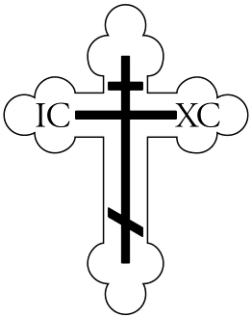


Protection of the Virgin Mary Orthodox Church



Diocese of Chicago
and the Midwest
Orthodox Church
in America



8600 Grand Blvd.
Merrillville, IN 46410
(219)947-4748
www.ptvm.com

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.

April 9, 2023 The Feast of Palms

HYMNS OF THE DAY

First Antiphon

I love the Lord because He has heard
the voice of my supplication.

Refrain: Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us!

Because He inclined His ear to me;
therefore I will call on Him as long as I live.

The snares of death encompassed me;
the pangs of hell laid hold on me.

I suffered distress and anguish,
so I called on the Name of the Lord.

I will walk in the presence of the Lord
in the land of the living.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,
now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Second Antiphon

I kept my faith, even when I said,
“I am greatly afflicted.”

Refrain: O Son of God who sat upon the foal, save us who sing to
You: “Alleluia!”

What shall I render to the Lord
for all the things He has given me?

I will receive the cup of salvation
and call on the Name of the Lord.

I will pay my vows to the Lord
in the presence of all His people.

And we continue with “Only-Begotten Son” as usual.

Third Antiphon

Cantor: O give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; for His mercy
endures forever! Let the house of Israel say that He is good,
for His mercy endures forever!

Choir: **Tone 1 – Troparion of the Feast**
By raising Lazarus from the dead before Your Passion,
You confirmed the universal resurrection, O Christ God.
Like the children with the palms of victory,
we cry out to You, O Vanquisher of Death:
“Hosanna in the highest!//
Blessed is He that comes in the Name of the Lord.”

Cantor: Let the house of Aaron say that He is good, for His mercy
endures forever! Let those who fear the Lord say that He is
good, for His mercy endures forever!

We repeat the Troparion of the Feast, then the Entrance:

Deacon: Wisdom! Let us stand upright! Blessed is He that comes in
the Name of the Lord. We bless you from the house of the
Lord. God is the Lord and He has revealed Himself to us!

We sing the Troparion of the Feast again, then:

Tone 4 – Another Troparion for the Feast

When we were buried with You in baptism, O Christ God,
we were made worthy of eternal life by Your Resurrection.

Now we praise You and sing:

“Hosanna in the highest!//

Blessed is He that comes in the Name of the Lord!”

Tone 6 – Kontakion of the Feast

Sitting on Your throne in Heaven,

carried on a foal on earth, O Christ God,

accept the praise of angels and the songs of children who sing://

“Blessed is He Who comes to recall Adam!”

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Tone 4 – Festal Prokeimenon (Psalm 117)

Blessed is He that comes in the Name of the Lord!

God is the Lord and has revealed Himself to us!

Epistle: Philippians 4:4-9

Brethren: Rejoice in the Lord always. Again, I will say, rejoice! Let your gentleness be known to all men. The Lord is at hand. Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy – meditate on these things. The things which you learned and received and heard and saw in me, these do, and the God of peace will be with you.

Gospel: John 12.1-18

Six days before the Pascha, Jesus came to Bethany, where Lazarus was who had been dead, whom He had raised from the dead. There they made Him a supper; and Martha served, but Lazarus was one of those who sat at the table with Him. Then Mary took a pound of very costly oil of spikenard, anointed the feet of Jesus, and wiped His feet with her hair. And the house was filled with the fragrance of the oil.

But one of His disciples, Judas Iscariot, Simon’s son, who would betray Him, said, “Why was this fragrant oil not sold for three hundred denarii and given to the poor?”

This he said, not that he cared for the poor, but because he was a thief, and had the money box; and he used to take what was put in it. But Jesus said, “Let her alone; she has kept this for the day of My burial. For the poor you have with you always, but Me you do not have always.”

