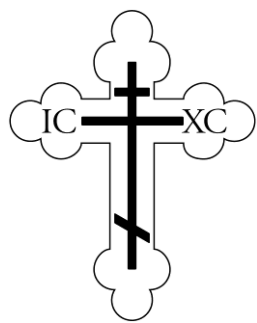
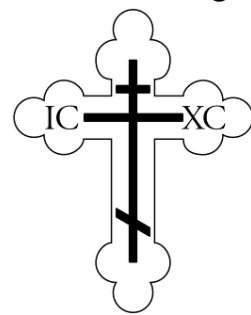


Protection of the Virgin Mary



Orthodox Church



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



8600 Grand Blvd.
Merrillville, IN 46410
(219)947-4748
Hall: (219)730-4698
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.**

October 13, 2019 Holy Fathers of the Seventh Ecumenical Council (787 A.D.)

The Synod of 787, the second to meet at Nicaea, refuted the Iconoclast heresy during the reign of Empress Irene and her son Constantine VI. The Council decreed that the veneration of icons was not idolatry, because the honor shown to them is not directed to the wood or paint, but passes to the person depicted. It also upheld the possibility of depicting Christ, who became man and took flesh at His Incarnation. The Father, on the other hand, cannot be represented in His eternal nature, because “no man has seen God at any time” (John 1:18).

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 8 – Troparion for the Holy Fathers

You are most glorious, O Christ our God!

You have established the Holy Fathers as lights on the earth.

Through them You have guided us to the true Faith.//

O greatly compassionate One, 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.

Deliver us from every form of evil

by entreating Christ, your Son and our God//

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 6 – Kontakion for the Holy Fathers

The Son who shone forth from the Father

was ineffably born, two-fold in nature, of a woman.

Having beheld Him, we do not deny the image of His form,

but depict it piously and revere it faithfully.

Thus, keeping the True Faith,//

the Church venerates the icon of Christ Incarnate.

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 4 – Song of the Fathers (Daniel 3)

Blessed are You, O Lord God of our Fathers / and praised and glorified is Your Name forever!

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 every defilement of flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.

Hebrews 13.7-16 (Holy Fathers)

Brethren, remember those who rule over you, who have spoken the word of God to you. Follow their faith, considering the fruits of their conduct. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.

Do not be carried about with various and strange doctrines. For it is good that the heart be established by grace, not with foods which have not profited those who pursue them. We have an altar from which those who serve the tabernacle have no right to eat. For the bodies of those animals, whose blood is brought into the sanctuary by the high priest for sin, are burned outside the camp. Therefore, Jesus also, that He might sanctify the people with His own blood, suffered outside the gate.

Therefore, let us go forth to Him, outside the camp, bearing His reproach. For here we have no lasting city, but we seek the one to come. Therefore, by Him, let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to His name. But do not forget

to do good and to share, for with such sacrifices God is well pleased.

Gospel: Luke 8.5-15 (Sunday)

Jesus spoke this parable, saying, “A sower went out to sow his seed. And as he sowed, some fell by the wayside; and it was trampled down, and the birds of the air devoured it. Some fell on rock; and as soon as it sprang up, it withered away because it lacked moisture. And some fell among thorns, and the thorns sprang up with it and choked it. But others fell on good ground, sprang up, and yielded a crop a hundredfold.” When He had said these things He cried, “He who has ears to hear, let him hear!”

Then His disciples asked Him, saying, “What does this parable mean?” And He said, “To you it has been given to know the mysteries of the kingdom of God, but to the rest it is given in parables, that ‘Seeing they may not see, And hearing they may not understand.’ Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God. Those by the wayside are the ones who hear; then the devil comes and takes away the word out of their hearts, lest they should believe and be saved. But the ones on the rock are those who, when they hear, receive the word with joy; and these have no root, who believe for a while and in time of temptation fall away. Now the ones that fell among thorns are those who, when they have heard, go out and are choked with cares, riches, and pleasures of life, and bring no fruit to maturity. But the ones that fell on the good ground are those who, having heard the word with a noble and good heart, keep it and bear fruit with patience.”

John 17:1-13 (Holy Fathers)

And again, Jesus spoke these words, lifted up His eyes to heaven, and said: “Father, the hour has come. Glorify Your Son, that Your Son also may glorify You, as You have given Him authority over all flesh, that He should give eternal life to as many as You have given Him. And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent. I have glorified You on the earth. I have

finished the work which You have given Me to do. And now, O Father, glorify Me together with Yourself, with the glory which I had with You before the world was. I have manifested Your name to the men whom You have given Me out of the world. They were Yours, You gave them to Me, and they have kept Your word. Now they have known that all things which You have given Me are from You.

“For I have given to them the words which You have given Me; and they have received them, and have known surely that I came forth from You; and they have believed that You sent Me. I pray for them. I do not pray for the world but for those whom You have given Me, for they are Yours. And all Mine are Yours, and Yours are Mine, and I am glorified in them. Now I am no longer in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to You. Holy Father, keep through Your name those whom You have given Me, that they may be one as We are.

