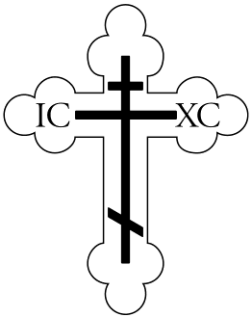


Protection of the Virgin Mary Orthodox Church



Diocese of Chicago
and the Midwest
Orthodox Church
in America



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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.**

June 14, 2026

All Saints of North America

On the second Sunday after Pentecost, each local Orthodox Church commemorates all the saints, known and unknown, who have shone forth in its territory. Accordingly, the Orthodox Church in America remembers the saints of North America on this day. Saints of all times, and in every country are seen as the fulfillment of God's promise to redeem fallen humanity. Their example encourages us to "lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily besets us" and to "run with patience the race that is set before us" (Hebrews 12:1). The saints of North America also teach us how we should live, and what we must expect to endure as Christians

On September 24, 1794, after a journey of 7,327 miles (the longest missionary journey in Orthodox history) and 293 days, a group of monks from Valaam arrived on Kodiak Island in Alaska. The mission was headed by Archimandrite Joasaph, and included Hieromonks Juvenal, Macarius, and Athanasius, the Hierodeacons Nectarius and Stephen, and the monks Herman and Joasaph. Saint Herman of Alaska (December 13, August 9), the last surviving member of the mission, fell asleep in the Lord in 1837.

Throughout the Church's history, the seeds of faith have always been watered by the blood of the martyrs. The Protomartyr Juvenal was killed near Lake Iliamna by natives in 1799, thus becoming the first Orthodox Christian to shed his blood for Christ in the New World. In 1816, Saint Peter the Aleut was put to death by Spanish missionaries in California when he refused to convert to Roman Catholicism.

Missionary efforts continued in the nineteenth century, with outreach to the native peoples of Alaska. Two of the most prominent laborers in Christ's Vineyard were Saint Innocent Veniaminov (March 31 and October 6) and Saint Jacob Netsvetov (July 26), who translated Orthodox services and books into the native languages. Father Jacob Netsvetev died in Sitka in 1864 after a life of devoted service to the Church. Father John Veniaminov, after his wife's death, received monastic tonsure with the name Innocent. He died in 1879 as the Metropolitan of Moscow.

As the nineteenth century was drawing to a close, an event of enormous significance for the North American Church took place. On March 25, 1891, Bishop Vladimir went to Minneapolis to receive Saint Alexis Toth (May 7) and 361 of his parishioners into the Orthodox Church. This was the beginning of the return of many Uniates to Orthodoxy.

Saint Tikhon (Bellavin), the future Patriarch of Moscow (April 7, October 9), came to America as bishop of the diocese of the Aleutians and Alaska in September 1898. As the only Orthodox bishop on the continent, Saint Tikhon traveled extensively throughout North America in order to minister to his widely scattered and diverse flock. He realized that the local church here could not be a permanent extension of the Russian Church. Therefore, he focused his efforts on giving the American Church a diocesan and parish structure which would help it mature and grow. Saint Tikhon returned to Russia in 1907, and was elected as Patriarch of Moscow ten years later. He died in 1925, and for many

years his exact burial place remained unknown. Saint Tikhon's grave was discovered on February 22, 1992 in the smaller cathedral of Our Lady of the Don in the Don Monastery when a fire made renovation of the church necessary.

Saint Raphael of Brooklyn (February 27) was the first Orthodox bishop to be consecrated in North America. Archimandrite Raphael Hawaweeny was consecrated by Bishop Tikhon and Bishop Innocent (Pustynsky) at Saint Nicholas Cathedral in New York on March 13, 1904. As Bishop of Brooklyn, Saint Raphael was a trusted and capable assistant to Saint Tikhon in his archpastoral ministry. Saint Raphael reposed on February 27, 1915.

In the twentieth century, in the aftermath of the Russian Revolution, countless men, women, and children received the crown of martyrdom rather than renounce Christ. Saints John Kochurov (October 31) and Alexander Hotovitzky (December 4 and August 7) both served the Church in North America before going back to Russia. Saint John became the first clergyman to be martyred in Russia on October 31, 1917 in Saint Petersburg. Saint Alexander Hotovitzky, who served in America until 1914, was killed in 1937. In addition to the saints listed above, we also honor those saints who are known only to God, and have not been recognized officially by the Church. As we contemplate the lives of these saints, let us remember that we are also called by God to a life of holiness.



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 8 – Troparion of All Saints of America

As the bountiful harvest of Your sowing of salvation,
the lands of North America offer to You, O Lord, all the saints who
have shone in them.

By their prayers keep the Church and our land in abiding peace
through the Theotokos, O most Merciful One!

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 3 – Kontakion of All Saints

Today the choir of Saints who were pleasing to God in the lands of
North America now stands before us in the Church and invisibly
prays to God for us.

