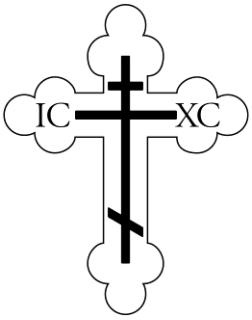
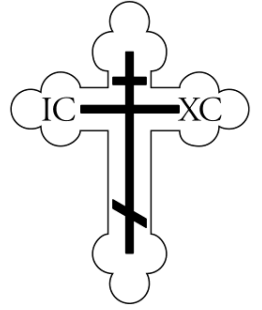


Protection of the Virgin Mary Orthodox Church



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.

July 23, 2023

Holy Martyrs Trophimus, Theophilus, and their companions

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,
illuminated by your coming, O Mother of God.
Beholding your pure image we fervently cry to you:
Enccompass 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 of the Holy Martyrs

Your holy martyr Trophimus and his companions, O Lord,
through their sufferings have received incorruptible crowns from
You, our God.
For having Your strength, they laid low their adversaries,
and shattered the powerless boldness of demons.//
Through their intercession, save our souls!

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 2 – Kontakion of the Holy Martyrs

You have appeared as bright lamps, O holy martyrs!
Illumine the whole creation with the brightness of your miracles.
Deliver it from infirmity and drive away the deep darkness,//
always interceding before Christ God for us all.

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!

Epistle: Romans 15.1-7

Brethren: We who are strong ought to bear with the scruples of the weak, and not to please ourselves. Let each of us please his

neighbor for his good, leading to edification. For even Christ did not please Himself; but as it is written, “The reproaches of those who reproached You fell on Me.” For whatever things were written before were written for our learning, that we through the patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope.

Now may the God of patience and comfort grant you to be like-minded toward one another, according to Christ Jesus, that you may with one mind and one mouth glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore receive one another, just as Christ also received us, to the glory of God.

Gospel: Matthew 9.27-35

At that time, Jesus departed from there, and two blind men followed Him, crying out and saying, “Son of David, have mercy on us!”

And when He had come into the house, the blind men came to Him. And Jesus said to them, “Do you believe that I am able to do this?”

They said to Him, “Yes, Lord.”

Then He touched their eyes, saying, “According to your faith let it be to you.” And their eyes were opened.

And Jesus sternly warned them, saying, “See that no one knows it.” But when they had departed, they spread the news about Him in all that country.

As they went out, behold, they brought to Him a man, mute and demon-possessed. And when the demon was cast out, the mute spoke. And the multitudes marveled, saying, “It was never seen like this in Israel!”

But the Pharisees said, “He casts out demons by the ruler of the demons.”

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

N.Dep. William Harbison Jr.

Jeanne Denesuk

Ev.Mem. Nicholas Kyuc ('37)

Michael Shendrick ('69)

William Romanchek ('84)

Margaret Lash ('90)

Archpr. George Havrila (2019)

Health & Salv.	Dominic	Joyce
Archpr. Peter	Declan	Galina
Mat. Cynthia	Hudson	Thomas
Archpr. John	Ronald	Diane
Pr. Gregory	Mary Ann	Michael
Mat. Beverly	Dara	Linda
Pr. Patrick	Jaroslava	Stephanie
Mat. Anne	Andrew	Nathan
Mat. Catherine	Andrew	Cindy
Kevin	Vadim	Nathaniel
Jon	Hanna	Tamara
Tanya	Viktor	Dennis
Jovan	Gerald	Maria
Rollie	Christine	Elizabeth
Nadia	Olga	Jonah
Joseph	Janie	Jamie
Linda	Sharon	Kyleigh
Claudia	Tanya	Lauren
Carol	Renee	Kyle
Snezana	Ashton	Susan
Ryan	Michael	Mark
Nathan	Chris	Christopher
Kara	Nina	Betty
Djuro	Carissa	William
Paula	Duane	Jack
Christopher	Elizabeth	Grace
Karen	Olga	Janet
Alexandra	Klaudia	Sarah
Jonathan	Tom	Angela
Christine	Diane	
Zoey	Brandi	

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

Special Petition at the Augmented Litany:

We pray, O Lord our God, for all those who suffer from acts of war, especially 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.



