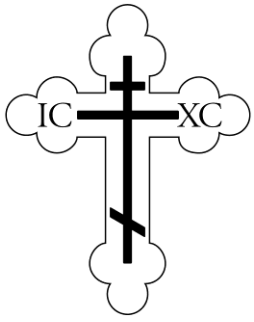
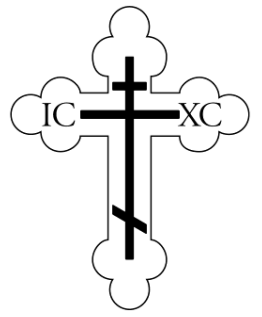


# Protection of the Virgin Mary



## Orthodox Church



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



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Rev. Dr. Jacob Van Sickle  
(219) 384-6826 • [frjacobvansickle@gmail.com](mailto: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.**

**November 4, 2018**  
**Venerable Joannicius the Great**  
**Hieromartyrs Nicander and Hermas**

### **From the Life of St. Joannicius**

St Joannicius the Great was born in the region Bithynia (in modern-day northern Turkey) in the year 752. His parents were destitute and could not provide him even the basics of an education. From childhood he had to tend the family cattle, their sole wealth. By order of the emperor Leo IV (775-780), a multitude of officials went through the cities and towns to draft young men for military service. Young Joannicius was also drafted into the imperial army. He earned the respect of his fellow soldiers for his good disposition, but he was also a brave soldier who struck fear in the hearts of his enemies. St

Joannicius served in the imperial army for six years. More than once he was rewarded by his commanders and the emperor. But military service weighed heavily on him; his soul thirsted for spiritual deeds and solitude.

Having renounced the world, St Joannicius longed to go into the wilderness. However, on the advice of an Elder experienced in monastic life, he spent a further two years at the monastery. Here the saint became accustomed to monastic obedience, to monastic rules and practices. He studied reading and writing, and he learned thirty Psalms of David by heart.

After this, commanded by God to go to a certain mountain, the monk withdrew into the wilderness. For three years he remained in deep solitude in the wilderness, and only once a month a shepherd brought him some bread and water. The ascetic spent day and night in prayer and psalmody. After each verse of singing the Psalms, St Joannicius made a prayer, which the Orthodox Church keeps to this day: "The Father is my hope, the Son is my refuge, the Holy Spirit is my protection."

By chance, he encountered some of his former companions from military service. The saint fled the wilderness and withdrew to Mount Kountourea to hide himself from everyone. Only after twelve years of ascetic life did the hermit accept monastic tonsure. The saint spent three years in seclusion after being tonsured, then he went to a place called Chelidon to see the great ascetic St George. The ascetics spent three years together. During this time St Joannicius learned the entire Psalter by heart. As he grew older, Joannicius settled in the Antidiev monastery and dwelt there in seclusion until his death.

St Joannicius spent seventy years in ascetic deeds and attained to a high degree of spiritual perfection. Through the mercy of God the saint acquired the gift of prophecy, as his disciple Pachomius has related. The Elder was also seen levitating above the ground when he prayed. Once, St Joannicius led Greek captives out of prison under the very

eyes of the guards. Poison and fire, with which the envious wanted to destroy the saint, did him no harm, and predatory beasts did not touch him. St Joannicius also saved a young nun who was preparing to leave the monastery to marry; he took upon himself the agonized maiden's suffering of passion, and by fasting and prayer, he overcame the seductive assault of the devil. Foreseeing his death, Saint Joannicius fell asleep in the Lord on November 4, 846, at the age of 94.

## HYMNS OF THE DAY

### **Tone 6 – Resurrectional Troparion**

The angelic powers were at Your tomb;  
the guards became as dead men.

Mary stood by Your grave,  
seeking Your most pure body.

You captured hell,  
not being tempted by it.

You came to the Virgin granting life.//

O Lord, Who rose from the dead, glory to You!

### **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 Hieromartyrs Nicander and Hermas**

By sharing in the ways of the Apostles,  
you became a successor to their throne.

Through the practice of virtue, you found the way to divine  
contemplation, O inspired one of God;

by teaching the word of truth without error, you defended  
the faith, even to the shedding of your blood.//

Hieromartyr Nicander, entreat Christ God to save our souls!

### **Tone 6 – Resurrectional Kontakion**

When Christ God the Giver of Life,  
raised all of the dead from the valleys of misery with His  
mighty hand,  
He bestowed resurrection on the human race.//  
He is the Savior of all, the Resurrection, the Life, and the God  
of all.