With them the Angels glorify Him,

and all the Saints of the Church of Christ keep festival with them;//

and together they all pray for us to the Pre-eternal God

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 7 – Prokeimenon for All Saints of America (Psalm 115)

Precious in the sight of the Lord / is the death of His saints!

Epistle: Romans 2.10-16 (Sunday)

Brethren: Glory, honor, and peace to everyone who works what is good, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. For there is no partiality with God. For as many as have sinned without law will also perish without law, and as many as have sinned in the law will be judged by the law (for not the hearers of the law are just in the sight of God, but the doers of the law will be justified; for when Gentiles, who do not have the law, by nature do the things in the law, these, although not having the law, are a law to themselves, who show the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and between themselves their thoughts accusing or else excusing them) in the day when God will judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ, according to my gospel.

Hebrews 11.33 – 12.2 (All Saints of America)

Brethren: Through faith, the Saints subdued kingdoms, worked righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, became valiant in battle, turned to flight the armies of the aliens. Women received their dead raised to life again. Others were tortured, not receiving deliverance, that they might obtain a better resurrection. Still others were tried by mocking and scourging, yes, and by chains and imprisonment.

They were stoned; they were sawn in two, were tempted, were slain with the sword. They went about in sheepskins and goatskins, destitute, afflicted, tormented – of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, in dens and caves of the earth. And all these, having obtained a good testimony through faith, did not receive the promise, because God had provided something better for us, that they should not be made perfect apart from us.

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set

before us, looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Gospel: Matthew 4.18-23 (Sunday)

At that time, Jesus, walking by the Sea of Galilee, saw two brothers, Simon called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea; for they were fishermen. Then He said to them, "Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men." They immediately left their nets and followed Him.

Going on from there, He saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets. He called them, and immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed Him. And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all kinds of sickness and all kinds of disease among the people.

Matthew 4.25 – 5.12 (All Saints of America)

Great multitudes followed Him – from Galilee, and from Decapolis, Jerusalem, Judea, and beyond the Jordan. And seeing the multitudes, He went up on a mountain, and when He was seated His disciples came to Him. Then He opened His mouth and taught them, saying: "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be filled. Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God. Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when they revile and persecute you, and say all kinds of evil against you falsely for My sake. Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great is your reward in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

WE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

N.Dep. Michael Heavin
Zach Mlynski
Ljubica Pavleska

Ev. Mem John Dorchov (1916)
Julia Morovoy (1945)
Michael Boblick (1975)
Anastasia Mizerak (1977)

Health & Salv.	Snezana	Charlette
Archpr. Peter	Ryan	Elias
Mat. Cynthia	Nathan	Sara
Hierom. John	Kara	Thomas
Mat. Anne	Sarah	Jarrayd
Valer	Jamie	Kira & unborn
Nun Theodora	Kyleigh	Shaun
Rollie	Lauren	Cecilia
Claudia	Kyle	Rita
Mary Ann	Carolynn	Kenneth
Raymond	Amelia	Alla
Edward	Aaron	Maria
Charlotte	Marcietta	Ethan
Betsy	Charles	Logan
Klaudia	Rosemary	Joseph
Maja	Nicholas	Mamie
Gerald	Natalie	Mary
Janet	Meagan	Kimberly
Gerald	Kimberly	Michael
Rebecca	Stephanie	Anastasia
Christopher	Robin	Michal
Moses	Leonardo	Carlos
Helena	Daniel	Sarah
James	Tiffany	Anika
Elijah	Yelena	Gabriel
Lydia	Anastasia	Kyle
Nina	Christine	Louis
Ezra	Mira	Noni
James	Jaroslava	Erin
Rebecca	Cameron	Melissa
Jesse	Regina	Solomon
Autumn	Matthew	Atlas
James	Cindy	Katharine
John	Aisha	Kalyn & unborn
Jacob	Don	Cody
Carol	Patricia	Heidi

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, Palestine, Iran and the Middle East. 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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

For Bible Study tomorrow read Daniel 3-5.

Free Table at Coffee Hour- Tiffany will have a few tables with free items during coffee hour today!

Thank you to everyone who helped make our annual golf outing a success. Through everyone's efforts the outing is able to contribute \$9,500 to the church funds!

Another big thank you to everyone that came for the outdoor cleanup on Saturday. We had a great turnout and the church grounds look absolutely beautiful!

Mark Your Calendars

June 15: **Bible Study @ 7pm**

June 16: **Parish Council Meeting @ 7pm**

June 18: **Faith Enrichment @ 10am**

June 20: **Catechumen Class @ 4:30pm**

June 29: **Liturgy - Sts Peter & Paul in Burr Ridge @ 9:30am**

June 30: **Men's Breakfast** at Bob Evans in Valpo @ 7:15am

Jun 29-Jul 17: Fr Jacob is on vacation.

Last Week's Gifts to the Lord: \$11,954

Glory to God for all things!