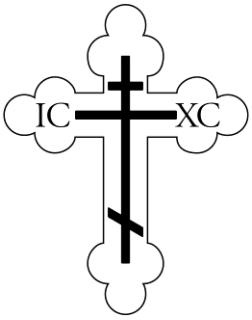


# Protection of the Virgin Mary Orthodox Church



Diocese of Chicago  
and the Midwest  
Orthodox Church  
in America



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Rev. Dr. Jacob Van Sickle  
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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.**

## March 26, 2023

# Leavetaking of Annunciation Synaxis of the Holy Archangel Gabriel

*On Sundays in Great Lent, we celebrate the Divine Liturgy of  
St. Basil the Great.*

The Archangel Gabriel was chosen by the Lord to announce to the Virgin Mary that the Son of God would be incarnate from Her, to the great rejoicing of all mankind. Therefore, on the day after the Feast of the Annunciation, a day on which the All-Pure Virgin is glorified, we give thanks to the Lord and we venerate His messenger Gabriel, who contributed to the mystery of our salvation. There is no period of Afterfeast due to Great Lent.

# HYMNS OF THE DAY

## Tone 8 – Resurrectional Troparion

You descended from on high, O Merciful One!

You accepted the three day burial to free us from our sufferings!//

O Lord, our Life and Resurrection, glory to You!

## Tone 4 – Troparion of Annunciation

Today is the beginning of our salvation,

the revelation of the eternal mystery!

The Son of God becomes the Son of the Virgin

as Gabriel announces the coming of Grace.

Together with him let us cry to the Theotokos:

“Rejoice, O Full of Grace,//

the Lord is with you!”

## Tone 4 – Troparion for the Archangel Gabriel

Gabriel, Commander of the heavenly hosts,

we who are unworthy beseech you:

by your prayers encompass us beneath the wings of your

immaterial glory,

and faithfully preserve us who fall down and cry out to you://

“Deliver us from all harm, for you are the Commander of the Powers

on high!”

## Tone 8 – Resurrectional Kontakion

By rising from the tomb You raised the dead and resurrected Adam.

Eve exults in Your Resurrection,//

and the world celebrates Your rising from the dead, O greatly

Merciful One!

## Tone 8 – Kontakion for the Archangel Gabriel

Supreme Commander Gabriel, you are the glorious intercessor

and servant

before the all-radiant, worthy, all-powerful, infinite and

awesome Trinity.

Ever pray now that we may be delivered from all tribulations

and torments,//

so that we may cry out to you: “Rejoice, protection of your servants!”

## **Tone 8 – Kontakion for Annunciation**

O victorious leader of triumphant hosts!

We, your servants delivered from evil

sing our grateful thanks to you, O Theotokos.

As you possess invincible might set us free from every calamity//  
so that we may sing: “Rejoice, O unwedded Bride!”

## **SCRIPTURE READINGS**

### **Tone 8 – Sunday Prokeimenon (Psalm 75)**

Pray and make your vows / before the Lord, our God!

### **Tone 4 – Annunciation Prokeimenon (Psalm 95)**

From day to day / proclaim the salvation of our God!

### **Epistle: Hebrews 6.13-20 (4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent)**

Brethren: when God made a promise to Abraham, because He could swear by no one greater, He swore by Himself, saying, “Surely blessing I will bless you, and multiplying I will multiply you.”

And so, after he had patiently endured, he obtained the promise. For men indeed swear by the greater, and an oath for confirmation is for them an end of all dispute. Thus God, determining to show more abundantly to the heirs of promise the immutability of His counsel, confirmed it by an oath, that by two immutable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we might have strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold of the hope set before us.

This hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast, and which enters the Presence behind the veil, where the forerunner has entered for us, even Jesus, having become High Priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.

