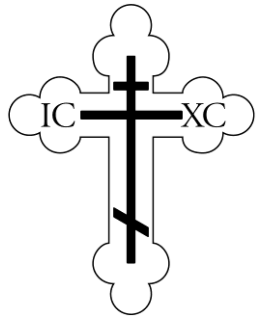
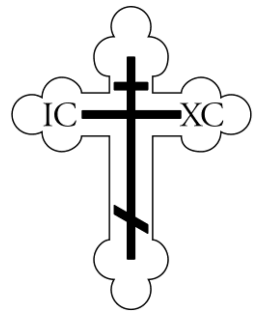


Protection of the Virgin Mary



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 27, 2019

Holy Martyr Nestor of Thessalonica († 306 A.D.)

The holy Martyr Nestor was a young man whom the holy Greatmartyr Demetrius had instructed in the faith.

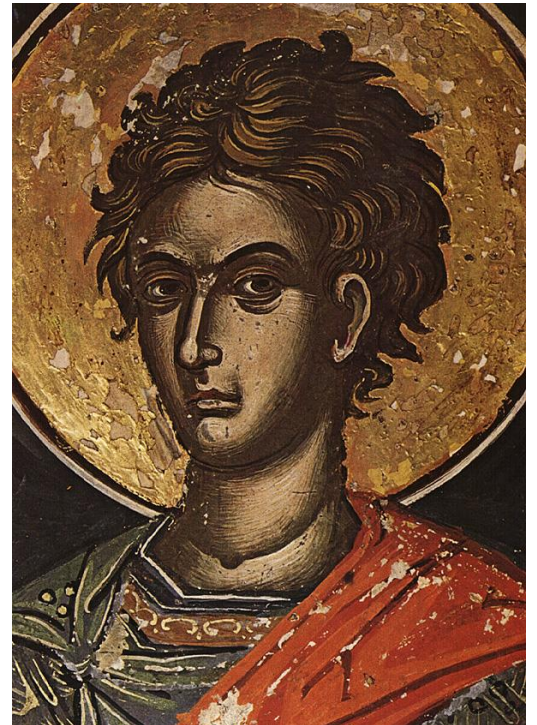
The Emperor Maximian was visiting Thessaloniki, and he built a high platform in the midst of the city so that a gigantic barbarian named Lyaios could wrestle there and be seen by everyone. Beneath the platform many spears and other sharp weapons were placed pointing upward. When Lyaios defeated his opponents, he threw them down onto the spears and they died. Many Christians were forced to fight Lyaios, and were killed. When Nestor saw how the Emperor rejoiced over the victories of his champion, he disdained his pride. He

took courage and went to the prison where Demetrios was confined and fell at his feet.

“Pray for me, O Servant of God Demetrios,” he said, “that by your prayers, God may help me to beat Lyaios, and put an end to him who brings reproach upon the Christians.”

The Saint, after sealing Nestor with the Sign of the Cross, told him that he would prevail over Lyaios and then suffer for Christ. Nestor mounted the platform without fear and exclaimed: “Help me, O God of Demetrios.” After he defeated Lyaios, he hurled him down onto the spears.

Maximian was enraged and ordered that both Nestor and Demetrios should be put to death. St Demetrios was stabbed with spears, and St Nestor was beheaded. Thus, by his example St Nestor teaches us that in every human challenge we must say with confidence, “The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do to me.” (Psalm 117:6).



HYMNS OF THE DAY

Tone 2 – Resurrectional Troparion

When You descended to death, O Life Immortal,
You slew hell with the splendor of Your Godhead.
And when from the depths You raised the dead,
all the powers of heaven cried out://
“O Giver of life, Christ our God, 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 4 – Troparion for St. Nestor

Your holy martyr Nestor, O Lord,
through his suffering has received an incorruptible crown
from You, our God.

For having Your strength, he laid low his adversaries,
and shattered the powerless boldness of demons.//
Through his intercessions, save our souls!

Tone 2 – Resurrectional Kontakion

Hell became afraid, almighty Savior,
seeing the miracle of Your Resurrection from the tomb!
The dead arose! Creation with Adam beheld this and rejoiced
with You,//
and the world, my Savior, praises You forever.

Tone 2 – Kontakion for St. Nestor

Having fought the good fight,
you won immortal glory, O Nestor.
You became a perfect soldier for the Master
through the prayers of the martyr Demetrius.//
Together with him you are praying unceasingly to Christ God
for us all.

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 2 – Sunday Prokeimenon (Psalm 117)

The Lord is my strength and my song. He has become my
salvation!

