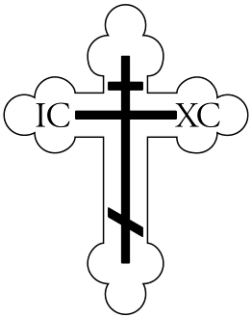


Protection of the Virgin Mary Orthodox Church



Diocese of Chicago
and the Midwest
Orthodox Church
in America



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Merrillville, IN 46410
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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 before or
after Vespers or by appointment

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

October 9, 2022

Holy Hierarch Tikhon, Patriarch of Moscow, Enlightener of North America

Saint Tikhon, Patriarch of Moscow and Apostle to America was born as Vasily Ivanovich Belavin on January 19, 1865 into the family of Ioann Belavin, a rural priest of the Pskov diocese. From his early years he displayed a particular religious disposition, love for the Church as well as rare meekness and humility.

In 1888, at the age of 23, Vasily Belavin graduated from the St Petersburg Theological Academy as a layman and returned to the Pskov Seminary as an instructor of Theology. He led an austere and chaste life, and in 1891 he took monastic vows. In 1892 he was raised to the rank of archimandrite. St Tikhon was consecrated on October 19, 1897 and on September 14, 1898, he was made Bishop of the Aleutians and Alaska. As head of the Orthodox Church in America, St Tikhon was a zealous laborer in the Lord's vineyard.

In 1905, the American Mission was made an Archdiocese, and St Tikhon was elevated to the rank of Archbishop. He had two vicar bishops, St Innocent in Alaska and St Raphael in Brooklyn, to assist him in administering his large, ethnically diverse diocese. In June of 1905, St Tikhon gave his blessing for the establishment of St Tikhon's Monastery. In 1907, he returned to Russia, and was appointed to Yaroslavl, where he quickly won the affection of his flock. He spoke simply to his subordinates, never resorting to a peremptory or overbearing tone. When he had to reprimand someone, he did so in a good-natured, sometimes joking manner, which encouraged the person to correct his mistakes.

In 1917 a council was held to restore the Moscow Patriarchate. Archbishop Tikhon was raised to the dignity of Metropolitan and made chairman. The council members elected three candidates: Archbishop Anthony of Kharkov, the wisest, Archbishop Arseny of Novgorod, the strictest, and Metropolitan Tikhon, the kindest of the Russian hierarchs. On November 5, following Divine Liturgy, a monk drew one of the three names from the ballot box, which stood before the Vladimir Icon of the Mother of God. Metropolitan Tikhon was announced as the newly elected Patriarch.

Being a good pastor, who devoted himself entirely to the church's cause, he called upon the clergy to do the same: "Devote all your energy to preaching the word of God and the truth of Christ, especially today, when unbelief and atheism are audaciously attacking the Church of Christ. May the God of peace and love be with all of you!"

HYMNS OF THE DAY

Tone 8 – Resurrectional Troparion

You descended from on high, O Merciful One!

You accepted the three day burial to free us from our sufferings!//

O Lord, our Life and Resurrection, glory to You!

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 1 – Troparion for St. Tikhon

Chosen by God in a turbulent time,
you glorified God in complete holiness,
and attained greatness through humility,
showing forth the power of God through simplicity and piety.
You laid down your life for the Church and her people,
O holy Confessor and Patriarch, Father Tikhon.
Pray to Christ God with Whom you were also crucified,
that He may save our souls!

Tone 8 – Resurrectional Kontakion

By rising from the tomb You raised the dead and resurrected Adam.
Eve exults in Your Resurrection,
and the world celebrates Your rising from the dead, O greatly
Merciful One!

Tone 2 – Kontakion for St. Tikhon

A gentle manner adorned you:
you showed kindness and compassion to those who repented;
you were firm and unbending in confessing the Orthodox Faith,
and zealous in loving the Lord.
O holy Hierarch of Christ and Confessor Tikhon,
pray for us that we may not be separated from the love of God, //
which is of Christ Jesus, our Lord!

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 8 – Sunday Prokeimenon (Psalm 75)

Pray and make your vows / before the Lord, our God!

Tone 1 – Prokeimenon for St. Tikhon (Psalm 48)

My mouth shall speak wisdom;
the meditation of my heart shall be understanding!

