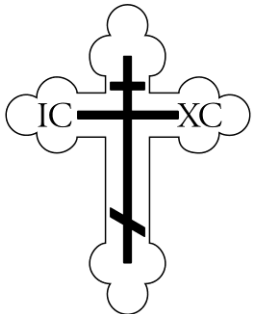
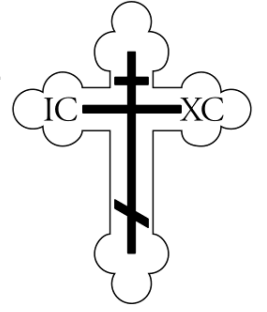


# Protection of the Virgin Mary Orthodox Church



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



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Rev. Dr. Jacob Van Sickle  
(219)384-6826 • [frjacobvansickle@gmail.com](mailto:frjacobvansickle@gmail.com)

Great Vespers: 6pm Saturdays

Divine Liturgy: 10am Sundays

Confession is available before or  
after Vespers or by appointment

**Welcome visitors!**  
**Please join us in the**  
**parish hall after Divine**  
**Liturgy for coffee hour.**

## September 5, 2021 Holy Prophet-Martyr Zachariah

The Holy Prophet Zachariah and the Righteous Elizabeth were the parents of the holy Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist of the Lord, John. They were descended from the lineage of Aaron: Saint Zachariah, son of Barach, was a priest in the Jerusalem Temple, and Saint Elizabeth was the sister of Saint Anna, the mother of the Most Holy Theotokos. The righteous spouses, “walking in all the commandments of the Lord” (Luke 1:6), suffered barrenness, which in those times was considered a punishment from God.

Once, during his turn of priestly service in the Temple, Saint Zachariah was told by an angel that his aged wife would bear him a son, who “will be great in the sight of the Lord” (Lk 1:15) and “will go before Him in the spirit and power of Elias” (Lk 1:17).

Zachariah doubted that this prediction would come true, and for his weakness of faith he was punished by becoming mute. When

Elizabeth gave birth to a son, through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit she announced that his name was John, although no one in their family had this name.

They asked Zachariah and he also wrote the name John down on a tablet. Immediately the gift of speech returned to him, and inspired by the Holy Spirit, he began to prophesy about his son as the Forerunner of the Lord.

When King Herod heard from the Magi about the birth of the Messiah, he decided to kill all the infants up to two years old at Bethlehem and the surrounding area, hoping that the new-born Messiah would be among them.

Herod knew about John's unusual birth and he wanted to kill him, fearing that he was the foretold King of the Jews. But Elizabeth hid herself and the infant in the hills. The murderers searched everywhere for John. Elizabeth, when she saw her pursuers, began to implore God for their safety, and immediately the hill opened up and concealed her and the infant from their pursuers.

In these tragic days St Zachariah was taking his turn at the services in the Temple. Soldiers sent by Herod tried in vain to learn from him the whereabouts of his son. Then, by command of Herod, they murdered this holy prophet, having stabbed him between the temple and the altar (Mt 23:35). Elizabeth died forty days after her husband, and Saint John, preserved by the Lord, dwelt in the wilderness until the day of his appearance to the nation of Israel.

## 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 2 – Troparion of St. Zachariah**

Robed in the vestments of the priesthood,  
according to the Law of God you offered whole-burnt offerings in a  
sacred manner, wise Zachariah.

You became a luminary and a seer of the mysteries,  
bearing within yourself the signs of grace, all-wise one.

Slain by the sword in the temple of God, O prophet of Christ,  
intercede together with the Forerunner//  
that our souls may be saved!

## **Tone 2 – Resurrectional Kontakion**

Hell became afraid, O 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 3 – Kontakion for St. Zachariah**

Today the prophet Zachariah, priest of the Most High  
and parent of the Forerunner,  
has prepared a banquet to his memory to nourish the faithful,  
mixing the drink of righteousness.//  
Therefore we praise him as a divine initiate of the grace of God.

## **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: 1 Corinthians 9.2-12**

Brethren: If I am not an apostle to others, yet doubtless I am to you. For you are the seal of my apostleship in the Lord. My defense to those who examine me is this: Do we have no right to eat and drink? Do we have no right to take along a believing wife, as do also the other apostles, the brothers of the Lord, and Cephas? Or is it only Barnabas and I who have no right to refrain from working?

Who ever goes to war at his own expense? Who plants a vineyard and does not eat of its fruit? Or who tends a flock and does not drink of the milk of the flock?

Do I say these things as a mere man? Or does not the law say the same also? For it is written in the law of Moses, “You shall not muzzle an ox while it treads out the grain.” Is it oxen God is concerned about? Or does He say it altogether for our sakes? For our sakes, no doubt, this is written, that he who plows should plow in hope, and he who threshes in hope should be partaker of his hope.

If we have sown spiritual things for you, is it a great thing if we reap your material things? If others are partakers of this right over you, are we not even more? Nevertheless, we have not used this right, but endure all things lest we hinder the gospel of Christ.

