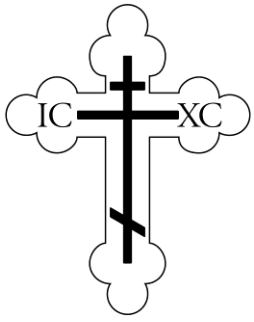
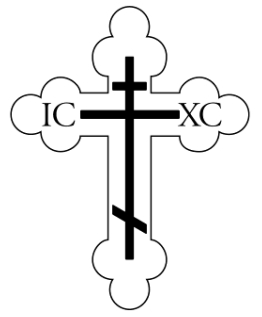


Protection of the Virgin Mary



Orthodox Church



A Parish of the
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

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.**

October 28, 2018

**Holy Martyrs Terence, Neonila and their children
Venerable Stephen the Hymnographer**

St. Clement of Alexandria on Wealth and Treasure:

Anyone who combines wealth with wrong desires has mixed a deadly combination. In such a case, to lose the wealth would be a healthy alternative. To make the soul pure—that is, poor and bare—we need to focus on the words of the Savior to the rich man: “Come, follow me” (Mark 10.21). He becomes the way to the pure in heart. God’s grace finds no entrance into the impure soul. And the soul that is rich in desires, entangled with affection for the things of the world, is impure.

Yet, some people are able to hold their money, houses, and other possessions simply as the gifts of God. They use their things to minister for the salvation of men. They thereby return them to God, who gave them. They know that they possess them more for the sake of their brothers than for themselves. They are the masters of their belongings, not the slaves of their possessions. They do not carry their belongings around in their soul, nor do they plan their life around their things. Instead, they are always laboring at some good, divinely-inspired activity.

Even if they sometimes need to be deprived of their things, they are able to cheerfully bear the removal of their belongings just as easily as they were able to enjoy their abundance. These are the ones who are blessed by the Lord. They are the ones He calls “poor in spirit.” They are the proper heirs of the kingdom of heaven.

But there are others who carry their riches *in their soul*. Instead of being filled with God’s Spirit, their hearts are filled with their gold or their land. They are always acquiring possessions, and they are perpetually on the lookout for more. They are bent down and fettered to the toils of the world. They are of the earth and destined to become a part of the earth. How can they desire or pay attention to the Kingdom of Heaven? They don’t carry around *hearts* in their bodies. Instead, they carry around land or currency. You will always find them in the midst of the objects they have chosen. For where the mind of a man is, there also is his treasure.

So the one who is truly rich is the one who is rich in virtue. He is able to use his fortune in a faithful and holy way. On the other hand, the one who is falsely rich is the one who is rich only according to the flesh. He turns life into a matter of outward possession, which is transitory and perishing. Today it may belong to one person, tomorrow to another, and in the end it belongs to no one at all.

Your many superfluous possessions shut the heavens against you. But you may exchange them for the riches of the soul that deify and minister everlasting life. Let those who are

poor in a carnal sense have your possessions. They are destitute of the things that save. But you, by receiving spiritual wealth instead, will now have treasure in the heavens.

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, illuminated 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 and deliver us from every form of evil. By entreating Christ, your Son and our God// that He may save our souls.

Tone 4 – Troparion for the Martyrs

Your holy martyrs Terence, Neonila, and their children, O Lord, through their sufferings have received incorruptible crowns from You, our God. For having Your strength, they laid low their adversaries, and shattered the powerless boldness of demons// Through their intercessions save our souls!

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 4 – Kontakion for St. Stephen

You planted a garden of the virtues, most glorious one,
and watered it with the streams of your tears.

Since you have received the tree of life, O Stephen,
save your flock from corruption by your prayers!

Deliver from all evil,

all of those who fervently honor you, O wise one,

for we have acquired you as a great intercessor through faith
and love!

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

Epistle: Galatians 6:11-18

Brethren, see with what large letters I have written to you with my own hand! As many as desire to make a good showing in the flesh, these would compel you to be circumcised, only that they may not suffer persecution for the cross of Christ. For not even those who are circumcised keep the law, but they desire to have you circumcised that they may boast in your flesh. But God forbid that I should boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world.

For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision avails anything, but a new creation. And as many as walk according to this rule, peace and mercy be upon them, and upon the Israel of God. From now on let no one trouble me, for I bear in my body the marks of the Lord Jesus. Brethren, the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit. Amen.

Gospel: Luke 8:26-39

At that time, Jesus and His disciples sailed to the country of the Gadarenes, which is opposite Galilee. And when He stepped out on the land, there met Him a certain man from the city who had demons for a long time. And he wore no clothes, nor did he live in a house, but in the tombs.

When he saw Jesus, he cried out, fell down before Him, and with a loud voice said, "What have I to do with You, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg You, do not torment me!" For He had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. For it had often seized him, and he was kept under guard, bound with chains and shackles; and he broke the bonds and was driven by the demon into the wilderness.

Jesus asked him, saying, "What is your name?" And he said, "Legion," because many demons had entered him. And they begged Him that He would not command them to go out into the abyss.