Epistle: 2 Corinthians 6.16 – 7.1 (Sunday)

Brethren: What agreement has the temple of God with idols? For you are the temple of the living God. As God has said: “I will dwell in them and walk among them. I will be their God, and they shall be My people.”

Therefore “‘Come out from among them and be separate, says the Lord. Do not touch what is unclean, and I will receive you. I will be a Father to you, and you shall be My sons and daughters,’ says the Lord Almighty.”

Therefore, having these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.

Hebrews 7.26 – 8.2 (St. Tikhon)

Brethren: Such a High Priest was fitting for us, who is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and has become higher than the heavens; who does not need daily, as those high priests, to offer up sacrifices, first for his own sins and then for the people’s, for this He did once for all when He offered up Himself. For the law appoints as high priests men who have weakness, but the word of the oath, which came after the law, appoints the Son who has been perfected forever.

Now this is the main point of the things we are saying: We have such a High Priest, who is seated at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens, a Minister of the sanctuary and of the true tabernacle which the Lord erected, and not man.

Gospel: Luke 7.11-16 (Sunday)

At that time, Jesus went into a city called Nain; and many of His disciples went with Him, and a large crowd. And when He came near the gate of the city, behold, a dead man was being carried out, the only son of his mother; and she was a widow. And a large crowd from the city was with her. When the Lord saw her, He had compassion on her and said to her, “Do not weep.”

Then He came and touched the open coffin, and those who carried him stood still. And He said, “Young man, I say to you, arise.”

So, he who was dead sat up and began to speak. And He presented him to his mother. Then fear came upon all, and they glorified God, saying, “A great prophet has risen up among us”; and, “God has visited His people.”

John 10.9-16 (St. Tikhon)

The Lord said to the Jews who came to Him: "I am the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture. The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.

I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives His life for the sheep. But a hireling, he who is not the shepherd, one who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees; and the wolf catches the sheep and scatters them. The hireling flees because he is a hireling and does not care about the sheep. I am the good shepherd; and I know My sheep, and am known by My own. As the Father knows Me, even so I know the Father; and I lay down My life for the sheep. And other sheep I have which are not of this fold; them also I must bring, and they will hear My voice; and there will be one flock and one shepherd.

WE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

New Dep. Luba Sirovica

Nicolas Babic

Met. Herman Swaiko

Ev.Mem. George Yakovsky ('51)

Anna Petrisky ('70)

Gene Adamczyk (2015)

Health & Salv.

Claudia

Wanda

Desiree

Archpr. Peter

Carol

Ivanka

Hanna

Archpr. John

Snezana

Aaron

Jaroslava

Mat. Anne

Ryan

Karen

Andrew

Dn. Nicholas

Nathan

Sandra

Andrew

Kevin

Kara

Linda

Vadim

Jon

Djuro

Jim

Hanna

Tanya

Dominic

John

Alex

Jovan

Declan

Martha

Carl

Tom

Hudson

Mark

Laura

Jennifer

Ayden

Michelle

Chrisan

Larry

Hyland

Irene

Janice

Rollie

Jason

Michelle

Gerald

Joseph

Ted

Erika

Olga

Nadia

James

Luke

Janie

Mark

Pamela

Jo

David

Jerry

Alexander

Stephanie

Sharon

Joseph

Ronald

Mary Ann

Tanya

Linda

William

Robb

Renee

Carissa	Karen	Nicodemus	Peggy
Ashton	Alexa	Nada	Sue
Doris	Miriana	Mark	Victoria
Laura	Olga	Catherine	Janet
Duane	Richard	Aaron	Tom
Elizabeth	Klaudia	Ebony	Wilma

*If you know someone who needs prayer, please give their name 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 for the victims in Ukraine. 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, hear us and have mercy.

We also pray You, O Lord our God, to remember and have mercy on our Orthodox brothers and sisters in Russia and Ukraine, who are involved in violent conflict. Remove from their midst all hostility, confusion and hatred. Lead everyone along the path of reconciliation and peace, we pray You, hear us and have mercy.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Congratulations to **Jonathan Bryce Cunningham**, our newest Catechumen.

