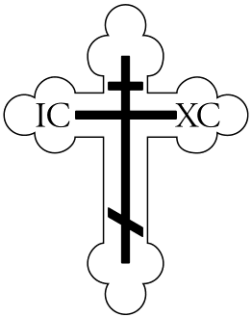
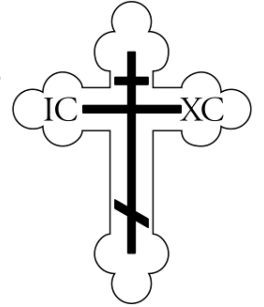


Protection of the Virgin Mary Orthodox Church



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 after
Vespers or by appointment

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

October 18, 2026

Holy Apostle and Evangelist Luke

Catechumens will remain in the Church today.

The Holy Apostle and Evangelist Luke, was a native of Syrian Antioch, a companion of the holy Apostle Paul, and a physician educated in the Greek medical arts. Hearing about Christ, Luke arrived in Palestine and fervently accepted the preaching of salvation from the Lord Himself. As one of the Seventy Apostles, Saint Luke was sent by the Lord with the others to preach the Kingdom of Heaven during the Savior's earthly life. After the Resurrection, the Lord Jesus Christ appeared to Saints Luke and Cleopas on the road to Emmaus.

Luke accompanied Saint Paul on his second missionary journey, and from that time they were inseparable. When Paul's coworkers had forsaken him, only Luke remained to assist him in his ministry (2 Tim. 4:10-11). After the martyric death of the First-Ranked Apostles Peter and Paul, Saint Luke left Rome to preach in Achaia, Libya, Egypt and the Thebaid. He ended his life by suffering martyrdom in the city of Thebes.

THE ORDER OF THE BAPTISMAL LITURGY

*We begin in the nave with the Making of a Catechumen, then process into the nave and begin Divine Liturgy. The **baptismal waters** are blessed, the initiate is anointed with the **Oil of Gladness**, then **baptized**. He is given his baptismal garment as we sing:*

Tone 8 – Troparion of Vesting

Grant unto me the robe of light,
O Most Merciful Christ our God,
who clothe Yoursel with light as with a garment!

*Then the **Beatitudes** with the **Little Entrance**. We sing the **Hymns of the Day** while the initiate finishes dressing.*

HYMNS OF THE DAY

Tone 3 – Resurrectional Troparion

Let the heavens rejoice!
Let the earth be glad!
For the Lord has shown strength with His arm.
He has trampled down death by death.
He has become the first born of the dead.
He has delivered us from the depths of hell,
and has granted to the world//
great mercy.

Tone 5 – Troparion for the Holy Apostle Luke

Let us praise with sacred songs the holy Apostle Luke,
the recorder of the joyous Gospel of Christ
and the scribe of the Acts of the Apostles;
for his writings are a testimony of the Church of Christ.
He is the physician of human weaknesses and infirmities.
He heals the wounds of our souls,//
and constantly intercedes for our salvation.

Tone 3 – Resurrectional Kontakion

On this day You rose from the tomb, O Merciful One,
leading us from the gates of death.

On this day Adam exults as Eve rejoices;
with the Prophets and Patriarchs//
they unceasingly praise the divine majesty of Your power.

Tone 2 – Kontakion for Apostle Luke

Let us praise the godly Luke;
he is the true preacher of piety,
the orator of ineffable mysteries
and the star of the Church,
for the Word, Who alone knows the hearts of men,//
chose him, with the wise Paul, to be a teacher of the Gentiles!

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.

*The initiate is anointed with **Holy Chrism**. Then the priest leads a
procession around the baptismal font as we sing:*

Instead of the Trisagion:

As many as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ: Alleluia!

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Tone 3 – Sunday Prokeimenon (Psalm 46)

Sing praises to our God, sing praises!
Sing praises to our King, sing praises!

Tone 8 – Prokeimenon for Apostle Luke (Psalm 18)

Their proclamation has gone out into all the earth,
and their words to the ends of the universe

Epistle: Galatians 1.11-19 (Sunday)

Brethren: I make known to you that the gospel which was
preached by me is not according to man. For I neither received it
from man, nor was I taught it, but it came through the revelation of
Jesus Christ. For you have heard of my former conduct in Judaism,

how I persecuted the church of God beyond measure and tried to destroy it. And I advanced in Judaism beyond many of my contemporaries in my own nation, being more exceedingly zealous for the traditions of my fathers. But when it pleased God, who separated me from my mother's womb and called me through His grace, to reveal His Son in me, that I might preach Him among the Gentiles, I did not immediately confer with flesh and blood, nor did I go up to Jerusalem to those who were apostles before me; but I went to Arabia, and returned again to Damascus. Then after three years I went up to Jerusalem to see Peter, and remained with him fifteen days. But I saw none of the other apostles except James, the Lord's brother.

Colossians 4.5-9, 14, 18 (Apostle Luke)

Brethren: Walk in wisdom toward those who are outside, redeeming the time. Let your speech always be with grace, seasoned with salt, that you may know how you ought to answer each one. Tychicus, a beloved brother, faithful minister, and fellow servant in the Lord, will tell you all the news about me. I am sending him to you for this very purpose, that he may know your circumstances and comfort your hearts, with Onesimus, a faithful and beloved brother, who is one of you. They will make known to you all things which are happening here.

Luke the beloved physician and Demas greet you. This salutation by my own hand – Paul. Remember my chains. Grace be with you. Amen.

Romans 6.3-11 (Baptism)

Brethren: Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? We were buried, therefore, with Him by baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.