### **Hebrews 2.11-18 (Annunciation)**

Brethren: Both He who sanctifies and those who are being sanctified are all of one, for which reason He is not ashamed to call them brethren, saying: “I will declare Your name to My brethren; in the midst of the assembly, I will sing praise to You.” And again: “I will put My trust in Him.” And again: “Here am I and the children whom God has given Me.”

Inasmuch, then, as the children have partaken of flesh and blood, He Himself likewise shared in the same, that through death

He might destroy him who had the power of death (that is, the devil) and release those who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage. For indeed, He does not give aid to angels, but He does give aid to the seed of Abraham.

Therefore, in all things He had to be made like His brethren, that He might be a merciful and faithful High Priest in things pertaining to God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people. For in that He Himself has suffered, being tempted, He is able to aid those who are tempted.

### **Gospel: Mark 9.17-31 (4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent)**

At that time, one of the crowd answered and said, “Teacher, I brought You my son, who has a mute spirit. And wherever it seizes him, it throws him down; he foams at the mouth, gnashes his teeth, and becomes rigid. So, I spoke to Your disciples, that they should cast it out, but they could not.”

Jesus answered him and said, “O faithless generation, how long shall I be with you? How long shall I bear with you? Bring him to Me.”

Then they brought him to Jesus. And when he saw Him, immediately the spirit convulsed him, and he fell on the ground and wallowed, foaming at the mouth.

So, Jesus asked his father, “How long has this been happening to him?”

And he said, “From childhood. And often it has thrown him both into the fire and into the water to destroy him. But if You can do anything, have compassion on us and help us.”

Jesus said to him, “If you can believe, all things are possible to him who believes.”

Immediately, the father of the child cried out and said with tears, “Lord, I believe; help my unbelief!”

When Jesus saw that the people came running together, He rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it: “Deaf and dumb spirit, I command you, come out of him and enter him no more!”

Then the spirit cried out, convulsed him greatly, and came out of him. And he became as one dead, so that many said, “He is dead.”

But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he arose. And when He had come into the house, His disciples asked Him privately, “Why could we not cast it out?”

So He said to them, “This kind can come out by nothing but prayer and fasting.”

Then they departed from there and passed through Galilee, and He did not want anyone to know it. For He taught His disciples and said to them, “The Son of Man is being betrayed into the hands of men, and they will kill Him. And after He is killed, He will rise the third day.”

### **Luke 1.24-38 (Annunciation)**

Now after those days, Elizabeth, the wife of Zechariah conceived; and she hid herself five months, saying, “Thus the Lord has dealt with me, in the days when He looked on me, to take away my reproach among people.”

Now in the sixth month, the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin’s name was Mary. And having come in, the angel said to her, “Rejoice, highly favored one, the Lord is with you; blessed are you among women!” But when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and considered what manner of greeting this was.

Then the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bring forth a Son, and shall call His name Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David. And He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end.”

Then Mary said to the angel, “How can this be, since I do not know a man?”

And the angel answered and said to her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Highest will overshadow you; therefore, also, that Holy One who is to be born will be called the Son of God. Now indeed, Elizabeth your relative has also conceived a son in her old age; and this is now the sixth month for her who was called barren. For with God nothing will be impossible.”

Then Mary said, “Behold the maidservant of the Lord! Let it be to me according to your word.” And the angel departed from her.

## **WE REMEMBER IN PRAYER**

**New. Dep.** Lucille Hojnacki  
Anita Favretto  
David May  
Ratka Traycoff

**Ev.Mem.** Daria Golick ('40)  
Daniel Mshoro ('55)  
Agafia Chaychitz ('77)  
John Mosak ('88)  
Michael Shendrick (2016)

**Health & Salv.**

Archpr. Peter  
Mat. Cynthia  
Archpr. John  
Pr. Patrick  
Mat. Anne  
Kevin  
Jon  
Tanya  
Jovan  
Tom  
Jennifer  
Rollie  
Joseph  
Nadia  
Joseph  
Linda  
Claudia  
Carol  
Snezana  
Ryan  
Nathan  
Kara  
Djuro  
Paula  
Christopher  
Karen  
Dominic  
Declan  
Hudson  
Ayden  
Hyland  
Jason  
Ted  
James  
Pamela  
Alexander  
Ronald  
Ivanka  
Karen