Now a great many of the Jews knew that He was there; and they came, not for Jesus’ sake only, but that they might also see Lazarus, whom He had raised from the dead. But the chief priests plotted to put Lazarus to death also, because on account of him many of the Jews went away and believed in Jesus.

The next day a great multitude that had come to the feast, when they heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem, took branches of palm trees and went out to meet Him, and cried out: “Hosanna! ‘Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!’ The King of Israel!”

Then Jesus, when He had found a young donkey, sat on it; as it is written: “Fear not, daughter of Zion; behold, your King is coming, sitting on a donkey’s colt.” His disciples did not understand these things at first; but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things were written about Him and that they had done these things to Him.

Therefore, the people who were with Him when He called Lazarus out of his tomb and raised him from the dead bore witness. For this reason the people also met Him, because they heard that He had done this sign.

WE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

New. Dep. Lucille Hojnacki	Afanasy Stepanoff ('55)
Anita Favretto	Efrem Shevchik ('56)
Ev.Mem. John Bisali ('51)	Pauline Koveck ('67)
Peter Shenuk ('45)	

Health & Salv.	Jovan	Carol
Archpr. Peter	Tom	Snezana
Mat. Cynthia	Jennifer	Ryan
Archpr. John	Rollie	Nathan
Pr. Patrick	Joseph	Kara
Mat. Anne	Nadia	Djuro
Kevin	Joseph	Paula
Jon	Linda	Christopher
Tanya	Claudia	Karen

Dominic	Vadim	Catherine
Declan	Hanna	Aaron
Hudson	Viktor	Dale
Ayden	Alex	Ebony
Hyland	Carl	Peggy
Jason	Laura	Sue
Ted	Chrisan	Victoria
James	Gerald	Janet
Pamela	Olga	Tom
Alexander	Janie	Diane
Ronald	Sharon	Wilma
Ivanka	Tanya	Jerry
Karen	Renee	Penelope
Sandra	Michael	Cora
Linda	Chris	Brandi
Jim	Nina	Joyce
John	Carissa	Paul
Martha	Ashton	Galina
Mark	Doris	Helen
Michelle	Laura	Kathleen
Irene	Duane	Rachel
Michelle	Elizabeth	Martha
Erika	Karen	Stephanie
Luke	Alexa	Thomas
Jo	Miriana	Diane
Stephanie	Olga	Michael
Mary Ann	Richard	Linda
Dara	Klaudia	Stephanie
Jaroslava	Nicodemus	Nathan
Andrew	Nada	Cindy
Andrew	Mark	Nathaniel

*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.

Festal Theotokion (*Instead of “It is Truly Meet...”*)

God is the Lord and has revealed Himself to us!
Celebrate the feast and come with gladness!
Let us magnify Christ with palms and branches,
singing: “Blessed is He that comes in the Name of the Lord, our Savior!”

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The **Ladies Sodality** is selling **homemade bows** during coffee hour for Pascha.

On Friday, April 21, the O-Club will host a **Trivia Night Fundraiser for Mommy’s Haven Maternity Home**. Tickets are \$20/person at the door with a maximum table size of eight. Sliders, chips, beer, and wine are included. BYO food and drink is also allowed. Cash prize for the winning table. Doors open at 6pm. Trivia starts at 6:30pm.

The Protection of the Virgin Mary Orthodox Church **Jan Hughes Memorial Golf Outing** is scheduled for **Saturday, June 3**, at Indian Ridge Country Club in Hobart. This is a major fundraiser for us. The proceeds will be used for the continuation, support, and development of various Church projects, which reach out to the community. Hole sponsors (\$125) or other monetary or prize donations will be greatly appreciated. Those wishing to help in any way (including making desserts or appetizers), or to purchase tickets, please see Rich Svihra, Nick Rozdelsky, or Lara Richards. Thanks in advance, The Golf Committee.

