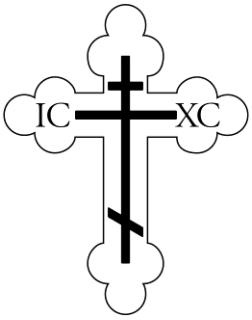
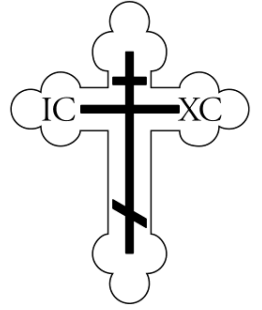


Protection of the Virgin Mary Orthodox Church



Diocese of Chicago
and the Midwest
Orthodox Church
in America



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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.

October 8, 2023

Holy Fathers of the Seventh Ecumenical Council

HYMNS OF THE DAY

Tone 1 – Resurrectional Troparion

When the stone had been sealed by the Jews,
while the soldiers were guarding Your most pure body,
You rose on the third day, O Savior,
granting life to the world.

The powers of heaven therefore cried to You, O Giver of Life:
“Glory to Your Resurrection, O Christ!

Glory to Your Kingdom!//

Glory to Your dispensation, O You who love mankind!”

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 8 – Troparion of the Holy Fathers

You are most glorious, O Christ our God!
You have established the Holy Fathers as lights on the earth.
Through them You have guided us to the true Faith.//
O greatly compassionate One, glory to You!

Tone 1 – Resurrectional Kontakion

As God, You rose from the tomb in glory,
raising the world with Yourself.
Human nature praises You as God, for death has vanished.
Adam exults, O Master!
Eve rejoices, for she is freed from bondage and cries to You://
“You are the Giver of Resurrection to all, O Christ!”

Tone 6 –Kontakion of the Holy Fathers

The Son Who shone forth from the Father
was ineffably born, two-fold in nature, of a woman.
Having beheld Him, we do not deny the image of His form,
but depict it piously and revere it faithfully.
Thus, keeping the True Faith,//
the Church venerates the icon of Christ Incarnate.

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 1 – Sunday Prokeimenon (Psalm 32)

Let Your mercy, O Lord, be upon us / as we have set our hope on You!

Tone 4 – Prokeimenon of the Holy Fathers (Daniel 3)

Blessed are You, O Lord God of our fathers,
and praised and glorified is Your Name forever!

Epistle: 2 Corinthians 9.6-11 (Sunday)

Brethren: This I say: "He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully." So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound toward you, that you, always having all sufficiency in all things, may have an abundance for every good work. As it is written: "He has dispersed abroad, He has given to the poor; His righteousness endures forever."

Now may He who supplies seed to the sower, and bread for food, supply and multiply the seed you have sown and increase the fruits of your righteousness, while you are enriched in everything for all liberality, which causes thanksgiving through us to God.

Hebrews 13.7-16 (Holy Fathers)

Brethren: Remember those who rule over you, who have spoken the word of God to you, whose faith follow, considering the outcome of their conduct. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever. Do not be carried about with various and strange doctrines. For it is good that the heart be established by grace, not with foods which have not profited those who have been occupied with them.

We have an altar from which those who serve the tabernacle have no right to eat. For the bodies of those animals, whose blood is brought into the sanctuary by the high priest for sin, are burned outside the camp. Therefore, Jesus also, that He might sanctify the people with His own blood, suffered outside the gate. Therefore, let us go forth to Him, outside the camp, bearing His reproach. For here we have no continuing city, but we seek the one to come. Therefore, by Him let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to His name. But do not forget to do good and to share, for with such sacrifices God is well pleased.

Gospel: Luke 7.11-16 (Sunday)

At that time, it happened that Jesus went into a city called Nain; and many of His disciples went with Him, and a large crowd. And when He came near the gate of the city, behold, a dead man was being carried out, the only son of his mother; and she was a widow. And a large crowd from the city was with her. When the Lord saw her, He had compassion on her and said to her, "Do not weep." Then He came and touched the open coffin, and those who carried him stood still. And He said, "Young man, I say to you, arise."

