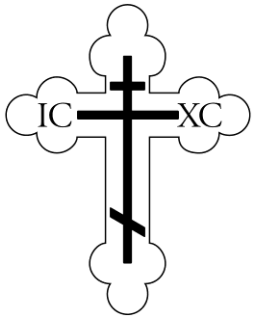
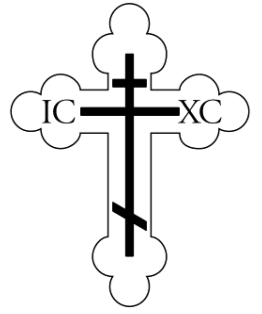


# Protection of the Virgin Mary



## Orthodox Church



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



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(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.**

## March 17, 2019 Sunday of Orthodoxy St. Patrick of Ireland

Saint Patrick the Enlightener of Ireland was born around 385 in the village of Bannavem Taberniae, which may have been located at the mouth of the Severn River in Wales. The district was raided by pirates when Patrick was sixteen, and he was taken captive. He was sold as a slave in pagan Ireland, where he herded swine on the mountain Slemish. During his period of slavery, Patrick acquired a proficiency in the Irish language which was very useful to him in his later mission.

He lived this way for six years, praying often in his solitude on the mountain. During one such time in prayer, he

had a vision which instructed him to walk two hundred miles to the coast, where a ship was ready to take him home. He took off at once and indeed succeeded in boarding a ship, and so he returned to his parents in Britain.

Some time later, he went to Gaul (modern France) and studied for the priesthood. Eventually, he was consecrated as a bishop and entrusted with the mission to Ireland. He arrived around 432, about a year after St. Palladius began his mission to Ireland. There were also other missionaries who were active on the southeast coast, but it was St. Patrick who had the greatest influence and success in preaching the Gospel of Christ. Therefore, he is known as “The Enlightener of Ireland.”

In his writings, we see St. Patrick’s awareness that he had been called by God, as well as his determination and modesty in undertaking his missionary work. He refers to himself as “a sinner,” “the most ignorant and of least account,” and as someone who was “despised by many.” He ascribes his success to God, rather than to his own talents: “I owe it to God’s grace that through me so many people should be born again to Him.”

Saint Patrick is often depicted holding a shamrock. He used the shamrock to illustrate the doctrine of the Holy Trinity. Its three leaves growing out of a single stem helped him to explain the concept of one God in three Persons.

St. Patrick died on March 17, 461.

## HYMNS OF THE DAY

### Tone 1 – Resurrectional Troparion

When the stone had been sealed by the Jews,  
while the soldiers were guarding Your most pure body,  
You rose on the third day, O Savior,  
granting life to the world.

The powers of heaven therefore cried to You, O Giver of Life:  
“Glory to Your Resurrection, O Christ!

Glory to Your Kingdom!//

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

## **Tone 2 – Troparion for the Sunday of Orthodoxy**

We venerate Your most pure image, O Good One;  
and ask forgiveness of our transgressions, O Christ our God.  
Of Your own will You were pleased to ascend the cross in the flesh  
to deliver Your creatures from bondage to the Enemy.  
Therefore with thanksgiving we cry aloud to You:  
You have filled all with joy, O our Savior,//  
by coming to save the world!

## **Tone 8 –Kontakion for the Sunday of Orthodoxy**

No one could describe the Word of the Father;  
but when He took flesh from you, O Theotokos, He accepted to  
be described,  
and restored the fallen image to its former beauty.//  
We confess and proclaim our salvation in words and images!

## **SCRIPTURE READINGS**

### **Epistle: Hebrews 11.24-26, 11.32-12.2**

Brethren: By faith Moses, when he came of age, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter. He chose to suffer affliction with the people of God rather than enjoy the passing pleasures of sin, considering the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt; for he looked to the reward.

And what more shall I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon and Barak and Samson and Jephthah, also of David and Samuel and the prophets—who through faith 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 accepting release, that they might obtain a better resurrection. Still others had trial of mocking and scourging, yes, and of chains and imprisonment. They were stoned; they were sawn in two, were tempted, were slain with the sword. They wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins, being 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, since 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 to 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: John 1.43-51**

At that time, Jesus wanted to go to Galilee, and He found Philip and said to him, “Follow Me.”

Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael and said to him, “We have found the One Moses in the law, and also the prophets, wrote about – Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph.”

And Nathanael said to him, “Can anything good come out of Nazareth?”

Philip said to him, “Come and see.”

Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward Him and said of him, “Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom is no deceit!”

Nathanael said to Him, “How do You know me?”

Jesus answered and said to him, “Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you.”

Nathanael answered and said to Him, “Rabbi, You are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!”

Jesus answered and said to him, “Because I said to you, ‘I saw you under the fig tree,’ do you believe? You will see greater things than these.”

And He said to him, “Most assuredly, I say to you, hereafter you shall see heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man.”

