# Protection of the Virgin Mary

Orthodox Church (ic

A Parish of the Diocese of Chicago and the Midwest Orthodox Church in America



8600 Grand Blvd. Merrillville, IN 46410 (219)947-4748 Hall: (219)730-4698 www.ptvm.com

Rev. Dr. Jacob Van Sickle (219)384-6826 • frjacobvansickle@gmail.com

Great Vespers: 6pm Saturdays

Divine Liturgy: 10am Sundays

Confessions are heard before or after Vespers or by appointment.

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

# June 30, 2019 All Saints of 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" (Heb 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, a group of monks from Valaam arrived on Kodiak Island in Alaska. St Herman of Alaska, the

last surviving member of the mission, fell asleep in the Lord in 1837. The Protomartyr Juvenal was killed near Lake Iliamna by natives in 1799, becoming the first Orthodox Christian to shed his blood for Christ in the New World. In 1816, St Peter the Aleut was put to death by Spanish missionaries in California when he refused to convert to Roman Catholicism. Two of the most prominent laborers in Christ's Vineyard were St Innocent and St Jacob Netsvetov, who translated Orthodox services and books into the native languages. Fr Jacob Netsvetev died in Sitka in 1864 after a life of devoted service to the Church. Fr John Veniaminov, after his wife's death, received monastic tonsure with the name Innocent. He died in 1879 as the Metropolitan of Moscow. On March 25, 1891, St Alexis Toth and 361 of his parishioners were received into the Orthodox Church. St Tikhon, the future Patriarch of Moscow, came to America as bishop of the diocese of the Aleutians and Alaska in September 1898. St Raphael of Brooklyn was the first Orthodox bishop to be consecrated in North America. Sts John Kochurov and Alexander Hotovitzky both served as priests in North America before suffering martyrdom at the hands of the Communists.

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 <u>stone</u> had been sealed by the <u>Jews</u>, while the soldiers were guarding Your most pure <u>bo</u>dy, You <u>rose</u> on the third day, O <u>Sa</u>vior, granting <u>life</u> to the world.

The <u>pow</u>ers of heaven therefore cried to You, O <u>Giv</u>er of Life: "Glory to Your Resur<u>rec</u>tion, O Christ!

Glory to Your Kingdom!//

Glory to Your dispensation, O You who love mankind!"

#### **Tone 4 – Patronal Troparion**

Today the faithful celebrate the <u>feast</u> with joy, il<u>lum</u>ined by your coming, O <u>Mo</u>ther 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 8 - Troparion for All Saints of America

As the <u>boun</u>tiful <u>har</u>vest of Your <u>sow</u>ing of sal<u>va</u>tion, the lands of North A<u>mer</u>ica <u>of</u>fer to You, O Lord, all the saints who have <u>shone</u> in them.

By their <u>prayers</u> keep the <u>Church</u> and our <u>land</u> in a<u>bid</u>ing peace through the Theo<u>to</u>kos, O most <u>Mer</u>ciful One!

#### Tone 1 – Resurrectional Kontakion

As <u>God</u>, You rose from the tomb in <u>glo</u>ry, raising the <u>world</u> 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 <u>cries</u> to You:// "You are the Giver of Resurrection to <u>all</u>, O Christ!"

### Tone 3 - Kontakion of All Saints of America

Today the <u>choir</u> of Saints who were pleasing to God in the lands of North A<u>mer</u>ica

now stands before us in the Church and invisibly prays to <u>God</u> for us.

With them the <u>Ang</u>els <u>glo</u>rify Him, and all the Saints of the Church of Christ keep <u>fes</u>tival with them; and together they all pray for <u>us</u> to the Pre-e<u>ter</u>nal God.

#### Tone 3 - Patronal Kontakion

Today the Virgin stands in the midst <u>of</u> the Church, And with choirs of saints she invisibly prays to <u>God</u> for us. Angels and bishops <u>wor</u>ship.

Apostles and prophets rejoice together,//

Since for our sake she prays to the eternal God.

# **SCRIPTURE READINGS**

# Epistle: Romans 2.10-16

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

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, 25-5.12

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.