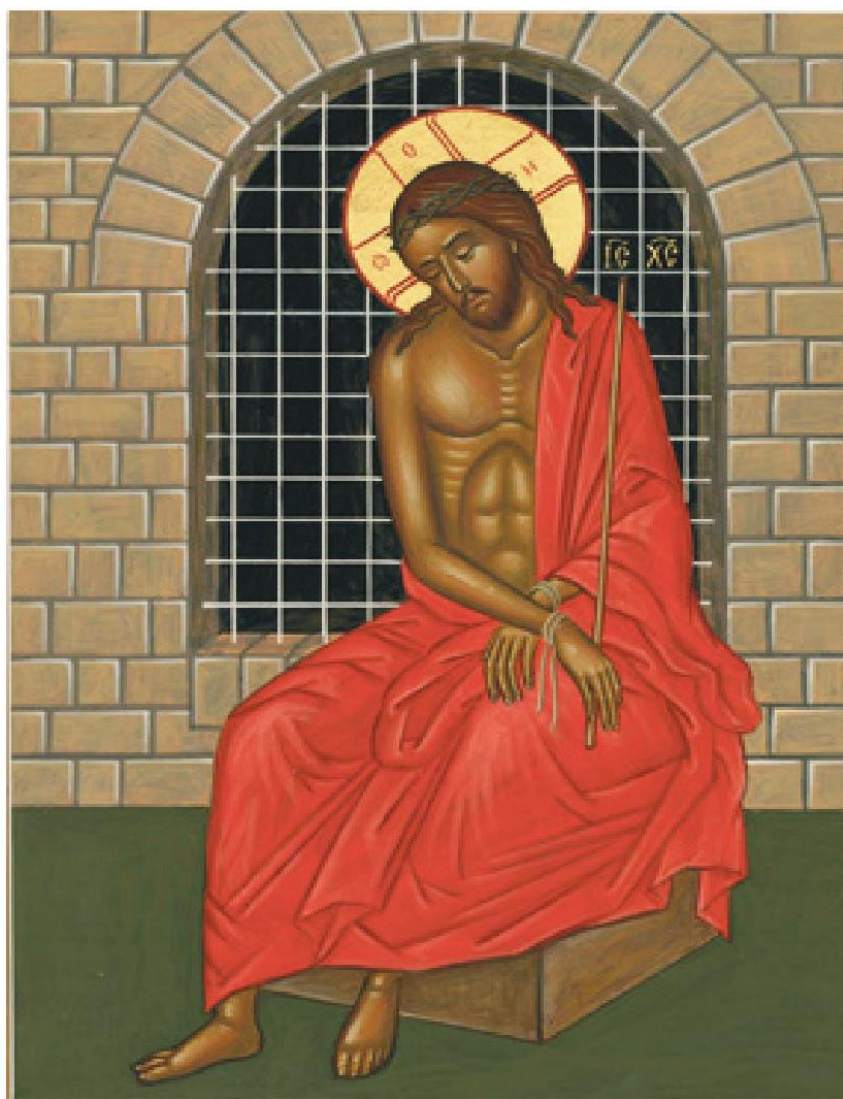
PRISON MINISTRY AWARENESS SUNDAY

JULY 30, 2023

Did you know that there are Orthodox Christians practicing their faith in prison? Or that there are prisoners who are ready to repent of their crimes and embrace the Orthodox Church?

Who will minister to them?

Orthodox Christian Prison Ministry (OCPM) is the national prison ministry of the Orthodox Church. We correspond with thousands of prisoners across the country and provide them with spiritual books, Bibles, icons, and catechism courses. We also train Orthodox priests and laypeople to enter prisons and minister to prisoners.



3,881

TOTAL PRISONERS MINISTERED TO

51,188

BIBLE STUDIES, DAILY READINGS, AND
SPIRITUAL REFLECTIONS SENT IN 2022

*"I was in prison,
and you visited Me."
Matthew 25:36*

Orthodox Christian Prison Ministry
276 5th Avenue, Ste. 704-3183
New York, NY 10001

347-868-6957
info@theocpm.org.

THEOCPM.ORG



ASSEMBLY OF CANONICAL
ORTHODOX BISHOPS
OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

ANNOUNCEMENTS

After venerating the cross, **we will bless vehicles in the parking lot.** Then we will return to the nave to serve the **4-year memorial for Fr. George Havrila.**

For **Bible Study** Monday, read Acts 20-23.

The **Ladies' Sodality** will hold its regular meeting during coffee hour.