# WE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

**N.Dep.** Anthony Leone

David Envall

Debra Caravana

Anna Vahary

Chris Velo

**Ev.Mem.** Vasily Konkoff ('50)

Anthony Kimoff ('64)

Sophie Dubovsky ('79)

Anna Dewenetz ('79)

Ann Svihra (2011)

**Health &**

**Salvation:**

Protopr. George

Mat. Anna

Archpr. Peter

Archpr. John

Pr. John

Pr. Christopher

Mat. Jennifer

Andrew

Gideon

Kevin

Jon

Tanya

Kimberly

Gail

William

Jovan

Charles

Barbara

Theodore

Michael

Julia

Warren

Loretta

Gilbert

Carol

Peter

Janie

Tom

Elizabeth

Tina

Adam

Myah

Margaret

Diane

Madelin

Villian

Deborah

Claudia

John

Carisa

Natalia

Elizabeth

Tom

Paul

Alexander

Darlene

Mira

Kristin

Mitchel

Brittany

Jennifer

David

Roger

Tina

Chris

Benjamin

Juliana

Joseph

Cathy

Laurie

Lennox

Laila

Richard

Paula

Christopher

Brian

Jennifer

Janet

Nicholas

Kevin

Barbara

Thomas

Allyson

Daniel

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

*Following the Divine Liturgy today, we process around the church carrying icons, Then the priest will read the abbreviated Synodikon of Orthodoxy:*

The Church of God has established that on this day we give yearly thanksgiving to God and reaffirm the dogmas of piety. Therefore, following the sayings of the prophets, honoring the exhortations of the apostles, and being instructed by the histories of the Gospels, we celebrate this day of consecration. For Isaiah says: "Be consecrated to God, you islands," by which he means the churches of the many nations, which are not the structures and embellishments of the temples, but rather the gathering of the faithful who serve God with hymns and praise. The Apostle also exhorts us "to walk in newness of life" and that the "new creation in Christ" be renewed. For He has delivered us who are unworthy from adversity, redeeming us from those who afflicted us. And He has established the free proclamation of piety, the veneration of icons, and this Festival which brings all of us salvation. For in the icons we see what our Master bore for us: the Cross, the grave, hell slain and pillaged; we see the trials of His witnesses and their crowns of salvation, which our First Prize-giver and Contest-master and Crown-bearer wrought in the midst of the earth. Today we celebrate this festival; we rejoice together with prayers and processions, and we cry out with psalms and hymns:

**Who is so great a God as our God?  
You are the God, who alone does wonders!**

For You overthrew those who slighted Your glory and showed them to be cowards and fugitives who were disrespectful and impudent against the icons.

Therefore, as the prophets have seen, as the apostles have taught, as the Church has received, as the teachers have set forth in dogmas, as has been made known to the whole world, as Grace has shone forth, as the truth was demonstrated, as falsehood has been banished, as wisdom emboldened, as Christ has awarded: thus we believe, thus we speak, thus we preach Christ our true God and His saints, honoring them in

words, in writings, in thoughts, in sacrifices, in temples, and in icons, worshipping and respecting Christ as God and Master and honoring the Saints with relative adoration, because of our common Master, for they are His genuine servants.

*All together:*

**This is the Faith of the apostles! This is the Faith of the fathers!  
This is the Faith of the Orthodox! This is the Faith that has  
established the world!**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The **O-Club** will meet today after coffee hour to plan their upcoming Trivia Night fundraiser.

Unfortunately, there is no **Sunday of Orthodoxy Vespers** in Northwest Indiana this year. I am serving at St. Andrew's Greek Orthodox Church tonight starting at 6:30. Service will also be at Holy Resurrection Serbian Cathedral at 6pm.

**Mark your calendars:**

Mar 20: Wednesday **Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts @ 6pm**

Mar 22: Friday **Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts @ 10am**  
**Presanctified Liturgy** at Descent of the Holy Ghost @ 6pm

Mar 23: Saturday **Memorial Divine Liturgy @ 10am**

Mar 24: Chicago Deanery Sunday **Mission Vespers** with Bishop Paul @ 6pm, followed by a Lenten dinner

Mar 25: Divine Liturgy for the **feast of Annunciation** at Descent of the Holy Ghost @ 10am

**Last Week's Offerings to the Lord:**

General Fund: \$2,077

Mortgage: \$388

## **The Prayer of St. Ephraim in Daily Family Life by His Grace, our Bishop Paul**

*O Lord and Master of my life, take from me the spirit of sloth,  
despair, lust of power and idle talk.*

*But give rather the spirit of chastity, humility, patience, and  
love to your servants.*

*Grant that I may see my own sins and not judge my brother and sister, for blessed are You unto ages of ages. Amen.*

How can this prayer become more meaningful in daily family life as we journey through Great Lent? A couple of things come to mind for families to consider.

- It would be a good idea for parents and their children to sit down and discuss what the various words in the prayer mean. Don't take for granted that children understand the sins of "sloth, despair, lust of power, and idle talk." The same may be said for "chastity" and "humility." What does it mean to "judge my brother and sister?" I would recommend reading *Great Lent* by Fr. Alexander Schmemmann, in which one chapter is devoted to the Prayer of St. Ephrem. This would be a great resource for parents in guiding discussion with their children. Do our children understand the idea of sin? It is more than just making a mistake.
- Once this has happened, further discussion can take place on helping children to identify the ways in which they fall short or "miss the bull's eye" as they seek to live by this prayer. Children might make a list of sins to take to confession. Discussion can take place on how prayer, fasting, and almsgiving can act as wonderful medicines to help us fight and conquer sins in our lives that are difficult to stop, understanding that all of this can only happen by the grace and help of the Holy Spirit.

As we continue in this first week of Great Lent, please forgive me a sinner for any failings in what I have written on this family web page and for anything I have done to cause anyone to be offended. Forgive me a sinner and pray for me.

In Christ's love,

The unworthy +Paul

**Glory to God for all things!**