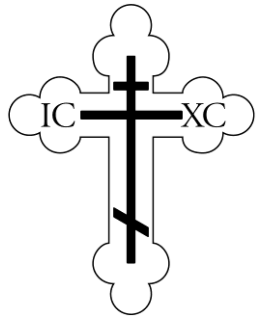
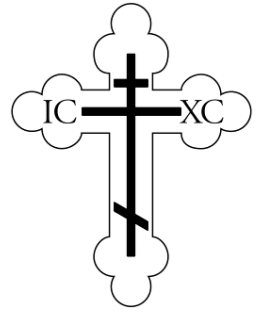


Protection of the Virgin Mary



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.**

November 3, 2019

Synaxis of the Holy Unmercenary Physicians

On the first Sunday after November 1, we celebrate the Synaxis of the Holy Unmercenary Healers, or, as they are also called, the “physicians without silver.” They are those saints who, out of pure love of God and neighbor, healed the sick and mended the souls of others while asking nothing in return. Among the most well-known Unmercenary Saints are Cosmos and Damian († c. 287), Cyrus and John († c. 304), Panteleimon († 305), Sampson the Hospitable († c. 530), and Agapitos of the Kievan Caves († 1095).

We are all icons of Christ in that we are made in the image and likeness of God. Yet it is in the saints, who’s souls have been scoured and scrubbed clean of the black taint and

deformity of sin, that this image of Christ is made clear, and it shines through in the life of the saint – each in their own particular way. In the Unmercenary Healers, we see the image of Christ the True Physician; their whole lives and their very being pointed to Christ. The holy brothers, Sts. Cosmas and Damian, told the sick: “It is not by our own power that we treat you, but by the power of Christ, the true God. Believe in him and be healed.”

HYMNS OF THE DAY

Tone 3 – Resurrectional Troparion

Let the heavens rejoice!

Let the earth be glad!

For the Lord has shown strength with His arm.

He has trampled down death by death.

He has become the first born of the dead.

He has delivered us from the depths of hell,
and has granted to the world//

great mercy.

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 – Troparion for the Holy Unmercenaries

Holy unmercenaries and wonderworkers, heal our infirmities!

Freely you have received; freely you give to us!

Tone 3 – Resurrectional Kontakion

On this day You rose from the tomb, O Merciful One,
leading us from the gates of death.

On this day Adam exults as Eve rejoices
with the Prophets and Patriarchs//

They unceasingly praise the divine majesty of Your power.

Tone 2 – Kontakion for the Holy Unmercenaries

Having received the grace of healing,
you extend health to those in need.

O all-glorious physicians and wonderworkers,
by your visitation cast down the audacity of the enemy,//
healing the world through your miracles.

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 3 – Sunday Prokeimenon (Psalm 46)

Sing praises to our God, sing praises! / Sing praises to our
King, sing praises!

Tone 4 – For the Holy Unmercenaries (Psalm 67)

God is wonderful in His saints, / the God of Israel!

Epistle: Galatians 1.11-19 (Sunday)

Brethren: I make known to you that the gospel which was preached by me is not according to man. For I neither received it from man, nor was I taught it, but it came through the revelation of Jesus Christ.

For you have heard of my former conduct in Judaism, how I persecuted the church of God beyond measure and tried to destroy it. And I advanced in Judaism beyond many of my contemporaries in my own nation, being more exceedingly zealous for the traditions of my fathers. But when it pleased God, who separated me from my mother's womb and called me through His grace, to reveal His Son in me, that I might preach Him among the Gentiles, I did not immediately confer with flesh and blood, nor did I go up to Jerusalem to those who were apostles before me; but I went to Arabia, and returned again to Damascus. Then after three

years I went up to Jerusalem to see Peter, and remained with him fifteen days. But I saw none of the other apostles except James, the Lord's brother.

1 Corinthians 12.27-13.8 (Holy Unmercenaries)

Brethren: You are the body of Christ and individually members of it. And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healings, helping, administrating, and varieties of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? Do all have gifts of healing? Do all speak with tongues? Do all interpret? But earnestly desire the highest gifts.