Our **new roof has been completed at a final cost of \$89,632.50**, very close to our projected cost of \$90,000. The leaks we experienced a few weeks ago have been corrected by completely redoing the affected areas. **Thank you, everyone**, for your patience, and your financial support, which allowed us to complete this necessary project **without taking on any debt.**

We received this week a **traditional, handmade coffin in Orthodox style**, which is now on display in the hall. Our late brother Tom Mosak ordered it for himself, but unfortunately it was not ready before he passed. Instead of canceling the order, his family decided to give it to the Church. It is now **available to any parishioner** by request, free of charge, for a Church burial.

St Vladimir's Seminary Education Day is being offered for free on Zoom Saturday, August 5, 10am – 4pm. Listen to discussions by Orthodox scholars and ask them your questions on a variety of topics, including Scripture, Church History, current events, and other topics. Details at https://www.svots.edu/events/Education_Day_Online_2023

The Diocese of the Midwest has released its own communications app called **Our Diocese**. It is safe, free of ads or other outside influence, and available at no cost. If you are interested in joining, ask Fr Jacob to send you an invite. More info at our.domoca.org

Mark your calendars:

July 24: **Bible Study @ 7pm**

July 27: **Feast Day Divine Liturgy @ St. Panteleimon Orthodox Church** in Summit, IL @ 10am

July 28: **Red Cross Blood Drive** 12pm – 6pm

July 30: **St. Clement Summer Picnic** after Divine Liturgy

Aug 1: Beginning of the **Dormition Fast** (Aug 1-14)

Aug 2: **Canon of Supplication to the Virgin Mary @ 6pm**

Aug 5: **Festal Vespers for the Feast of Transfiguration @ 6pm**

Aug 6: **Transfiguration of our Lord (Sunday Liturgy)**

Aug 9: **Canon of Supplication to the Virgin Mary @ 6pm**

Aug 14: **Vespers with Lamentations for the Theotokos @ 6pm**

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

Aug 25-26: **Ladies' Sodality Rummage Sale**

Last week's gifts to the Lord: \$10,722

Prison Ministry Awareness Sunday

An appeal from Archbishop Mark of Philadelphia

“Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. It was fitting to make merry and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.” (Luke 15:31-32)

To the Reverend Clergy, Monastics, and Pious Faithful of our Holy Orthodox Church in the United States:

Beloved Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Greetings and blessings to you all!

The Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops of the United States of America has blessed Sunday, July 30, 2023, the feast of St. Silas, the patron saint of prison ministry, as Prison Ministry Awareness Sunday.

In Christ's moving parable of the prodigal son (Luke 15:11-32), we often identify with the son who has run away from his father to spoil his inheritance. And it is right that we see ourselves in him, for who of us hasn't once traded God's infinite blessings for some passing consolation of the world?

Yet, so often, we Orthodox Christians also behave as the older brother. He remained faithful to the father, staying in his house. But when his younger brother returns, we see the true state of his heart: resentment and self-justification.

Though we are repeatedly admonished by Christ not to judge others, there is no community easier to judge than those who have been condemned to a prison sentence. Can we learn to welcome these fellow sinners into our Church communities? Can we take joy in their return to the father's house? Can we learn to see those in prison as our brothers and sisters on their way to the Father?

As the Episcopal Liaison to Orthodox Christian Prison Ministry (OCPM), I place a challenge to you, our faithful in America, and respectfully request that you observe this day of awareness and support Orthodox Christian Prison Ministry. Open your hearts to God's children behind bars. Prepare the fatted calf.

Volunteering with and supporting Orthodox Christian Prison Ministry allows our Church to:

- Provide personalized spiritual care for Orthodox and inquiring men and women in prison through case managers and clergy visitation
- Assist with re-entry for those released from prison back into trained and equipped church communities
- Catechize people in the Orthodox faith and provide them with Bibles, spiritual books, icons, and study courses
- Train Orthodox priests and laypersons to visit and counsel those in prison
- Advocate for correctional facilities around the country to recognize the Orthodox Faith and allow inmates to meet for Holy Liturgical services and to receive the Sacraments.

With much love and thanks in the boundless mercy of Our Lord,

†Mark

Archbishop of Philadelphia and Eastern Pennsylvania (OCA)
Episcopal Liaison to Orthodox Christian Prison Ministry

Glory to God for all things!