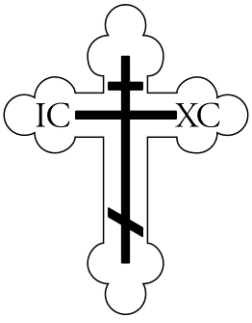
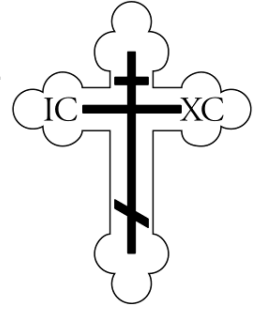


Protection of the Virgin Mary Orthodox Church



Diocese of Chicago
and the Midwest
Orthodox Church
in America



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Merrillville, IN 46410
(219)947-4748
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Rev. Dr. Jacob Van Sickle
(219)384-6826 • frjacobvansickle@gmail.com

Great Vespers: 6pm Saturdays

Divine Liturgy: 10am Sundays

Confession is available after
Vespers or by appointment

Welcome visitors!
Please join us in the
parish hall after Divine
Liturgy for coffee hour.

August 16, 2026

Afterfeast of Dormition

Icon Not-Made-by-Hands

Today Catechumens will remain in the Church

HYMNS OF THE DAY

Tone 2 – Resurrectional Troparion

When You descended to death, O Life Immortal,
You slew hell with the splendor of Your Godhead.
And when from the depths You raised the dead,

all the powers of heaven cried out://
“O Giver of life, Christ our God, glory to You!”

Tone 2 – Troparion for the Icon Not-Made-by-Hands

We venerate Your most pure image, O Good One;
and ask forgiveness of our transgressions, O Christ our God.
Of Your own will You were pleased to ascend the Cross in the flesh
and deliver Your creatures from bondage to the Enemy.
Therefore with thankfulness we cry aloud to You:
“You have filled all with joy, O our Savior,//
by coming to save the world.”

Tone 1 – Troparion for Dormition

In giving birth you preserved your virginity.
In falling asleep you did not forsake the world, O Theotokos.
You were translated to life O Mother of Life,//
and by your prayers you deliver our souls from death.

Tone 2 – Resurrectional Kontakion

Hell became afraid, O almighty Savior,
seeing the miracle of Your Resurrection from the tomb!
The dead arose! Creation, with Adam, beheld this and rejoiced with
You,//
and the world, my Savior, praises You forever.

Tone 2 – Kontakion for the Icon not-made-by-hands

Uncircumscribed Word of the Father,
as we behold the victorious image of Your true incarnation,
not made by hands, but divinely wrought
in Your ineffable and divine dispensation towards us,//
we honor it with veneration.

Tone 2 – Kontakion for Dormition

Neither the tomb, nor death, could hold the Theotokos,
who is constant in prayer and our firm hope in her intercessions.
For being the Mother of Life,//
she was translated to life by the One Who dwelt in her virginal womb.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Tone 2 – Sunday Prokeimenon (Psalm 117)

The Lord is my strength and my song; / He has become my salvation.

Tone 4 – Prokeimenon for the Icon Not-Made-by-Hands (Psalm 97)

Sing to the Lord a new song / for the Lord has done marvelous things!

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 9.2-12

Brethren, If I am not an apostle to others, yet doubtless I am to you. For you are the seal of my apostleship in the Lord. My defense to those who examine me is this: Do we have no right to eat and drink? Do we have no right to take along a believing wife, as do also the other apostles, the brothers of the Lord, and Cephas? Or is it only Barnabas and I who have no right to refrain from working?

Who ever goes to war at his own expense? Who plants a vineyard and does not eat of its fruit? Or who tends a flock and does not drink of the milk of the flock? Do I say these things as a mere man? Or does not the law say the same also? For it is written in the law of Moses, “You shall not muzzle an ox while it treads out the grain.”

Is it oxen God is concerned about? Or does He say it altogether for our sakes? For our sakes, no doubt, this is written, that he who plows should plow in hope, and he who threshes in hope should be partaker of his hope. If we have sown spiritual things for you, is it a great thing if we reap your material things? If others are partakers of this right over you, are we not even more? Nevertheless, we have not used this right but endure all things lest we hinder the gospel of Christ.

Colossians 1.12-18 (Icon Not-Made-by-Hands)

Brethren: We give thanks to the Father, who has qualified us to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in the light. He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love, in whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins.

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him. And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist. And He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things He may have the preeminence.

Gospel: Matthew 18.23-25

The Lord spoke this parable: “Therefore the kingdom of heaven is like a certain king who wanted to settle accounts with his

servants. And when he had begun to settle accounts, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents. But as he was not able to pay, his master commanded that he be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and that payment be made.