“While I was with them in the world, I kept them in Your name. Those whom You gave Me I have kept; and none of them is lost except the son of perdition, that the Scripture might be fulfilled. But now I come to You, and these things I speak in the world, that they may have My joy fulfilled in themselves.”

WE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

N.Dep. Constantin Ardeleanu

Alvin Erbesti

Rosemary Brill

Archbishop Nikon

Ev.Mem. Damian Humenik ('29)

Health &

Salvation:

Mat. Anna

Archpr. Peter

Pr. John

Pr. Christopher

Mat. Jennifer

Andrew

John Spravtsoff ('31)

Cyril Borisovich ('44)

Stephen Thomas ('71)

Walter Sargovetz ('75)

Anatol Meuch

Gideon

Kevin

Jon

Tanya

Jovan

Julia

Warren

Carol

Tom

Elizabeth

Tina

Adam

Brittany

Jennifer

Lennox

Laila

Paula	Carol	Rollie
Stacey	Jessica	Martin
Jeramie	Eduardo	Alexandra
Olivia	Christine	Mark
Parker	Tom	Alexa
Melissa	Nicholas	Paula
Jonathan	Natalie	Alexandra
Matthew	Barbara	James
Shaun	Kristin	Joanne
Gail	Linda	Ronald
Maria	Phyllis	Michael
Snezana	Kay	Joseph
Barbara	Fred	Rachel
Thomas	Larry	Kathleen

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

BLESSING OF THE NEW BAPTISMAL FONT

Priest: O Lord God almighty, God of our Fathers, who said through Your chosen vessel the Apostle Paul that all Your creation is good, and nothing is rejected which is sanctified through Your divine Word and prayer: Mercifully look down upon this font, which Your servants have provided for the glory of Your most holy Name and for the initiation and illumination of those who flee unto You, and through the prayer of us, Your unworthy servants, mercifully bless and sanctify it, and show it to be a worthy vessel of the sanctifying waters of baptism into Your Christ. Bestow upon it Your heavenly grace, and grant remission of sins and a participation in Your Kingdom to us and to those who will be baptized in it. For You are the God of mercy and compassion and love for mankind, and to You we send up glory together with Your only-begotten Son and Your most holy, good, and life-creating Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thank you to all who worked to make our 108th anniversary celebration beautiful and delicious!

The **Ladies' Sodality** will collect **coats, hats, and gloves** for the Salvation Army through the end of October. Please place new or lightly used items in the boxes by the doors to the Church.

On Saturday, October 26, 2-4pm, we will join our neighbor, Trinity Free Methodist Church, in hosting a neighborhood **Classic Car Trunk or Treat**. Hot Cider and other goodies will also be on hand.

The PTC is hosting a **Family Fall Outing** after coffee hour on Sunday, October 27 to Harvest Tyme Farm park in Lowell. In case of weather, we head to Inman's Bowling in Valpo.

The **Women's Book Group** will next read ***The Illumined Heart*** by Frederica Matthewes-Green. Copies are available in the bookstore. Discussion is **Nov 16**. See Mat. Jenna for info.

Mark your calendars:

Oct 16: **Bible Study @ 7pm**

Oct 26: **Classic Car Trunk or Treat @ 2pm**

Oct 27: **Fall Family Outing** after coffee hour

Nov 3: **O-Club Trivia Night** to support IOCC's hurricane response in the Bahamas and Carolinas.

Nov 15: First day of **Advent**

Nov 16: **Women's Book Group @ 10am**

Last week's offerings to the Lord: \$5,440

What Does it Mean to be Free?

A Reflection by His Grace, our Bishop Paul

In the popular use of the word, "freedom" is erroneously linked to the idea of "I can do what I want, and no one can tell me what to do." But there is no freedom in this statement.

Whenever a child rebels against one's parents, we need to understand it as the first stage in a process where a child is seeking to establish an identity of their own apart from their parents. But rebellion is not freedom. A child is still enmeshed in dependency on their parents even in a state of rebellion. They are not free, self-determining people yet.

Parents and their children can get stuck in this stage of life if they don't work through this rebellious phase. This phase gets worked through when children, as they grow older, are no longer motivated by the desire to oppose their parents in areas of decision making. This does not mean that parents have no say. Parents may still be a major motivator in their child's decision making in life, but the decision is a free one, unmotivated by the need to say to one's parents "You can't tell me what to do."

So how do parents help their children to move on from this rebellious phase and truly become free? Here are several things to consider:

- Parents need to respect that their child has the ability to choose even at a younger age.
- When dealing with parent-child conflicts, mom or dad needs to focus on controlling the environment around their child, not controlling the child him or herself. Let the child choose options of discipline that the parent can live with.
- Involve a child in the process of problem solving/discipline when it comes to conflict.

In this limited space it is hard for me to give justice to this topic of freedom. I will eventually tie this to youth ownership in parish life. I ask for your patience as I seek to write a few more notes on this topic.

The blessing of the Lord be upon you,

The unworthy +Paul

Glory to God for all things!