### **Tone 4 – Kontakion for St. Joannicius**

We, the faithful, gather today  
to honor your memory, venerable Joannicius,//  
and we implore you to obtain mercy for us from the 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**

### **Epistle: Ephesians 2.4-10**

Brethren: God who is rich in mercy, through His great love with which He loved us, made us who were dead in trespasses alive with Christ: You were saved by grace. And He lifted us up and established us in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.

For you have been saved by grace through faith. And this is not from yourselves: it is the gift of God, not from works, so that no one may boast.

For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

## **Gospel: Luke 8:41-56**

At that time, there came a man named Jairus, and he was a ruler of the synagogue. And he fell down at Jesus' feet and begged Him to come to his house, for he had an only daughter about twelve years of age, and she was dying. But as He went, the multitudes thronged Him.

Now a woman, having a flow of blood for twelve years, who had spent all her livelihood on physicians and could not be healed by any, came from behind and touched the border of His garment. And immediately her flow of blood stopped. And Jesus said, "Who touched Me?"

When all denied it, Peter and those with him said, "Master, the multitudes throng and press You, and You say, 'Who touched Me?'"

But Jesus said, "Somebody touched Me, for I perceived power going out from Me."

Now when the woman saw that she was not hidden, she came trembling; and falling down before Him, she declared to Him in the presence of all the people the reason she had touched Him and how she was healed immediately. And He said to her, "Daughter, be of good cheer; your faith has made you well. Go in peace."

While He was still speaking, someone came from the ruler of the synagogue's house, saying to him, "Your daughter is dead. Do not trouble the Teacher."

But when Jesus heard it, He answered him, saying, "Do not be afraid; only believe, and she will be made well."

When He came into the house, He permitted no one to go in except Peter, James, and John, and the father and mother of the girl. Now all wept and mourned for her; but He said, "Do not weep; she is not dead, but sleeping."

And they ridiculed Him, knowing that she was dead. But He put them all outside, took her by the hand and called, saying, "Little girl, arise."

Then her spirit returned, and she arose immediately. And He commanded that she be given something to eat. And her parents were astonished, but He charged them to tell no one what had happened.

# WE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

## Repose:

N.Dep. Vaso Popovich

Rick Lawton

Edward Nachoff

Ev.Mem. Vladimir Ordinsky

Michael Simonoff

Stephen Pozniak

Zinovy Dewehetz

## 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

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

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

November calendars are also ready to pick up.

The Parish Council meets this Wednesday at 7pm.

Thank you to Jerry Christoff for fixing the bell out front and making it functional again.

As the holidays approach, remember that purchasing your gift cards through our Scrip program is an easy way to support the ministry of our Church.

## **Mark your calendars:**

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: \$2016      Mortgage: \$316

Special Appeal for the work of the OCA: \$452

## **Archpastoral Letter of His Beatitude, Metropolitan Tikhon in Response to the Tragic Murders at Pittsburgh's Tree of Life Synagogue**

October 30, 2018

To the Clergy, Monastics and Faithful of the Orthodox Church in America,

On Saturday, October 27, 2018, as congregants at the Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh were observing the Jewish Sabbath, a man of violence entered into their midst and murdered eleven men and women at worship. Before finishing his acts of horror, he wounded several others, including four brave police officers who had rushed to the scene. Reports indicate that this man had the sole intention of

killing members of the Jewish community, and that he shouted “all Jews must be killed” while he committed this atrocity. The Orthodox Church in America grieves with the families of the murdered. We pray fervently to God for the healing of the wounded, and consolation for all who are affected.

The perpetrator of this barbarous crime sought falsely to justify his actions with a particular hatred for a Jewish organization that gives support to refugees and immigrants of diverse nationalities, races, and religions, thus fulfilling the command of God Himself, who said to the people of Israel through the Prophet Moses, “The stranger who sojourns with you shall be to you as the native among you, and you shall love him as yourself; for you were strangers in the land of Egypt” [Leviticus 19.34]. Orthodox Christians have received this same teaching in the parable of the Good Samaritan, in which our Lord teaches us that the “neighbor” we are enjoined by God to love is hidden in the “other,” who is a human being of a different nationality, race, or religion.

We abhor and condemn this wicked deed and reject its false justification. Instead, we offer the hope that can be found in God alone. In Him, we are free from the assault of attitudes and ideologies of prejudice and hatred, fear and anxiety about those who are indeed our neighbors. As we stagger under the impact of the murders in the Pittsburgh synagogue, and as we walk alongside the Jewish citizens of our nations, while sharing their grief and their anxiety, we must turn to God, the source of mercy, consolation, and hope.

May the grace and mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ comfort the victims and their families, strengthen the first responders, and bring peace and healing to our communities.

With love in Christ,

+ Tikhon

Archbishop of Washington D.C.

Metropolitan of All America and Canada