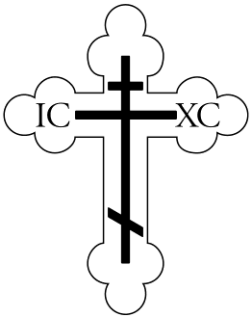
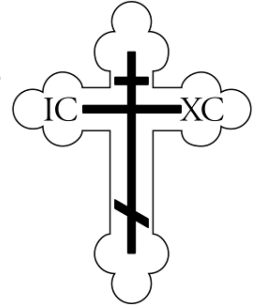


Protection of the Virgin Mary Orthodox Church



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 after
Vespers or by appointment

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

September 6, 2026

Miracle of the Archangel Michael at Colossae

In Phrygia, not far from the city of Hieropolis, in a place called Cheretopos, there was a church named for the Archangel Michael, built over a miraculous spring.

This church was built by a certain inhabitant of the city of Laodicia in gratitude to God for healing his mute daughter. The holy Archangel Michael appeared to this man in a dream and revealed to him that his daughter would receive the gift of speech after drinking from the water of the spring. The girl actually did receive healing and began to speak. After this miracle, the father and his daughter and all their family were baptized. In fervent gratitude, the father built the church in honor of the holy Chief Commander Michael. Not

only did Christians begin to come to the spring for healing, but also pagans. In so doing, many of the pagans turned from their idols and were converted to the faith in Christ.

At this church of the holy Archangel Michael, a certain pious man by the name of Archippus served for sixty years as rector. By his preaching the example of his saintly life he brought many pagans to faith in Christ. With the general malice of that time towards Christians, and especially against Archippus, the pagans thought to destroy the church in order to prevent people from coming to that holy place of healing, and at the same time kill Archippus.

Toward this end they made a confluence of the Lykokaperos and Kufos Rivers and directed its combined flow against the church. St Archippus prayed fervently to the Chief Commander Michael to ward off the danger. Through his prayer the Archangel Michael appeared at the temple, and with a blow of his staff, opened a wide fissure in a rock and commanded the rushing torrents of water to flow into it. The temple remained unharmed. Seeing such an awesome miracle, the pagans fled in terror. Archippus and the Christians gathered in church glorified God and gave thanks to the holy Archangel Michael for his help.

Today Catechumens will depart for class in the hall when dismissed.

HYMNS OF THE DAY

Tone 5 – Resurrectional Troparion

Let us, the faithful, praise and worship the Word,
co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit,
born for our salvation from the Virgin;
for He willed to be lifted up on the Cross in the flesh,
to endure death,
and to raise the dead//
by His glorious Resurrection.

Tone 4 – Patronal Troparion

Today the faithful celebrate the feast with joy,
illumined 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 4 – Troparion to the Archangel Michael

O Michael, commander of the heavenly hosts,
we who are unworthy beseech you:
by your prayers encompass us beneath the wings of your
immaterial glory,
and faithfully preserve us who fall down and cry out to you://
“Deliver us from all harm, for you are the commander of the Powers
on high!”

Tone 5 – Resurrectional Kontakion

You descended into hell, O my Savior,
shattering its gates as Almighty,
resurrecting the dead as Creator,
and destroying the sting of death.
You have delivered Adam from the curse, O Lover of man, //
and we cry to You: “O Lord, save us!”

Tone 2 – Kontakion to the Archangel Michael

O Michael, commander of God’s armies
and minister of the divine glory,
prince of the bodiless angels
and guide of mankind;
ask for what is good for us, and for great mercy, //
as the supreme commander of the Bodiless Hosts.

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 5 – Sunday Prokeimenon (Psalm 11)

You, O Lord, shall protect us
and preserve us from this generation forever.