Now a herd of many swine was feeding there on the mountain. So they begged Him that He would permit them to enter them. And He permitted them. Then the demons went out of the man and entered the swine, and the herd ran violently down the steep place into the lake and drowned.

When those who fed them saw what had happened, they fled and told it in the city and in the country. Then they went out to see what had happened, and came to Jesus, and found the man from whom the demons had departed, sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind. And they were afraid. They also who had seen it told them by what means he who had been demon-possessed was healed. Then the whole multitude of the surrounding region of the Gadarenes asked Him to depart from them, for they were seized with great fear. And He got into the boat and returned.

Now the man from whom the demons had departed begged Him that he might be with Him. But Jesus sent him away, saying, "Return to your own house, and tell what great things God has done for you." And he went his way and proclaimed throughout the whole city what great things Jesus had done for him.

WE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Repose:

N.Dep. Rick Lawton

Edward Nachoff

Ev.Mem. Eugene Denysenko

Olga Denysenko

Pando Kuzmenoff

Sophie Truchan

Frank Benka

Joseph Orenich

Alice Bain

Krste Krstanovski

Health & Salvation:

Protopres. George Havrila

Mat. Anna Havrila

Archpr. Peter Bodnar

Archpr. William Bass

Mat. Jean Bass

Priest John

Priest Christopher Moore

Mat. Jennifer Moore

Andrew Moore

Gideon Moore

Kevin

Jon

Tanya

Kimberly

Gail

William

Jovan

Charles

Barbara

Theodore

Michael

Julia

Warren

Mary

Loretta

Gilbert

Carol

Peter

Janie

Tom

Elizabeth Stanko

Adam

Myah

Margaret

Diane

Madelin

Villian

Deborah

Jovan

Claudia

John

Joey

Carisa

Natalia

Elizabeth

Tom

Alexander

Darlene

Mira

Kristin

Mitchel

Roger

Tina

Infant Benjamin

Infant Juliana

Infant Lennox

Infant Laila

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We will pray a **memorial** for Eugene and Olga Denysenko following the veneration of the cross.

After coffee hour today, the Sunday School kids are headed to **Harvest Tyme Pumpkin Patch** in Lowell, courtesy of the PTC.

Copies of the minutes from September's **parish council meeting** and October's **treasurer's report** are available in the narthex.

Order forms for the **Thanksgiving bake sale** are also ready in the narthex.

This Saturday, November 3, our parish hosts **Feeding the Flock** at First Presbyterian Church in Merrillville. A free meal is served to all comers 11am-2pm. Please see Sherry if you are able to help cook this week and/or serve on Saturday.

Also this Saturday, Sts. Peter and Paul Greek Orthodox Church in Glenview, IL is hosting a conference entitled "The Call to Revive the Female Diaconate." The Conference begins at 1pm and concludes with Vespers at 5pm.

Next Sunday, Descent of the Holy Ghost Orthodox Church is hosting a Thanksgiving dinner beginning at 12:30pm. RSVP to Judi Dragon @ 219-838-0023.

Mark your calendars:

Nov 3: **Feeding the Flock** at Merrillville's First Presbyterian Church @ 11am.

Nov 14: **Fellowship Night** – Potluck @ 6pm followed by teaching and Small Compline @ 7:30pm

Nov 15: **Faith Enrichment** – Morning Prayers @ 10am followed by teaching and potluck @ 11:30.

Last Week's Offerings to the Lord:

General Fund: \$1324

Mortgage: \$426

Archpastoral Message of His Beatitude, Metropolitan Tikhon for Steward Sunday

To the Venerable Hierarchs, Reverend Clergy, Monastics,
Distinguished Stewards, and the entire family of the Orthodox
Church in America:

Stewardship is at the heart of our life and existence as
Orthodox Christians. In our own personal lives, in our parish
communities, and in our families, we are constantly and
sacrificially offering our small gifts, so that we may receive the
great gift that God gives to us.

The Stewards of the Orthodox Church in America exists for
one purpose: to help the Church and her Outreach Ministries
reach the world for Christ! This effort requires prayer and
commitment. By God's grace, we have a Church filled with
talented and dedicated clergy and laity who give their time to
preach, teach, and live the Gospel. Their sacrificial labor needs
our financial support to fulfill the work of the Lord. By making
a gift to the Stewards of the Orthodox Church in America, you
will become a co-worker as we reach out around the world in
spreading the Orthodox faith.

On this Sunday, which we call Steward Sunday, together
with the members of the Holy Synod, I encourage each of you
to express your love for your parish, for the Orthodox Church
in America and for our Lord in a tangible way – sacrificial
giving. Your gifts will help our ministry departments as they
assist our missions to grow, as they help our youth to gather,
and encourage all of us to share our faith, thus bearing fruit
that has the potential to transfigure the world.

May the Lord continue to grant you every good thing for
your salvation and for the growth of His Body, the Church.

With love in Christ,

+ Tikhon

Archbishop of Washington

Metropolitan of All America and Canada