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. Mat. Charlotte Conjelko

Michael Pachapa

Ev.Mem. Vuya Bakich ('16)

Michael Kadashov ('14)

John Skaluk ('45)

Peter Kuwaski ('52)

Serge Zochalski ('54) Dimitry Vasileff ('57)

Teresa Kulick ('59)

Samuel Radivan ('75)

**Anatol Meuch** 

Tassia Kovech

**Health & Salvation:** Carol Melissa

Protopr. George Tom Jonathan

Mat. Anna Elizabeth Matthew

Archpr. Peter Tina Benjamin

Archpr. John Adam Shaun Pr. John Brittany Gail

Pr. Christopher Jennifer Maria

Mat. Jennifer Lennox Snezana

Andrew Laila Barbara

Gideon Paula Thomas Kevin Alvin Mary Ann

Jon Kenneth Carol

Tanya Anna Jessica

Jovan Justin Eduardo

Julia Nika Warren Leo

\*If you know someone who needs prayer, please give their name to Fr Jacob

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Congratulations and Many Years to the newly Chrismated Adam Erpelding, his family, and his sponsors!

The **O-club** is meeting today during coffee hour.

The **women's book group** is having a one-day summer session over lunch on **Saturday, August 17**. The book is *Every Day Wonders: Stories of God's Providence* by Fr. Michael Oleksa, and it is now available in the bookstore for \$10. For more information, see Mat. Jenna.

There is **no Bible Study** this Wednesday and **no Vespers** this Saturday. **Fr Jacob will be out of town all this week**, first assisting at St. Vladimir's Camp in Farmdale, OH, then spending the holiday weekend in Cleveland. For pastoral emergencies, call Fr Alin Munteanu at (623)693-4639.

Our mortgage burning party will be on Saturday, July 27. We will celebrate a Molieben of Thanksgiving at 3pm, then move to the hall and patio for food, drink, music, and fun until dark. This is a free event for members and friends of PTVM, but we need RSVPs by July 14. Write your name and number of adults and children coming on the list in the narthex, or email it to ptvmchurch@gmail.com.

#### Mark your calendars:

July 27: Mortgage Burning party!

July 28: **St. Clement** name's day celebration

Last Week's Offerings to the Lord: \$1832

# What are You Doing this Summer? by His Grace, our Bishop Paul

Many people take vacations in the summer, or send their children to church or band camps. Those who play football often begin practices during the summer to get ready for the fall season. Here are some things to think about now that summer has come upon us.

• When going on vacation, don't take a vacation from church. Make sure you go to church as a family to receive the sacraments. A vacation without receiving the Lord in the Holy Eucharist is no vacation at all. Call the church you will attend ahead of time to speak with the parish priest. Inform him that you are members in good standing of your parish and that you have your priest's blessing to receive Communion. Then ask for his blessing for the same. This promotes good order and mutual respect.

- Talk with your children in the car about what it means to "get away from it all." What are the different kinds of rest we seek in life? What kind of rest does Jesus Christ offer when He says, "Come to Me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest (Matthew 11:28)?" Vacations offer us a time for physical and mental rest. But what rest does Jesus offer us that vacations can't offer?
- If your church offers an activity that allows for parish families to go camping for the weekend, take advantage of it with your children. So many church activities focus on youth ministry or childrens' camping programs. As good as these things are, how do they help to build up family life? Family camp weekends are a wonderful way to minister to our children in the context of the family being together. Don't underestimate the importance of this in an age in which it is hard for families to do things together.
- Don't forget grandparents during the summer. Visit them, take them out for dinner. Do this as a family.
- Finally have your children spend time with their godparents. How about a movie and a meal? How about a ball game and a meal? The meal is important in that it allows for conversation. Movies only make sense if you have time to talk about them afterward.

So, with this I wish everyone a blessed and restful summer. I will be visiting three camps in July:

- · Chicago Deanery Camp, East Troy, WI, July 1 to 3.
- · Saint Vladimir's Camp, Farmdale, OH, July 9 to 11.
- Saint John's Camp, Rivervale, IN, July 16 to 18.

The blessing of the Lord be upon you,

The unworthy +Paul

# Glory to God for all things!