Mark your calendars:

Apr 9: **Bridegroom Matins at Holy Trinity in Chicago @ 6pm**

Holy Week Schedule

Mon: **Presanctified Liturgy @ 2pm**
Bridegroom Matins @ 6pm

Tues: **Presanctified Liturgy @ 2pm**
Bridegroom Matins @ 6pm

Wed: **Bridegroom Matins @ 2pm**
Holy Unction at Descent of the Holy Ghost @ 6:30pm

Thur: **Liturgy of the Holy Supper @ 10am**
Matins of the Holy Passion (12 Gospels) @ 6pm

Fri: **Royal Hours @ 9am**
Vespers of Entombment @ 2pm
Matins of Lamentation @ 6pm

Sat: **Vesperal Liturgy of Pascha @ 10am**
Paschal Vigil (Resurrection) @ 11pm

Sun: **Agape Vespers @ 11am, followed by an Easter Egg Hunt**

Apr 18: **Bright Tuesday Liturgy @ 10am**
Parish Council Meeting @ 7pm

Apr 20: **Faith Enrichment @ 10am**

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

Last week's gifts to the Lord: \$6,239

2023 Paschal Message

of His Beatitude, our Metropolitan Tikhon

To the Clergy, Monastics, and Faithful of the Orthodox Church in America, My Beloved Children in the Lord,

Christ is risen! Indeed he is risen!

“Let us purify our senses and we shall see Christ shining in the unapproachable light of the Resurrection. We shall clearly hear him say: ‘Rejoice.’” (Paschal Canon, Ode One)

When the myrrh-bearing women came to the tomb, they were met by the words of an angel: “He is not here. He is risen.” Mary Magdalene and the other women in turn brought this message to the apostles. And down through the centuries, that message has been passed on by their successors, even to us: the Gospel of the crucified and risen Lord.

“Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand”—this is the heart of the Gospel, and the Resurrection of Christ is the irruption of the heavenly kingdom into our fallen reality, the demonstration and proof that the kingdom is at hand. The Resurrection of Christ is not

a distant and ancient event. It is a new reality to which we in the Church already have access.

For the message of Christ's Rising is not merely passed down from generation to generation, like other teachings or stories. It is passed down through experience: in baptism, we die and rise with Christ. In chrismation, we receive his Spirit and share in his anointing. In the Eucharist, we eat his deified Body and Blood, offered for us on the Cross and taken up into heaven through the Passion, Resurrection, and Ascension. Through the mysteries, we enter ourselves into a personal and eternal relationship with the Risen Lord.

This is why, in Saint John Damascene's Paschal canon, the figure who announces the Resurrection to the believer is none other than Christ himself—"we shall see Christ shining in the unapproachable light of the Resurrection. We shall clearly hear him say: 'Rejoice.'" He has chosen mortal ministers to serve at his mysteries and offer them on our behalf, but through the mysteries—if we repent, "purify[ing] our senses" of sinful preoccupations with worldly things—then we will encounter Christ himself.

And this encounter fills us with joy, because it is a foretaste of the kingdom, where the righteous will always delight in the clear light of the Resurrection, where the Resurrection's transformative power will be known in full, where Christ will be seen, not as in a mirror darkly, but face to face.

Christ is risen, beloved children! Death, sin, hell, the world, the devil—these are all fleeing in defeat. Christ himself goes before us into the kingdom, the new heaven and the new earth, and we sing the song of victory: "Christ is risen!"

May we, all of us, keep that anthem in our hearts all the yearlong, and throughout the years, knowing that Christ's Resurrection is the conquest of all trouble and sorrow, the end of the rule of Satan and sin and brokenness, and the beginning of a new reality that knows no end: the kingdom of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, lasting unto all ages.

Greeting you with the unfailing, invincible, and unending joy of the Lord's Pascha, I remain,

Yours in Christ,

+ TIKHON

Archbishop of Washington

Metropolitan of All America and Canada