Sandra  
Linda  
Jim  
John  
Martha  
Mark  
Michelle  
Irene  
Michelle  
Erika  
Luke  
Jo  
Stephanie  
Mary Ann  
Dara  
Jaroslava  
Andrew  
Andrew  
Vadim  
Hanna  
Viktor  
Alex  
Carl  
Laura  
Chrisan  
Gerald  
Olga  
Janie  
Sharon  
Tanya  
Renee  
Michael  
Chris  
Nina  
Carissa  
Ashton  
Doris  
Laura  
Duane  
Elizabeth

Karen  
Alexa  
Miriana  
Olga  
Richard  
Klaudia  
Nicodemus  
Nada  
Mark  
Catherine  
Aaron  
Dale  
Ebony  
Peggy  
Sue  
Victoria  
Janet  
Tom  
Diane  
Wilma  
Jerry  
Penelope  
Cora  
Brandi  
Joyce  
Paul  
Galina  
Helen  
Kathleen  
Rachel  
Martha  
Stephanie  
Thomas  
Diane  
Michael  
Linda  
Stephanie  
Rdr. Paul  
Nathan  
Cindy

\*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.

## **Theotokion for Annunciation (*instead of “All of Creation...”*)**

O earth, announce good tidings of great joy:

O heavens, praise the glory of God!

Since she is a living Ark of God

let no profane hand touch the Theotokos.

But let the lips of believers unceasingly sing to her,

praising her in joy with the angel’s song:

“Rejoice, O Lady, full of grace, the Lord is with you!”

## **Communion Hymn for the Cross (Psalm 4)**

The Lord has chosen Zion; He has desired it for His habitation!

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Next Sunday, we will serve the **40-day Memorial for David May**.

Order forms for the **Pascha Bake Sale** are available in the Narthex. Orders are due by this Wednesday, March 29. Pick up will be next Sunday, April 2. Donations of flour, sugar, butter, eggs or walnuts are welcome!

The **Chicago Deanery Lenten Vespers** return at 6pm on Sundays:

Tonight at St. George Cathedral in Chicago, IL

April 2 at St. Elizabeth’s Church in Chesterton, IN

April 9 at Holy Trinity Cathedral in Chicago, IL

During Great Lent, Orthodox Christians **make more time for prayer, deny themselves rich and satisfying foods** (meat, dairy, fish), and find opportunities to **help those in need** (almsgiving). They also examine their consciences and repent of their sins before the Lord in the **Sacrament of Confession**. Confession is always available before or after evening services. You can also make an appointment with Fr Jacob any time, including before Sunday Liturgies, if necessary.

Thanks to everyone pitching in for the **75 Easter dinner baskets** for the Ross Township food pantry, everything has been accounted for! Please make sure to **bring in your items by next Sunday**, when the Church School children will pack the dinners.

### **Mark your calendars:**

Mar 29: **Presanctified Liturgy @ 6pm; Lenten potluck after**

Mar 30: **Great Canon with the Life of St. Mary of Egypt @ 10am**

Mar 31: **Presanctified Liturgy @ 10am; Lenten potluck after**

Mar 30: **Canon of St. Andrew & Life of St. Mary of Egypt @ 10am**

Apr 1: **Annual Church Spring Cleaning @ 9am; lunch provided**

Apr 2: **Bake Sale pick-up after Divine Liturgy**

Apr 8: **Divine Liturgy for Lazarus Saturday @ 10am, followed by pancake breakfast and preparing Palms and Pussywillows.**

Apr 21: **O-Club Trivia Night for women's shelter @ 6pm**

**Last week's gifts to the Lord: \$10,096**

# **Glory to God for all things!**