away, that they may go into the villages and buy themselves food."

But Jesus said to them, "They do not need to go away. You give them something to eat."

And they said to Him, "We have here only five loaves and two fish."

He said, "Bring them here to Me." Then He commanded the multitudes to sit down on the grass. And He took the five loaves and the two fish, and looking up to heaven, He blessed and broke and gave the loaves to the disciples; and the disciples gave to the multitudes. So they all ate and were filled, and they took up twelve baskets full of the fragments that remained. Now those who had eaten were about five thousand men, besides women and children. Immediately Jesus made His disciples get into the boat and go before Him to the other side, while He sent the multitudes away.

Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people.

## **WE REMEMBER IN PRAYER**

**New Dep.** Katheryn Sofranoff  
Brandon Mosak  
Helen Wein  
Maria Helen

**Ev.Mem.** Theodore Gabla ('49)  
Isidore Sopko ('68)  
Mary Bajin ('82)

**Health & Salv.**

Archpr. Peter	Pamela	Laura
Mat. Anne	Alexander	Chrisan
Kevin	Ronald	Janice
Jon	William	Gerald
Tanya	Wanda	Olga
Jovan	Ivanka	Janie
Tom	Aaron	David
Jennifer	Karen	Sharon
Larry	Sandra	Tanya
Rollie	Linda	Renee
Joseph	Jim	Carissa
Nadia	John	Ashton
Mark	Martha	Doris
Jerry	Mark	Laura
Joseph	Michelle	Duane
Linda	Irene	Elizabeth
Claudia	Michelle	Karen
Carol	Erika	Alexa
Snezana	Luke	Miriana
Ryan	Jo	Olga
Nathan	Stephanie	Richard
Kara	Mary Ann	Klaudia
Djuro	Robb	Nicodemus
Dominic	Desiree	Nada
Declan	Hanna	Mark
Hudson	Jaroslava	Catherine
Ayden	Andrew	Aaron
Hyland	Andrew	Ebony
Jason	Vadim	Peggy
Ted	Hanna	Sue
James	Alex	Victoria
	Carl	Janet

\*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**

There is **no Bible Study this week**. Instead, we will pray the **Supplication Service to the Virgin Mary** in honor of the Dormition

The Ladies' Sodality will hold their annual **Rummage Sale** this year on Thursday and Friday, **August 11 and 12**. Parishioners are asked to donate their gently used items for sale. Items may be dropped off in the parish Library. Questions can be directed to Sodality president Mary Ann Bertram.

His Beatitude Metropolitan Tikhon has set the date for the enthronement of His Grace Daniel as Bishop of Chicago and the Midwest for Saturday, October 1, 2022, the Feast of the Protection of the Virgin Mary. **All are encouraged to come and participate in the Liturgy and enthronement at Holy Trinity Cathedral beginning at 9am**. For this reason, there will be no Divine Liturgy at our parish for the feast. More details about the celebration of our parish feast day/anniversary weekend are forthcoming.

### **Mark your calendars:**

Aug 10: **Ladies' Sodality meeting @ 10am**  
**Supplication to the Virgin Mary @ 7pm**

Aug 11-12: **Rummage Sale**

Aug 14: **Lamentations for the Theotokos** after coffee hour ~ 1pm

Aug 15: **Divine Liturgy for the Dormition of the Theotokos @ 10am**

Aug 17: **Bible Study** returns @ 7pm

Aug 18: **Faith Enrichment @ 10am**  
**Women's Book Group @ 6pm**

Aug 29: **Divine Liturgy for Beheading of John the Baptist @ 10am**

**Last week's gifts to the Lord: \$1,546**

# Message at the Beginning of the Dormition Fast

From His Grace, our Bishop Daniel

Beloved Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The month of August is always a month of transitions: summer travel and vacations are coming to an end, students are returning to school, and our work and the organizations in which we are involved are taking up their routine, more active schedules, rush hour traffic is becoming heavier, etc. This is true of parish life as well. In a sense, of course, parish life never changes. Month in and month out, we continually observe our regular cycle of life and worship. However, as we enter the month of August, we do so with the sense that parish programs are about to restart, the attendance at the Divine Services is about to return to the normal level of attendance, and the calendar will once again be filled with various types of parish activities. And it is appropriate that we look to returning to the regular rhythm and routine of our community life in the month in which we celebrate some significant feasts.

We begin the month of August by observing the Dormition Fast, the two-week period leading up to the celebration of the Dormition of the Theotokos on August 15<sup>th</sup>. This fast offers us the opportunity for a spiritual focus as we prepare to honor the Holy Theotokos who, at the end of her earthly life, entered the glories of the Kingdom which was proclaimed by her Divine Son. We ask her continued intercession and protection as we prayerfully prepare for her special feast.

About halfway into the Dormition Fast we celebrate the Great Feast of the Lord's Transfiguration. In this feast we proclaim the Gospel which relates the story of the Lord being transfigured, revealing His glory, on Mount Tabor in the presence of the Holy Apostles Peter, James, and John. This year, August 6 falls on a Saturday, allowing even those who might not be able to participate in a weekday Divine Liturgy to share in the spiritual blessings which this special feast of the Lord brings. On the feast of the Transfiguration the Church blesses the first-fruits of the harvest both as a giving back to the Lord what is His and has come from Him (1 Chronicles 29:14) and

as a celebration of the promise of the final transfiguration of all creation in Christ.

On this feast in Constantinople and throughout the Greek world, grapes were placed on a table in the center of the temple and offered and blessed at the end of the Divine Liturgy and then partaken of by the faithful. In Russia, it became popular to bless apples on this feast. Over time this blessing was extended as other first-fruits were brought to be offered and blessed.

Also, each year on August 9<sup>th</sup>, we commemorate St Herman, our own “American saint,” who, although born in Russia, achieved holiness as he worked out his salvation in Alaska. The first of the saints to be glorified in North America, St Herman’s life and example provide us with a deep insight into how we live our Orthodox faith as Christians in a multi-cultural society. May our commemoration of St Herman be a reminder of his intercession for the Church in this land as well as to reminder of the missionary efforts which brought the Orthodox Faith to North America. May we, as Orthodox Christians in America and heirs to this missionary legacy, continue to share the work of proclaiming the Gospel in this land.

With love in the Lord,

+Bishop Daniel

Glory to God for  
all things!