Epistle: 2 Corinthians 1.21-2.4

Brethren: He who establishes us with you in Christ and has
anointed us is God, who also has sealed us and given us the Spirit in
our hearts as a guarantee. Moreover, I call God as witness against
my soul, that to spare you I came no more to Corinth. Not that we
have dominion over your faith, but are fellow workers for your joy;

for by faith you stand. But I determined this within myself, that I would not come again to you in sorrow. For if I make you sorrowful, then who is he who makes me glad but the one who is made sorrowful by me? And I wrote this very thing to you, lest, when I came, I should have sorrow over those from whom I ought to have joy, having confidence in you all that my joy is the joy of you all. For out of much affliction and anguish of heart I wrote to you, with many tears, not that you should be grieved, but that you might know the love which I have so abundantly for you.

Gospel: Matthew 22.1-14

Jesus answered and spoke to them again by parables and said: “The kingdom of heaven is like a certain king who arranged a marriage for his son and sent out his servants to call those who were invited to the wedding; and they were not willing to come. Again, he sent out other servants, saying, ‘Tell those who are invited, ‘See, I have prepared my dinner; my oxen and fatted cattle are killed, and all things are ready. Come to the wedding.’”

“But they made light of it and went their ways, one to his own farm, another to his business. And the rest seized his servants, treated them spitefully, and killed them. But when the king heard about it, he was furious. And he sent out his armies, destroyed those murderers, and burned up their city. Then he said to his servants, ‘The wedding is ready, but those who were invited were not worthy. Therefore, go into the highways, and as many as you find, invite to the wedding.’

“So, those servants went out into the highways and gathered together all whom they found, both bad and good. And the wedding hall was filled with guests. But when the king came in to see the guests, he saw a man there who did not have on a wedding garment. So, he said to him, ‘Friend, how did you come in here without a wedding garment?’ And he was speechless.

“Then the king said to the servants, ‘Bind him hand and foot, take him away, and cast him into outer darkness; there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ For many are called, but few are chosen.”

WE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

N.Dep. John Ely

Natalie Orloff

Priest John Charest

Archpr. Howard Sloan

Ev. Mem.

Angelina Stephanov (1919)

Ilia Stefanoff (1936)

Nicholas Odinson (1954)

Health & Salv.	Jamie	Michal
Archpr. Peter	Kyleigh	Carlos
Mat. Cynthia	Lauren	Sarah
Hierom. John	Kyle	Anika
Mat. Anne	Carolynn	Gabriel
Valer	Amelia	Kyle
Nun Theodora	Aaron	Louis
Claudia	Marcietta	Noni
Mary Ann	Charles	Erin
Raymond	Rosemary	Melissa
Edward	Nicholas	Solomon
Charlotte	Meagan	Atlas
Betsy	Stephanie	Katharine
Klaudia	Robin	Cody
Maja	Leonardo	Heidi
Gerald	Yelena	Mary Ann
Janet	Anastasia	Elizabeth
Gerald	Christine	Don
Rebecca	Jaroslava	Michelle
Christopher	Cameron	Natalie
Moses	Regina	Vickie
Helena	Matthew	Rhonda
James	Cindy	Doug
Elijah	Patricia	Terri
Lydia	Charlette	Irina
Nina	Sara	Victoria
Ezra	Thomas	Cyan
James	Cecilia & unborn	Vitaly
Rebecca	Rita	Ilona-Maria
Jesse	Kenneth	Katerina
Autumn	Alla	Nadia
James	Maria	Derek
John	Ethan	Miranda & unborn
Jacob	Logan	Lidia
Carol	Joseph	Abigail & unborn
Snezana	Mamie	Colin
Ryan	Mary	Gladiola
Nathan	Kimberly	Angelia
Kara	Michael	Charlotte
Sarah	Anastasia	Caitlin

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 Petitions 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.

O Lord our Savior, bless us, Your entreating people, with an increase in vocations to the priestly order and the monastic life in service of Your holy Church, we pray You, hearken and have mercy.