For if we have been united with Him in a death like His, we shall certainly be united with Him in a resurrection like His. We know that our old self was crucified with Him, so that the sinful body might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin. For He who has died is freed from sin. But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Him. For we know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over Him. The death He died, He died to sin once for all, but the life He lives, He lives to God. So, you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

Gospel: Luke 8.5-15 (Sunday)

Jesus spoke this parable: “A sower went out to sow his seed. And as he sowed, some fell by the wayside; and it was trampled down, and the birds of the air devoured it. Some fell on rock; and as soon as it sprang up, it withered away because it lacked moisture. And some fell among thorns, and the thorns sprang up with it and choked it. But others fell on good ground, sprang up, and yielded a crop a hundredfold.” When He had said these things He cried, “He who has ears to hear, let him hear!”

Then His disciples asked Him, saying, “What does this parable mean?”

And He said, “To you it has been given to know the mysteries of the kingdom of God, but to the rest it is given in parables, that ‘Seeing they may not see, and hearing they may not understand.’ Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God. Those by the wayside are the ones who hear; then the devil comes and takes away the word out of their hearts, lest they should believe and be saved. But the ones on the rock are those who, when they hear, receive the word with joy; and these have no root, who believe for a while and in time of temptation fall away. Now the ones that fell among thorns are those who, when they have heard, go out and are choked with cares, riches, and pleasures of life, and bring no fruit to maturity. But the ones that fell on the good ground are those who, having heard the word with a noble and good heart, keep it and bear fruit with patience.”

Luke 10.16-21 (St. Luke)

Jesus said to His disciples: “He who hears you hears Me, he who rejects you rejects Me, and he who rejects Me rejects Him who sent Me.”

Then the seventy returned with joy, saying, “Lord, even the demons are subject to us in Your name.”

And He said to them, “I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. Behold, I give you the authority to trample on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you. Nevertheless, do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rather rejoice because your names are written in heaven.”

In that hour Jesus rejoiced in the Spirit and said, “I thank You, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that You have hidden these things from the wise and prudent and revealed them to babes. Even so, Father, for so it seemed good in Your sight.”

Matthew 28.16-20 (Baptism)

At that time, the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. And when they saw Him, they worshiped Him; but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you; and behold, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”

WE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

N.Dep. Elizabeth Stanko	Stephen Nedelkoff ('18)
Mary Ann Witek	Stephen Skirpan ('47)
Archpr. Peter Bodnar	Elizabeth Cherok ('82)
Ev. Mem. Stephen Izvetkoff ('15)	Simeon Tanaskoski (2025)

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

Gabriel	Natalie	Colin
Kyle	Vickie	Gladiola
Louis	Rhonda	Angelia
Noni	Irina	Charlotte
Erin	Victoria	Kaitlin
Melissa	Cyan	Jackson
Solomon	Vitaly	Olga
Atlas	Ilona-Maria	Sergei
Katharine	Katerina	Jana
Cody	Nadia	Sherry
Heidi	Derek	Veronica
Elizabeth	Miranda & unborn	Miriana
Don	Lidia	Charlie
Michelle	Abigail & unborn	

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.

*At “Blessed be the name of the Lord...” the newly-illuminated comes forward with her sponsors to receive **Ablution** and **Tonsure**.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

For Bible Study tomorrow, read Proverbs 25-28.

Our Annual Winter Coat Drive starts today and runs through Sunday, November 20. Coats, hats, & gloves will be delivered to **Hilltop Neighborhood House** in Valparaiso.

Young Families from the parish are welcome to join a group at the County Line Orchard this Friday, October 23 @ 11:30am. Let Lindsay Bohl or Carissa Pappas know if you would like to attend.

The **Chili cookoff** is next Sunday. Fire up your favorite recipe and sign up in the narthex. Prizes will be awarded to the top three chefs!

The **Parish Directory** will be reprinted in November. Contact Mary Morsovillo by next Sunday to change to your listing, or to be added.

Gals' Night Out November 5 at Asparagus restaurant in Merrillville.
RSVP by Nov 3.

Book Store Pre-Order for Christmas cards. Please see Tiffany if you will be ordering Christmas Cards from the bookstore this year (10 pack is \$15).

Mark Your Calendars

Oct 19: Bible Study @ 7pm

Oct 23: Parish Feast Liturgy at St. Iakovos in Valparaiso @ 10am
Young Family Meet Up at County Line Orchard @ 11:30am

Oct 24: Memorial Saturday Panikhida at PTVM cemetery @ 10am

Oct 30: Vigil for St. John of Chicago at Holy Trinity Cathedral @ 6pm

Oct 31: Divine Liturgy for St. John of Chicago at Holy Trinity Cathedral @ 9:30am

Nov 5: Gals' Night Out at Asparagus in Merrillville @ 5:30pm

Last Week's Gifts to the Lord: \$2718

A Message from Fr. Dn. Daniel

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

It was wonderful celebrating our parish feast day with His Eminence, Archbishop Daniel. Thank you to everyone who made the day so special: those who cleaned and decorated the church, prepared the reception and luncheon, sang in the choir, served in the altar, and worked behind the scenes to welcome our guests. Your labor of love made it a true celebration for our parish family.

Thank you also for the love you showed my family and me at my ordination. To everyone who contributed to the vestment fund, signed the card, or wrote a personal note: your generosity humbles me. Once my vestments are made, your support will be evident at every Liturgy I serve.

Most of all, thank you for your prayers. If you saw me wrestling with my orarion the following Sunday, you already know why I'm asking you to keep praying for me. I clearly need it. You are in my prayers as well.

With gratitude and love in Christ,

Dn. Dan(iel)