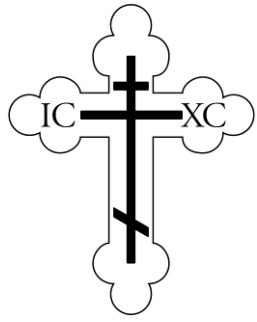
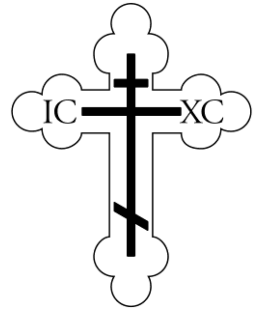


Protection of the Virgin Mary



Orthodox Church



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



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Merrillville, IN 46410
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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.**

September 22, 2019

Apostle Quadratus of the 70 († c. 130) Hieromartyr Phocas of Sinope († 117)

St Quadratus was one of the “Apostles of the Seventy” mentioned in the Gospel of Luke, which Christ commissioned to go ahead of Him and prepare those cities He intended to visit for His coming. After the Ascension, St. Quadratus preached the Word of God at Athens and at Magnesia (eastern peninsula of Thessaly), and eventually became the Bishop of Athens. His biographer called him “a morning star” among the clouds of paganism. He converted many pagans to the true faith in Christ the Savior, and his preaching aroused

the hatred of the pagans. Once, an angry mob fell upon the saint to pelt him with stones. Preserved by God, St Quadratus remained alive, and they threw him into prison, where he died of starvation. His holy body was buried in Magnesia.

In the year 126, St Quadratus wrote an *Apologia* in defense of Christianity. Presented to the emperor Hadrian, the *Apologia* helped assuage the persecution of Christians, since after reading it, the emperor issued a decree saying that no one should be convicted without just cause. This *Apologia* was known to the historian Eusebius in the fourth century. At the present time, only part of the *Apologia* survives, quoted by Eusebius: "The deeds of our Savior were always witnessed, because they were true. His healings and raising people from the dead were visible not only when they were healed and raised, but always. They lived not only during the existence of the Savior upon the earth, but they also remained alive long after His departure. Some, indeed, have survived to our own time."

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.
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 St. Phocas

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 Phocas, entreat Christ God to 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 8 – Kontakion for St. Quadratus

The universe offers You, O Lord, the Apostle Quadratus
as a most honored hierarch and athlete of great strength;
with hymns it honors his all-venerable memory,//

And asks that through him You grant forgiveness of
transgressions to those who sing his praise.

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 5 – Sunday Prokeimenon (Psalm 11)

You, O Lord, shall protect us and preserve us from this
generation forever.

Epistle: 2 Corinthians 1.21-2.4

Brethren: It is God who establishes us with you in Christ, and has anointed us, and who has also sealed us and given us His Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee. But I call God as witness against my soul, that it was to spare you that I refrained from coming again to Corinth. Not that we have dominion over your faith, but we are fellow workers with you for your joy; for by faith you stand.

But I determined for myself that I would not come again to you in sorrow. For if I make you sorrowful, then who is there to make me glad when you who would have done so are saddened by me? And I wrote as I did to you so that when I came, I would not have sorrow over those from whom I ought to have joy, having confidence in you all that my joy would be your joy. For I wrote to you out of much affliction and anguish of heart, with many tears, not that you should be grieved, but that you might know the love which I have so abundantly for you.

Gospel: Luke 5.1-11

At that time, as the multitude pressed about Jesus to hear the word of God, He stood by the Lake of Gennesaret, and saw two boats standing by the lake; but the fishermen had left them and were washing their nets. Then He got into one of the boats, which was Simon's, and asked him to put out a little from the land. And He sat down and taught the multitudes from the boat.

When Jesus had stopped speaking, He said to Simon, "Launch out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch."

But Simon answered and said to Him, "Master, we have toiled all night and caught nothing; nevertheless, at Your word I will let down the net." And when they had done this, they caught a great number of fish, and their net was breaking. So they signaled to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both the boats, so that they began to sink.

When Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord!" For he and all who were with him were astonished at the catch of fish which they had taken; and so also were James and John, the sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon.

And Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid. From now on you will catch men." So when they had brought their boats to land, they left everything and followed Jesus.

