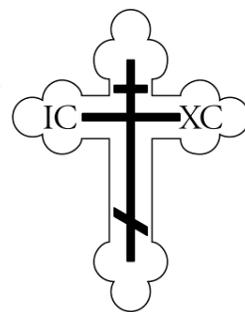
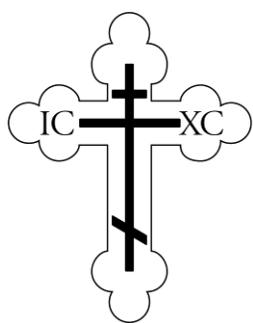


# Protection of the Virgin Mary

## 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.**

## September 25, 2022

### St. Sergius of Radonezh

Saint Sergius of Radonezh was born in the village of Varnitsa, near Rostov, on May 3, 1314. His parents were the pious and illustrious nobles Cyril and Maria. God gave Cyril and Maria a son whom they named Bartholomew. On October 7, 1337 Bartholomew was tonsured a monk, taking the name of the holy Martyr Sergius, and he started to build a new habitation to the glory of the Life-Creating Trinity (now Holy Trinity Lavra in Posad, Russia). Suffering temptations and demonic apparitions, St Sergius advanced from strength to strength.

Gradually he became known to other monks seeking his guidance. St Sergius accepted all with love, and soon a brotherhood of twelve monks were gathered in the small monastery. Their experienced spiritual guide distinguished himself by an extraordinary love for work. With his own hands he built several cells, he carried water, he chopped wood, baked bread, sewed

clothing, prepared food for the brethren and humbly took on other tasks. St Sergius combined the heavy work with prayer, vigil and fasting.

In tranquil solitude St Sergius fell asleep in the Lord on September 25, 1392. On the night before, the great saint of God summoned the brethren a final time to give them his final instruction: "Brethren, be attentive to yourselves. Have first the fear of God, purity of soul and unhypocritical love...."

## HYMNS OF THE DAY

### Tone 6 – Resurrectional Troparion

The angelic powers were at Your tomb;  
the guards became as dead men.

Mary stood by Your grave,  
seeking Your most pure body.

You captured hell,  
not being tempted by it.

You came to the Virgin granting life.//

O Lord, Who rose from the dead, glory to You!

### 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. Sergius

A zealot of good deeds

and a true warrior of Christ our God,

you struggled greatly against the passions in this passing life;

in songs and vigils and fasting you were an image and example to

your disciples,

thus the most Holy Spirit lived within you,

and you were made beautiful by His working.

Since you have great boldness before the Holy Trinity,

remember the flock which you have wisely gathered,//

and do not forget to visit your children as you promised, venerable

Sergius, our father!

### **Tone 6 – Resurrectional Kontakion**

When Christ God the Giver of Life,  
raised all of the dead from the valleys of misery with His mighty hand,  
He bestowed resurrection on the human race.//  
He is the Savior of all, the Resurrection, the Life, and the God of all.

### **Tone 8 – Kontakion for St. Sergius**

Bound by the love of Christ, O venerable one,  
and following Him with unwavering desire,  
you despised all carnal pleasures, shining like the sun in your land.  
Therefore, Christ has enriched you with the gift of miracles.  
Remember us, who venerate your most holy memory//  
and who call out to you: “Rejoice, O Sergius, made wise by God!”

### **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 6 – Sunday Prokeimenon (Psalm 27)**

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

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

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

### **Epistle: 2 Corinthians 4.6-15 (Sunday)**

Brethren: It is the God who commanded light to shine out of darkness, who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellence of the power may be of God and not of us. We are hard-pressed on every side, yet not crushed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed – always carrying about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our body.

For we who live are always delivered to death for Jesus' sake, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh. So then death is working in us, but life in you. And since we have the

same spirit of faith, according to what is written, “I believed and therefore I spoke,” we also believe and therefore speak, knowing that He who raised up the Lord Jesus will also raise us up with Jesus, and will present us with you. For all things are for your sakes, that grace, having spread through the many, may cause thanksgiving to abound to the glory of God.

### **Galatians 5.22 – 6.2 (St. Sergius)**

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: Luke 5.1-11 (Sunday)**

At that time, as the multitude pressed about Jesus to hear the word of God, He stood by the Lake of Gennesaret and saw two boats standing by the lake; but the fishermen had gone from them and were washing their nets. Then He got into one of the boats, which was Simon’s, and asked him to put out a little from the land. And He sat down and taught the multitudes from the boat. When He had stopped speaking, He said to Simon, “Launch out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch.”

But Simon answered and said to Him, “Master, we have toiled all night and caught nothing; nevertheless, at Your word I will let down the net.”

And when they had done this, they caught a great number of fish, and their net was breaking. So, they signaled to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both the boats, so that they began to sink.

When Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus’ knees, saying, “Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord!” For he and all who were with him were astonished at the catch of fish which they had taken; and so also were James and John, the sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon.

And Jesus said to Simon, “Do not be afraid. From now on you will catch men.” So when they had brought their boats to land, they forsook all and followed Him.

## Luke 6.17-23 (St. Sergius)

At that time, Jesus came down with them and stood on a level place with a crowd of His disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea and Jerusalem, and from the seacoast of Tyre and Sidon, who came to hear Him and be healed of their diseases, as well as those who were tormented with unclean spirits. And they were healed. And the whole multitude sought to touch Him, for power went out from Him and healed them all.

Then He lifted up His eyes toward His disciples, and said: "Blessed are you poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. Blessed are you who hunger now, for you shall be filled. Blessed are you who weep now, for you shall laugh. Blessed are you when men hate you, and when they exclude you, and revile you, and cast out your name as evil, for the Son of Man's sake. Rejoice in that day and leap for joy! For indeed your reward is great in heaven, for in like manner their fathers did to the prophets."