O Lord, who love mankind, protect and preserve in holiness those who have responded to Your call to service in Your Church and who have given themselves to Your Gospel, we pray You, hearken and have mercy.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Church School sign-ups for the 2026-2027 school year are open online. Links are available on our website, the PTVM Facebook page, and in the Band app. We need everyone registered by the end of today.



There is no **Bible Study tomorrow**, since we will be celebrating **Vigil for the Nativity of the Theotokos**.

The annual **Support Our Seminarians** month in the Diocese of the Midwest has begun with the blessing of His Eminence Archbishop Daniel, who calls upon the faithful to support our diocesan seminarians. All donations from parishes as well as individuals—culminating in “SOS Sunday” on September 27—will be distributed directly to the seminarians to offset the cost of their educational and living expenses.

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.

Our parish feast, the **Protection of the Virgin Mary**, is October 1. We will serve **Festal Vespers Wednesday at 6pm** and **Divine Liturgy at 9am Thursday** with local clergy concelebrating. There will be a festive reception after each service.

Archbishop Daniel's Pastoral Visit Schedule

Saturday, October 3

4pm Children's Q&A with the bishop
5pm Great Vespers with Lity
6pm Wine & Appetizer Reception

Sunday, October 4

9:30am Greeting & Vesting the Archbishop
10am Divine Liturgy with Diaconal Ordination
12pm Anniversary Banquet

Mark Your Calendars

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

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

Sept 10: **Faith Enrichment @ 10am**

Sept 13: **First Day of Church School / Back to School Bash**

Sept 18: **Blood Drive 11-5pm in the church hall.**

Sept 30: **Festal Vespers for the Protection of the Virgin Mary @ 6pm**

Oct 1: **Divine Liturgy for the Protection of the Virgin Mary @ 9am**

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: \$4,516

Support our Seminarians Appeal of His Eminence, our Archbishop Daniel

Beloved Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As we begin our annual Support Our Seminarians appeal, I invite you to join parishes, church organizations, and individuals throughout the Diocese of the Midwest in investing in the future of ministry in the Church.

This year, our Diocese has been blessed with **fourteen seminarians**. These men, our sons and brothers, are studying at Saint Tikhon Theological Seminary in South Canaan, PA or Saint Vladimir Orthodox Theological Seminary in Crestwood, NY. Six are

new students just beginning their seminary careers, eight are returning to continue their theological studies and priestly formation. (See their photos and biographies on our diocesan website: domoca.org) These seminarians and their families are your fellow parishioners and friends from throughout the Diocese of the Midwest. They have made significant sacrifices in moving to the seminaries where they are now preparing themselves for a life of service to God and His people. Along with their families, they are making sacrifices and embracing the call to prepare for future ministry. Their formation requires not only education and spiritual development, but also significant financial resources.

I ask you to prayerfully consider supporting our seminarians in two important ways: **spiritually and financially**.

Your prayers are an essential source of strength and encouragement as these men discern and prepare to serve the Church. In addition to this annual “SOS” appeal, I also encourage **parishes, parish organizations, families, and individuals** to contribute financially toward their formation and educational needs throughout the year and whenever possible.

Each parish and mission of the Diocese of the Midwest is called upon to either take a special collection, hold a fundraising event, or direct funds from the parish budget in order to contribute to this annual diocesan-wide effort.

Every gift, regardless of size, makes a meaningful difference. Your generosity helps provide the resources our seminarians need as they continue their journey toward future ministry. By supporting them today, you are helping build a stronger future for our Church and ensuring that they are prepared to serve God and His people with faith, compassion, and dedication.

I sincerely thank you for your prayers, generosity, and continued commitment to the theological education and formation of our seminarians. May God bless you abundantly for your support and for the significant role you play in preparing the next generation of priests.

With gratitude for your generous support, I remain

Your Father in Christ,

DANIEL

Archbishop of Chicago and the Midwest

Glory to God for all things!