Epistle: 2 Corinthians 11.31-12.9

Brethren: The God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
who is blessed forever, knows that I am not lying. In
Damascus the governor, under Aretas the king, was guarding

the city of the Damascenes with a garrison, desiring to arrest me; but I was let down in a basket through a window in the wall, and escaped from his hands.

It is doubtless not profitable for me to boast. I will come to visions and revelations of the Lord: I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago – whether in the body I do not know, or whether out of the body I do not know, God knows – such a one was caught up to the third heaven. And I know such a man – whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows – how he was caught up into Paradise and heard inexpressible words, which it is not lawful for a man to utter. Of such a one I will boast; yet of myself I will not boast, except in my infirmities. For though I might desire to boast, I will not be a fool; for I will speak the truth. But I refrain, lest anyone should think of me above what he sees me to be or hears from me.

And lest I should be exalted above measure by the abundance of the revelations, a thorn in the flesh was given to me, a messenger of Satan to buffet me, lest I be exalted above measure. Concerning this thing I pleaded with the Lord three times that it might depart from me. And He said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

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

N.Dep. Juliana Thiel
Constantin Ardeleanu
Alvin Erbesti
Rosemary Brill

Ev.Mem. Pelagia Golik ('38)
Sophie Skirpan ('70)
Helen Daicoff ('90)
Anatol Meuch

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

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The OCA has designated today “**Steward Sunday.**” The **Stewards of the OCA** is a group of donors and fundraisers established in 2015 to help expand the ministry of the Archdiocese in the areas of **mission, youth ministry, Christian education, music and translation.** A special collection will be taken to help grow these ministries, which benefit OCA churches across the nation, including ours.

The PTC is hosting a **Family Fall Outing** after coffee hour today to Harvest Tyme Farm park in Lowell.

At **Bible Study** this week we will discuss Exodus 25-28.

Today is the last day of the **Ladies’ Sodality’s coat, hat, and gloves** collection for the Salvation Army. Thank you to all who have donated!

Our Church will provide lunch for **Feeding the Flock** on Saturday, November 9. Please see Valerie McMullan or Mary Ann Bertram if you are able to help either Friday or Saturday.

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.

The **new chalice covers** from "Father's Wish List" have arrived and were used in Liturgy today. Other items have also been sponsored and are on their way. Thank you to those who contributed.

Mark your calendars:

Oct 30: **Bible Study @ 7pm**

Oct 31: **Divine Liturgy at Holy Trinity Cathedral in Chicago for the feast of St. John of Chicago @ 9:30am**

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

Nov 8: **Divine Liturgy at Archangel Michael Church in Burbank for the feast of St. Michael @ 9:30am**

Nov 9: **Feeding the Flock** at First Presbyterian Church in Merrillville @ 9am

Nov 15: First day of **Advent**

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

Last week's offerings to the Lord: \$1,469

Archpastoral Message on Steward Sunday

of His Beatitude, our Metropolitan Tikhon

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

Christ is in our midst!

I greet you, my coworkers and stewards, in the joy of our Lord, Jesus Christ, and I offer my prayerful gratitude to God for the love, courage, and generosity you have shown for the Orthodox Church in America. Today in the Orthodox Church

in America we commemorate Steward Sunday, a day where I invite you to join me, and the members of the Holy Synod, in supporting our Orthodox Church in America, by prayerfully contributing to the great work we are called to do here in North America.

We have much work to do, but we must first give thanksgiving to Almighty God for the very fact that we, you and I, are here, 225 years after the arrival of Saint Herman, 195 years after the arrival of Saint Innocent, and 125 years after the arrival of Saint Tikhon on these shores. We are here, as a faithful community of bishops, clergy, monastics, and faithful Christians, to receive the blessing of these saints and to strive to emulate their example, so as to offer an Orthodox presence as a genuine local church here in North America.

Next year, we will celebrate fifty years of autocephaly. To be sure, this is a tremendous milestone for us, and in those fifty years we have accomplished much. But as we begin to plan our celebrations, I note that the granting of autocephaly was not a reward or a recognition but rather a call to service: service to Holy Orthodoxy on this continent and to the sharing of the refreshment of the Gospel of Jesus Christ with a dry and thirsty land. Today, on this Steward Sunday, I am asking each of you to express your love for the Orthodox Church in America and for our Lord in a tangible way - through a sacrificial gift to the Stewards.

May the Lord continue to grant you every blessing 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

Glory to God for all things!