WE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

N.Dep. Alvin Erbesti

Rosemary Brill

Archbishop Nikon

James Dragon

Ev.Mem. Leonty Bely ('40)

Andrew Naumovetz ('51)

John Sayka ('71)

Anna Krochta (2002)

Anatol Meuch

Alice Erbesti

Health &

Salvation:

Mat. Anna

Archpr. Peter

Pr. John

Pr. Christopher

Mat. Jennifer

Andrew

Gideon

Kevin

Jon

Tanya

Jovan

Julia

Warren

Carol

Tom

Elizabeth

Tina

Adam

Brittany

Jennifer

Lennox

Laila

Paula

Stacey

Jeramie

Olivia

Parker

Melissa

Jonathan

Matthew

Shaun

Gail

Maria

Snezana

Barbara

Thomas

Carol

Jessica

Eduardo

Christine

Tom

Nicholas

Natalie

Barbara

Kristin

Linda

Phyllis

Kay

Fred

Larry

Rollie

Martin

Alexandra

Mark

Alexa

Paula

Alexandra

James

Nada

Joanne

Ronald

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

For **Bible Study** this Wednesday please read Exodus 9-12.

Bishop Paul has designated September the month to “**support our seminarians.**” Next Sunday a second collection will be taken at the end of Liturgy to support current seminarians from our diocese.

The **funeral for Alvin Erbesti** will be at the Church on September 30 at 12:30pm.

The feast of the **Protection (Pokrov) of the Virgin Mary** is **Tuesday, Oct. 1**. The Deanery Male Choir will sing the **Vigil on Monday night (Sept 30) @ 6:30pm**, followed by a reception. Divine Liturgy is at 10am Tuesday followed by a luncheon. **His Grace, our Bishop Paul** will celebrate both services.

On Sunday, Oct. 6 following the Divine Liturgy we will have our **108th anniversary dinner**. Please let Juli Grankowski know if you are available to help and/or bring a dessert.

Mark your calendars:

Sept 25: **Bible Study @ 7pm**

Sept 26: **Faith Enrichment @ 10am**

Sept 30: Festal Vigil for the **Feast of Protection (Pokrov) @ 6:30pm** followed by a reception.

Oct 1: Divine Liturgy for the **Feast of Protection @ 10am**

Oct 6: **108th Parish Anniversary** celebration following Divine Liturgy

Last week's offerings to the Lord: \$991

Father's

1. Gold-plating for chalice and spoon: \$600

2. Set of Blue/Gold chalice covers: \$220

Wish List:

3. Cross & stand for center table: approx. \$300

To purchase an item, add its cost to your weekly contribution and write on the envelope which item and (if appropriate) in whose memory.

Youth Taking Ownership

A reflection by His Grace, our Bishop Paul

I asked the question last week, “What does the church have to offer to youth and their parents when they do make more of an effort to get involved in the life of a parish?” The typical answers are; our services, our church school, and any youth activities a parish may sponsor.

Yet, I think a key aspect to having our kids experience a greater connection to church life is best summed up in the idea of ownership. Kids have to experience their parish as **their parish**. I mean this in a good way. Do we empower our children in church life where they can take ownership and initiative in areas of youth ministry and service? Do we do too much for our youth instead of letting them step forward and take initiative? Can we allow them to fail so that they learn from their mistakes and encourage them to try again?

Can we allow our kids to take responsibility for planning a church service project? Can we encourage our kids to step forward in areas of music (especially the older ones) in learning how to lead a choir? Can we allow our older altar servers to be leaders in the altar and take responsibility for the duties that need to be done? We allow our kids to pass out bulletins in church, but how about teaching them to put a bulletin together, or maybe coming up with a youth page for the bulletin? This would be done by our youth and not by an adult. The more our youth are passive in their participation, the less likely they are to feel connected to their parish. The more active they are in their participation, the more connected they will be and the more likely to identify their parish as **their parish**.

When we pit the school calendar against the liturgical calendar, then it seems as if we are trying too much to “get” our kids to be more involved. Wouldn’t it be wonderful if our

kids chose to be in church because they love being there, as they are “Christ motivated” to be there? Then we no longer have to fight a battle. Perhaps my words are too simplistic. I realize many of our clergy, parents, and children are making efforts in walking this journey to be closer to their church. Thanks be to God for your efforts. I can only encourage all of you to act in a manner that encourages kids to take ownership of their life in their parish. If any of you have found ways to address this issue, please share your thoughts or ideas. Thanks for thinking about this.

The blessing of the Lord be upon you,

The unworthy +Paul

For more of Bishop Paul’s reflections, visit:
www.midwestfamily.org

Glory to God for
all things!