And yet I will show you a more excellent way: If I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I have become a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge; and if I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. And if I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and if I deliver up my body to be burned, but have not love, I gain nothing.

Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or parade itself; it is not arrogant or rude. It does not seek its own; it is not provoked; it thinks no evil; it does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never fails.

But if there are prophecies, they will pass away; if there are tongues, they will cease; if there is knowledge, it will vanish away.

Gospel: Luke 8:41-56 (Sunday)

At that time, there came to Jesus 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 Jesus' 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.

Matthew 10.1, 5-8 (Holy Unmercenaries)

At that time, Jesus called His twelve disciples to Him, and He gave them power over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal all kinds of sickness and all kinds of disease. These twelve Jesus sent out and commanded them, saying: "Do not go into the way of the Gentiles, and do not enter a city of the

Samaritans. But go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. And as you go, preach, saying, 'The kingdom of heaven is at hand.' Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out demons. Freely you have received; freely give."

WE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

N.Dep. Madeline Petri

Juliana Thiel

Constantin Ardeleanu

Ev.Mem. Ignatil Redka ('38)

Michael Suhorsky ('18)

Joseph Mizerak ('60)

Evan Shetoha ('63)

Sylvia Naughton ('63)

Boris Sarafin ('84)

Anthony Bartosh (2002)

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

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

Joseph

Martin

Alexandra

Mark

Alexa

Paula

Alexandra

James

Joanne

Ronald

Michael

Joseph

Rachel

Kathleen

Paul

William

Michael

Frederick

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today at 4pm in the Church Hall, **O-Club** is hosting a **Trivia fundraiser** for the hurricane relief efforts of IOCC.

At **Bible Study** this week we will discuss Exodus 29-32.

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

Next Sunday @ 12:30pm, **Descent of the Holy Ghost** will hold its annual **Thanksgiving Dinner**. Adults: \$15; Students \$7; Under 7: free! Call Judi @ 781-9829 to reserve a seat.

Order forms for our **Thanksgiving Bake Sale** are available now in the narthex. **Orders are due by Nov 20** and will be available for pick-up during coffee hour on Sunday, Nov 24. Consider donating supplies (flour, butter, eggs, sugar...) or putting in time in the kitchen Nov 21-23, 10am-4pm.

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

This month we are collecting for the **Winfield Food Pantry**.

Mark your calendars:

Nov 6: **Bible Study @ 7pm**

Nov 7: **Faith Enrichment @ 10am**

Nov 8: **Divine Liturgy at Archangel Michael Church** in Burbank for their **parish feast day @ 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: \$1,510

Synergy: Key to a Relationship with Church

A reflection by His Grace, our Bishop Paul

Over the last month and a half, I have been speaking on the theme of our Youth being connected to their parishes. I began with what the parish needs to do, and then I turned to what parents can do to assist their children to form healthy connections to their parish. I spoke on freedom, obedience, and love as important ingredients that need to be sown in the soil of a child's life to foster this healthy connection. If there is one word that ties all of this together and links a child connecting with the parish and parish connecting with the child, I think it would be the word "synergy." Synergy is a Greek word that literally means, "to work together."

When we apply this word to church life, we don't mean that we cooperate with God as if we are equals. Synergy happens when the Lord, out of love, freely reveals Himself to us, and we agree to embrace that revelation and follow it. As many of us know, God the Father reveals Himself to us through His Word Jesus Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit. This Trinitarian life is fully revealed in Christ's Body the Church "the fullness of Him who fills all in all" (1 Ephesians 1:23). Our Lord's healing power is given to us in the sacramental life of the Church. The experience of our Lord in our lives is realized in our prayer and in the ascetical life we live out in the Church. The experience of our Lord in our lives is realized when we strive by Grace to love Him with our entire mind, heart, soul, and body, with everything that we have. The experience of our Lord in our lives is realized when we love our fellow human beings as Christ has loved us. This can only happen when we understand and live out this idea of synergy. Let us strive then to participate more in our parish life and experience a closer connection. Let us learn to do so by embracing this synergy.

The blessing of the Lord be upon you,

The unworthy +Paul

Glory to God for all things!