So, he who was dead sat up and began to speak. And He presented him to his mother. Then fear came upon all, and they glorified God, saying, “A great prophet has risen up among us”; and, “God has visited His people.”

John 17.1-13 (Holy Fathers)

Jesus spoke these words, lifted up His eyes to heaven, and said: “Father, the hour has come. Glorify Your Son, that Your Son also may glorify You, as You have given Him authority over all flesh, that He should give eternal life to as many as You have given Him. And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent.

“I have glorified You on the earth. I have finished the work which You have given Me to do. And now, O Father, glorify Me together with Yourself, with the glory which I had with You before the world was. I have manifested Your name to the men whom You have given Me out of the world. They were Yours, You gave them to Me, and they have kept Your word. Now they have known that all things which You have given Me are from You.

For I have given to them the words which You have given Me; and they have received them, and have known surely that I came forth from You; and they have believed that You sent Me. I pray for them. I do not pray for the world but for those whom You have given Me, for they are Yours. And all Mine are Yours, and Yours are Mine, and I am glorified in them.

Now I am no longer in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to You. Holy Father, keep through Your name those whom You have given Me, that they may be one as We are. While I was with them in the world, I kept them in Your name. Those whom You gave Me I have kept; and none of them is lost except the son of perdition, that the Scripture might be fulfilled. But now I come to You, and these things I speak in the world, that they may have My joy fulfilled in themselves.

WE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

N.Dep. Walter Korotky
Kimberly Gorseski
Jack Labout
Rachel Boose
Lydia Parkevich
Joseph Spargo

Ev.Mem. Nikolai Alabach ('35)
Ignati Sasim ('46)
John Daniluk ('55)
William Goldie ('69)
Boris Shocaroff ('82)
Eugene Adamczyk (2015)

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

*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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The **anniversary dinner** will follow Liturgy. Tickets are not required, but a freewill offering will be taken for the meal.

For **Bible Study tomorrow**, read Jeremiah 15-20.

On Saturday, November 4, following an early Great Vespers, our parish will host **Sister Vassa Larin**. Sister Vassa is a Russian Orthodox nun and liturgical scholar who lives and teaches in Vienna. She hosts the online catechetical program "Coffee with Sister Vassa." She will speak to us on the topic of her new book, *Praying in Time: The Hours & Days in Step with Orthodox Christian Tradition*. Following her talk, there will be a reception. This event is part of the **Journey to the Christian East lecture series** organized by our own Dn. Nicholas Denysenko through his chair at Valparaiso University.

Mark your calendars:

- Oct 9: **Divine Liturgy for St. Tikhon, Enlightener of North America** at St. Elizabeth's in Chesterton @ 10am
Bible Study @ 7pm
- Oct 12: **Faith Enrichment @ 10am**
- Oct 19: **Women's Group Hike** at the Coffee Creek Watershed @ 4pm
- Oct 21: **Memorial Liturgy at St. Mary's Cemetery @ 10am**
- Oct 27: **Red Cross Blood Drive 12pm-6pm**
- Oct 31: **Divine Liturgy for St. John of Chicago** at Holy Trinity Cathedral, Chicago @ 9:30am
- Nov 4: **Great Vespers @ 4:30pm**
Sister Vassa Larin @ 5:30pm followed by a reception.