## WE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

**New Dep.** Nicolas Babic

Met. Herman Swaiko

Kallistos Ware

Doris Corcoran

Myra Schafer

**Health & Salv.**

Archpr. Peter

Archpr. John

Mat. Anne

Dn. Nicholas

Kevin

Jon

Tanya

Jovan

Tom

Jennifer

Larry

Rollie

Joseph

Nadia

Mark

Jerry

Joseph

Linda

Claudia

Carol

Snezana

Ryan

Nathan

Kara

Djuro

Dominic

Declan

Hudson

Ayden

Hyland

Jason

Ted

James

Gity Karamouz

**Ev.Mem.** Stanislav Kuchar ('13)

Christine Miltov ('18)

Andrew Onischuk ('77)

Pamela

Alexander

Ronald

William

Wanda

Ivanka

Aaron

Karen

Sandra

Linda

Jim

John

Martha

Mark

Michelle

Irene

Michelle

Erika	Janice	Olga
Luke	Gerald	Richard
Jo	Olga	Klaudia
Stephanie	Janie	Nicodemus
Mary Ann	David	Nada
Robb	Sharon	Mark
Desiree	Tanya	Catherine
Hanna	Renee	Aaron
Jaroslava	Carissa	Ebony
Andrew	Ashton	Peggy
Andrew	Doris	Sue
Vadim	Laura	Victoria
Hanna	Duane	Janet
Alex	Elizabeth	Tom
Carl	Karen	Wilma
Laura	Alexa	Luba
Chrisan	Miriana	

\*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**

Following Bishop Daniel's appeal in last week's bulletin, today is **Support our Seminarians Sunday**. We will take a special collection for the Diocesan Seminarians as you leave Church today. The Diocese has seven seminarians studying at St. Tikhon's and St. Vladimir's Seminaries, who have temporarily left their jobs and their homes to prepare themselves for ministry. Money collected this week will be divided among them to help with living expenses.

**For Bible Study this week read Job 25-30.**

The **Ladies' Sodality** has organized a **winter coat, hat, and gloves drive** through the month of September. Winter items may be deposited in the collection bin in the narthex until **next Sunday, October 2**, after which they will be delivered to the Salvation Army.

We will celebrate **PTVM's 111<sup>th</sup> anniversary** after **Divine Liturgy next Sunday, October 2** with a dinner and festivities. Elizabeth Pedersen has already put together a team to prepare the meal. We are asking only for **a few more volunteers to bring desserts**. If you are able, please sign up on the sheet in the narthex. Thank you!

Sodality's next fundraiser will be a **soup sale** during coffee hour on October 9. Quarts will sell for \$5 each.

### **Mark your calendars:**

Sept 27: **Moleben for Peace in Ukraine @ 10am**

Sept 28: **Bible Study @ 7pm**

Sept 29: **Faith Enrichment @ 10am**  
**Women's Book Group @ 6pm**

Sept 30: **Blood Drive 12pm-5pm**  
**Festal Vespers for our Patronal Feast (Protection) @ 6pm**

Oct 1: **Divine Liturgy with the Enthronement of Bishop Daniel** at Holy Trinity Cathedral, Chicago @ 9am

Oct 2: **PTVM's 111<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration** after Divine Liturgy

Oct 22: **Soul Saturday of St. Demetrius; Memorial Liturgy** at St. Mary's cemetery chapel with blessing of graves @ 10am

**Last week's gifts to the Lord: \$1,070**

# **Church Musician Sunday**

**A letter from His Grace, our Bishop Daniel**

Dearly Beloved in the Lord,

The Holy Synod of Bishops of the Orthodox Church in America has designated the Sunday following the commemoration of St Romanus the Melodist (October 1) as **Church Musician Sunday**. This new yearly designation, beginning today, is intended to highlight the

essential role of liturgical music in Orthodox Christian worship and the important role of all church musicians in the life of the Church.

The Divine Liturgy and all the Divine Services of our Church are beautified by the voices and talents of those who serve the Church as musicians. In this role of service, we also see a missionary effort. As all communities are involved in the work of evangelizing, so each parish choir adds its voice to the proclamation of the Gospel. Through the beauty of the music and the singing and chanting of the sacred texts, the Gospel is proclaimed in a way that touches hearts and inspires both newcomers and longtime faithful to deepen their faith and, in turn, to share that faith with the world. In this way, our church musicians stand at the forefront of our constant and continuing evangelizing efforts.

The important role of church musicians and choirs is also acknowledged and extoled by Saint John Chrysostom. He writes: "Above, the hosts of angels sign praise; below men form choirs in the churches and imitate them by singing the same doxology. Above, the seraphim cry out in the thrice-holy hymn; below, the human throng sends up the same cry. The inhabitants of heaven and earth are brought together in a common assembly; there is one thanksgiving, one shout of delight, one joyful chorus."

I encourage all of the parish and mission communities in the Diocese of the Midwest to offer recognition and gratitude to those who serve in the various roles involved in Church music: choir directors, singers, chanters, readers, composers, arrangers, and bellringers. This appreciation is something that need not be relegated to one Sunday a year but should be expressed throughout the weeks and months in which the dedication of our church musicians enables us all to experience the fullness and beauty of the yearly liturgical cycle.

Offering my personal gratitude to those who exercise this ministry in our diocese and invoking God's blessing upon them all, I remain

Yours in Christ,

† Daniel

Bishop of Chicago and the Diocese of the Midwest

# Glory to God for all things!