A big **thank you** to the cooks, led by Elizabeth Pedersen and Melissa Sarafin, who made a wonderful anniversary dinner last week.

Thanks also to Doug Bercich, Adam Erpelding, Brian Van Sickle, David Vahary, and Carl Pavleski for **putting together our new playset**. However, it won't be ready to play on until we install the rubber mulch bed around it—hopefully in the next week or two.

For Bible Study this week read Job 37-42.

This Sunday, the Sodality will offer a **soup sale** during coffee hour. Quarts are \$5 each.

The **Sodality meeting** which was scheduled for this Tuesday, will be postponed until **next Tuesday**.

Our Fall Clean-up Day will be this Saturday, October 15, starting at 9am. We will be trimming bushes and pulling weeds as usual. We also have an arborist coming to trim the trees on the West side of the building, and we will save a good deal of money by cleaning up the debris ourselves. Lunch will be provided.

Mark your calendars:

Oct 11: Moleben for Peace in Ukraine @ 10am

Oct 12: Bible Study @ 7pm

Oct 13: Faith Enrichment @ 10am

Oct 15: Fall Outdoor Clean-Up @ 9am

Oct 22: Soul Saturday of St. Demetrius; Memorial Liturgy at St. Mary's cemetery chapel with blessing of graves @ 10am

Last week's gifts to the Lord: \$3,859

Archpastoral Letter for Church Musician Sunday

From His Eminence, our Metropolitan Tikhon

To the Clergy, Monastics, and Faithful of the Orthodox Church in America, My Beloved Children in the Lord,

'Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous! Praise befits the upright. Sing to him a new song, play skillfully on the strings, with loud shouts.' (Ps. 33:1, 3). Music suffuses the scriptures, starting from the first pages of the Pentateuch. In the fourth chapter of Genesis we read of Jubal, 'the father of all such as handle the harp and organ' (Gen. 4:21). Songs of holy people are found throughout the Old Testament and the New: the songs of Miriam, Moses, Deborah, Hannah, David, Habakkuk, Isaiah, Jonah, the Three Children, Zachariah, and the most Holy Theotokos, to name but a few.

But of course, even before the first father Adam was formed, when the physical world was first coming into being, the scriptures speak of music: 'the morning stars sang together and all the angels shouted for joy' (Job 38:7). 'Praise the Lord, O sun and moon,' says the psalmist (Ps. 148:3). Music is, in some mysterious way, part of creation and

part of redemption, such that even heaven is filled with song. 'With the angels' song we cry to thee, All-powerful: Holy, Holy, Holy art thou, O God' (troparion from the Morning Prayers). And this song, though it begins in time, extends beyond time, and is taken up by the angels and saints forever. As such, the Apocalypse of Saint John the Theologian is perhaps the most musically rich text of all scripture, full as it is of canticles and invocations of song: 'And they sing the song of Moses the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying, Great and marvelous are thy works, Lord God Almighty; just and true are thy ways, thou King of saints' (Rev. 5:9, 14:3, 15:3).

Today in our churches, we carry on the tradition of sacred song, bridging the gap, as it were, between those ancient songs sung by prophets and patriarchs and the eternal song sung by angels and saints. Our traditions of church music are both a continuation of the ancient worship of the Old and New Covenants and a participation in the heavenly liturgy. This is why the Holy Synod of Bishops of the Orthodox Church in America has set aside the Sunday following the feast of Saint Romanus the Melodist for an annual celebration of church musicianship, to honor singers, choir directors, composers, arrangers, chanters, readers, bell-ringers, hymnologists, translators, hymnographers, and all who help our parishes and their congregations to make a 'joyful noise unto the Lord' (Ps. 98:4) so that our temples resound with the praise of God.

I encourage all of our parishes and institutions to take this opportunity to honor those who contribute to church music, and I urge all church leadership to help foster vocations in this area. May we all of us, at all times, according to our own vocation, praise the Lord with 'psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs' (Eph. 5:19). And may he in turn be well-pleased with our sacrifice of praise, and rejoice over us, and quiet us with his love, and sing over us in his joy (Zeph. 3:17).

With the blessing of the Lord, I remain sincerely yours in Christ,

+TIKHON

Archbishop of Washington

Metropolitan of All America and Canada

Glory to God for all things!