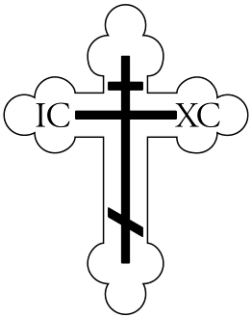


Protection of the Virgin Mary Orthodox Church



Diocese of Chicago
and the Midwest
Orthodox Church
in America



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Merrillville, IN
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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
hall after Divine
Liturgy for coffee hour.

April 13, 2025 The Feast of Palms

Palm Sunday is the celebration of the triumphant entrance of Christ into the royal city of Jerusalem. A large crowd met Him in a manner befitting royalty, waving palm branches and placing their garments in His path. They greeted Him with these words: "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, even the King of Israel! (Jn 12:13).

This day, together with the raising of Lazarus are signs pointing beyond themselves to the mighty deeds and events which consummate Christ's earthly ministry. The time of fulfillment was at hand. Christ's raising of Lazarus points to the destruction of death and the joy of resurrection which will be accessible to all through His own

death and resurrection. His entrance into Jerusalem is a fulfillment of the messianic prophecies about the king who will enter his holy city to establish a final kingdom.

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. (*Refrain*)

The snares of death encompassed me; the pangs of hell laid hold on me. (*Refrain*)

I suffered distress and anguish, so I called on the Name of the Lord. (*Refrain*)

I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living. (*Refrain*)

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

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? (*Refrain*)

I will receive the cup of salvation and call on the Name of the Lord. (*Refrain*)

I will pay my vows to the Lord in the presence of all His people. (*Refrain*)

Glory... now and ever...

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

<p>N.Dep. James Hammang John Hiatt Ev.Mem. Anna Primarchuk ('13) Joseph Wayda ('30)</p>	<p>Alexander Georgieff ('55) Theodore Litwin ('56) Rose Barancyk ('77) Mat. Ann Rozdelsky</p>
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Health & Salv.	Desiree	Karen
Archpr. Peter	Robb	Alisa
Mat. Cynthia	Gerald	Michael
Hierom. John	Janet	Moses
Archpr. Jonathan	Gerald	Helena
Mat. Vera	Rebecca	James
Pr. Patrick	Christopher	Elijah
Pr. Gregory	Brianna	Lydia
Mat. Beverly	Logan	Nina
Mat. Anne	Olga	George
Nun Theodora	Janie	Linda
Brendan	Sharon	Kimberly
Rollie	Tanya	Steven
Claudia	Renee	Jamie
Mary Ann	Ashton	Kyleigh
Raymond	Michael	Lauren
Edward	Chris	Kyle
Charlotte	Nina	Linda
Joseph	Carissa	Denise
Janice	Carol	John
Klaudia	Snezana	Cindy
Maja	Ryan	Ron
Raymond	Nathan	Matthew
Anne	Kara	John

Erin	Jovan	Rosie
Aaron	Michael	Sarah
Marcietta	Abram	Milton
Maria	Zoë	Andrew
Alla	Brenda	Carol
Elizabeth	Lisa	Lidia
Samuel	Mazzy	Daisy
Joseph	Terry	Julie
Dwight	Angie	Dorothy
Renee	Irina	Ann
Dominik	Elizabeth	Michael
Monica	Vitaliy	Jack
Charles	Maria	N.Ill. Joseph
Kimberly	Viktoria	Thomas
Abigail	Rebecca	Modesta
Charles	Pauline	John
Rosemary	Meagan	Mary
Nicholas	Minnie	
Natalie	Richard	

To add the name of a loved one recently departed or on the anniversary of their repose, or someone living and in particular need of prayer, please speak 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, Russia, Israel, and Palestine. 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, hearken 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!"

Communion Hymn

Blessed is He that comes in the Name of the Lord. God is the Lord and has revealed Himself to us. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

After venerating the cross, we will serve the **23-year memorial for Mat. Ann Rozdelsky**.

Thank you to all who worked our **Pascha Bake Sale** this year!

Thank you to all who contributed to the **Easter dinner baskets for the Ross Township food pantry**. The Church School children are loading bags as we speak. Dinners will be delivered tomorrow.

Please review the **Holy Week sign-up board in the Narthex** and sign up to participate in the services. There are opportunities to hold vigil candles during the Passion Gospels, help lead the various processions, and keep vigil by Christ's tomb Friday night.

Next Sunday, after the **Agape Vespers** at 11am, we will have our usual **Egg Hunt** for the children. Then, everyone is invited to the **Paschal Potluck Cookout** from noon to 6pm. Bring something to share. A grill will be available.

The annual **Ladies' Sodality Bright Week Luncheon** will be at Outback Steakhouse on Tuesday, April 22 after Divine Liturgy. Interested new members are encouraged to join them for lunch.

On Friday, April 25, the O-Club will host our annual **Trivia Night Fundraiser for Mommy's Haven** maternity home in Lowell. Tickets are \$25/person at the door or a table of eight for \$180. Pizza, chips, beer, wine, and soda 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, May 31** 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 banquet tickets (\$20 each), please see Rich or Linda Svihra or Lara Richards. Thanks in advance, The Golf Committee.

Mark your calendars:

Apr 13: **Bridegroom Matins at Holy Trinity Cathedral @ 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 @ 7pm

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, followed by Tomb Vigil

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

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

Apr 22: **Bright Tuesday Liturgy @ 10am**

Apr 25: **O-Club Trivia Night for Lowell Women's Shelter @ 6pm**

May 31: **Golf Outing: Golf at Indian Ridge @ 8am, Banquet at parish Hall @ 12pm**

Last Week's Gifts to the Lord: \$4,780

**Glory to God for
all things!**