Last week's gifts to the Lord: \$3,671

Archpastoral Decree

Of His Eminence, our Archbishop Daniel

*O people, let us hasten to the Virgin Theotokos and Queen,
giving thanks to Christ our God,
And looking upon her miraculous image with contrition,
let us fall down and cry out to her:
O Mary, our Sovereign Lady, who visit this land*

*in the miraculous appearance of thy precious image,
save all the Christians in peace and prosperity,
showing us as heirs of the heavenly life.
For to thee do we cry out with faith:
Rejoice, O Virgin, the salvation of the world!*
(Kontakion, Tone 8)

WHEREAS in the Gospel of Saint Luke, we read of the visitation of the Virgin Mary to her kinswoman Elizabeth immediately after the Annunciation, where Elizabeth greets her with the words: “Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! But why is this granted to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me?” (Luke 1:42-43); and

WHEREAS our Lord Jesus Christ entrusted His Church to the maternal care of His own Mother when, upon the Cross, He spoke to His Beloved Disciple and Apostle John, saying: “Behold your Mother” (John 19:27); and

WHEREAS the Holy Church has always sought the prayers and intercessions of the Mother of its Lord, honored Her as “Blessed Among Women” and venerated her in the Holy Icons; and

WHEREAS the Icon of the Mother of God, the One Who Shows the Way, *of Tikhvin* has been venerated by the faithful throughout the centuries of its recorded history, first in Jerusalem, then in Constantinople, Tikhvin, Riga, the war-torn countries of Europe, and Chicago and the Midwest; and

WHEREAS this venerable and wonderworking Icon was preserved and protected by the ever-memorable Archbishop John of Chicago and the Midwest, and then by his family, most notably the ever-memorable servants of God, Archpriest Sergei and Matushka Alexandra Garklavs, inviting special veneration at Saint Panteleimon Church in Summit Argo, Illinois, at the Cathedral of the Holy Trinity in Chicago, Illinois, and throughout the Diocese of the Midwest; and

WHEREAS in July 2004, after almost five decades in America, the Icon was returned to its Shrine within the Monastery of the Holy Dormition in Tikhvin, Russia; and

WHEREAS an Icon of the Mother of God of Tikhvin, made as a true copy and then blessed upon the original in the Tikhvin Monastery Church, was presented to Holy Trinity Cathedral and the Diocese of the Midwest by His Grace Bishop Mstislav of Tikhvin during the Archpastoral Ministry of the ever-memorable Archbishop Paul; and

WHEREAS this Icon has been enshrined within the Cathedral Church of the Holy Trinity, the Mother Church and Diocesan Cathedral of the Diocese of the Midwest, resulting in an increasing knowledge and veneration to the Mother of God invoked in Her Tikhvin Icon; and

WHEREAS the God-protected Diocese of Chicago and the Midwest continues to be blessed through the presence of the Icon and invites the diocesan Clergy and Faithful and others to prayerfully turn to the Most Pure Mother of God and Ever-Virgin Mary, seeking her prayers and protection, asking her help in times of need and glorifying the All-Holy Trinity and recalling Her own words “My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior” (Luke 1:46-47); and

WHEREAS the Holy Church continues to turn to the Mother of God invoked in Her wonderworking and miraculous Icon, a source of heavenly blessing and graces; and

WHEREAS this love and devotion to the Mother of God *of Tikhvin* is to be cultivated and promoted throughout the Diocese of the Midwest, in its parish and mission communities, and in the hearts of all the Faithful People of God:

I HEREBY PROCLAIM that the Mother of God *of Tikhvin* is to be honored and venerated as the Sovereign Lady, Queen, and Protectress of the Clergy and Faithful of this God-protected Diocese of Chicago and the Midwest.

Given on this fourth day of October in the Year of Our Lord 2023, in the presence of the Clergy and Faithful gathered in solemn assembly in the Church of Saint Peter and Saint Paul Paul, Burr Ridge, Illinois.

May our Most Pure, Most Blessed, and Glorious Lady, the Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary, our Mother and Queen, invoked in her Holy Icon *of Tikhvin*, ever intercede for us before the Throne of Her Son, our Lord, God, and Savior Jesus Christ, to Whom be glory now and forever. Amen.

+DANIEL

Archbishop of Chicago and the Midwest

Glory to God for all things!