“The servant therefore fell down before him, saying, ‘Master, have patience with me, and I will pay you all.’ Then the master of that servant was moved with compassion, released him, and forgave him the debt.

“But that servant went out and found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii; and he laid hands on him and took him by the throat, saying, ‘Pay me what you owe!’

“So, his fellow servant fell down at his feet and begged him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you all.’ And he would not, but went and threw him into prison till he should pay the debt.

“So, when his fellow servants saw what had been done, they were very grieved and came and told their master all that had been done.

“Then his master, after he had called him, said to him, ‘You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you begged me. Should you not also have had compassion on your fellow servant, just as I had pity on you?’ And his master was angry and delivered him to the torturers until he should pay all that was due to him.

So, My heavenly Father also will do to you if each of you, from his heart, does not forgive his brother his trespasses.”

Luke 9.51-56; 10.22-24 (Icon Not-Made-by-Hands)

Now it came to pass, when the time had come for Jesus to be received up, that He steadfastly set His face to go to Jerusalem, and sent messengers before His face. And as they went, they entered a village of the Samaritans, to prepare for Him. But they did not receive Him, because His face was set for the journey to Jerusalem. And when His disciples James and John saw this, they said, “Lord, do You want us to command fire to come down from heaven and consume them, just as Elijah did?”

But He turned and rebuked them, and said, “You do not know what manner of spirit you are of. For the Son of Man did not come to destroy men’s lives but to save them.”

“All things have been delivered to Me by My Father, and no one knows who the Son is except the Father, and who the Father is except the Son, and the one to whom the Son wills to reveal Him.”

Then He turned to His disciples and said privately, “Blessed are the eyes which see the things you see; for I tell you that many

prophets and kings have desired to see what you see, and have not seen it, and to hear what you hear, and have not heard it.”

WE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

N.Dep. Priest John Charest	Ev. Mem. Milan Dimitrovich (’13)
Archpr. Howard Sloan	Paul Golovchuk (1925)
Elias Ponziano	Alexandra Bernadsky (1941)
Lisa Marie Exl	George Kolustoff (1964)
	Helena Gruszyk (1999)

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

Solomon	Natalie	Ilona-Maria
Atlas	Vickie	Katerina
Katharine	Rhonda	Nadia
Cody	Doug	Derek
Heidi	Terri	Miranda & unborn
Mary Ann	Irina	Lidia
Elizabeth	Victoria	Abigail & unborn
Don	Cyan	Colin
Michelle	Vitaly	

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.

Instead of *It is Truly Meet...*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- After venerating the cross we will serve the **27-year memorial for Helena Gruszyk**.
- We have a free festal meal at coffee hour today. **Ladies’ Sodality will sell ice cream**. \$5/scoop with choice of toppings or root beer float. Proceeds will go toward **new robes for the altar boys**.
- The **Outreach Club** will hold its monthly meeting during coffee hour.
- For **Bible Study tomorrow**, read Proverbs 1-5.
- As the region continues to recover from Tuesday’s storm, **we have parishioners offering help of various kinds** to those in need. If you need a place to shower, to plug in devices, to sleep, or if you need help clearing fallen timber, volunteers are available. **Please ask for help** if you could use it!

PTVM O-Club has organized an **August Diaper Drive** to support the work of Women's Care Center in Hammond. Sizes 5 and 6 are their biggest need. Collection ends August 30. Thank you!

Feeding the Flock Luncheon and Fundraiser tickets for September 26 are available. Janet Andrus will be selling both luncheon and 50/50 raffle tickets at Coffee Hour. **Luncheon Tickets:** \$45 per person and **50/50 Raffle Tickets:** \$1 each or 6 for \$5. Note that the date has been changed from September 19 to 26. See Janet if you need a refund.

Mark Your Calendars

Aug 17: **Bible Study @ 7pm**

Aug 18: **Parish Council @ 7pm**

Aug 22: **Catechism with Fr Jacob @ 4:30pm** – childcare provided

Aug 30: **Sunday School Parent/Teacher Meeting** during coffee hour

Sept 7: **Vigil for the Nativity of the Theotokos @ 6pm**

Sept 8: **Divine Liturgy for the Nativity of the Theotokos @ 9am**

Sept 13: **First Day of Church School**

Oct 3 & 4: **Archbishop Daniel pastoral visit to PTVM, with Diaconal Ordination of Daniel O-Day at Divine Liturgy**

Last Week's Gifts to the Lord: \$2,112

**Glory to God for
all things!**