### **Gospel: Matthew 18.23-35**

The Lord said this parable to His disciples: “The kingdom of heaven is like a certain king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. And when he had begun to settle accounts, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents. But as he was not able to pay, his master commanded that he be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and that payment be made.

“The servant therefore fell down before him, saying, ‘Master, have patience with me, and I will pay you all.’ Then the master of that servant was moved with compassion, released him, and forgave him the debt.

“But that servant went out and found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii; and he laid hands on him and took him by the throat, saying, ‘Pay me what you owe!’

“So his fellow servant fell down at his feet and begged him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you all.’ And he would not, but went and threw him into prison till he should pay the debt.

“So when his fellow servants saw what had been done, they were very grieved, and came and told their master all that had been done. Then his master, after he had called him, said to him, ‘You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you begged me. Should you not also have had compassion on your fellow servant, just as I had pity on you?’

“And his master was angry, and delivered him to the torturers until he should pay all that was due to him. So My heavenly Father also will do to you if each of you, from his heart, does not forgive his brother his trespasses.”

# WE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

**N.Dep.** Archpr. Sergei Glagolev  
Mark Bertram  
Mat. Tresja Denysenko  
Charles Swallow  
Thomas Kurth  
Loretta Molchan

**Ev.Mem.** John Melevsky ('13)  
Mary Marakovich ('23)  
Stephan Lopeka ('27)  
Dorothy Georgieff ('31)  
James Kuzmanoff ('85)

## **Health & Salv.**

Archpr. Peter  
Mat. Margaret  
Mat. Anne  
Pr. Christopher  
Mat. Jennifer  
Andrew  
Gideon  
Dn. Nicholas  
Sophia  
Kevin  
Jon  
Tanya  
Jovan  
Julia  
Tom  
Tina  
Jennifer  
Gail  
Stacy  
Jeramie  
Olivia  
Parker  
Christine  
Larry  
Rollie  
Joseph  
Nadia  
Brendan  
Tanya  
Christopher  
Nina  
Renee

Carissa  
Cynthia  
John  
Olga  
Mark  
Jerry  
Michael  
Anthony  
Daryl  
Diane  
Carla  
Susan  
Timothy  
William  
Paul  
Joseph  
Linda  
Claudia  
Elizabeth  
Snezana  
Nathan  
Kara  
Ryan  
Carol  
Christine  
Jon  
Zoey  
Dominic  
Declan  
Hudson  
Ayden  
Hyland  
Jason

Ted  
James  
Pamela  
Erin  
Alexander  
Ronald  
Theodore  
Robert  
Craig  
Chuck  
Scott  
Mark  
Christine  
Dale  
Pauline  
Mary  
Timothy  
Lisa  
Lois  
Michael  
Janice  
Ken  
Debbie  
Jacqueline  
Dara  
Cindy  
Daniel  
Laura  
Dorothy  
Vasiliy  
William  
Wanda  
Cindy

Mary  
Linda  
Ivanka  
Susan  
Denise  
Valerie

Jeffrey  
Aaron  
William  
Jamie  
Karen  
Dale

Jack  
Joyce  
Junia  
Anna  
Sandra

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

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

For **Bible Study** this week, read 4 Kingdoms (a.k.a. 2 Kings) 1-4.

**Church School resumes next Sunday, September 12.** Please register your children by recording their names and a parent's name and phone number for contact on the registration sheet in the Narthex, or by visiting [www.ptvm.com](http://www.ptvm.com) and clicking the "Church School" tab.

On **Saturday morning, September 25**, our bakers will offer a **tutorial on baking the prosphora** (offering bread) for any who would like to learn. We will start at 9am and finish with lunch together, which will be provided. Please let Elizabeth Pedersen or Fr Jacob know if you plan to attend, so that we can be sure to have enough supplies.

Congregations of Merrillville is holding a luncheon **fundraiser for the Feed the Flock** ministry on Saturday, September 25. Details are on fliers in the narthex. See Mary Ann Bertram or Janet Andrus during coffee hour for tickets.

The **icons of the Life of the Theotokos** in memory of Archpriest Spiro Tanaskoski have been completed. From this point on, if anyone would like to sponsor more iconography in the Church, please see Fr Jacob to discuss options. Right now, icons of Archangel Michael, St. John the Baptist, and Thomas Sunday are slated to be done on the ground level of our East Wall by the end of this year. A perpetual plaque will be installed in the entryway of the Church to commemorate those in whose memory icons are being completed.

### **Mark your calendars:**

Sept 7: **Great Vespers** for the **Nativity of the Virgin Mary @ 6pm**

Sept 8: **Divine Liturgy** for the **Nativity of the Virgin Mary @ 10am**  
**Bible Study @ 7pm**

Sept 10: **Fall Clean-Up @ 9am**

**Sept 12: First Sunday of Church School**

**Sept 25: Prospora baking tutorial @ 9am**

**Sept 30: Great Vespers with Archbishop Paul for our Parish Feast @ 6pm, followed by a reception**

**Oct 1: Feast of the Protection of the Virgin Mary: Divine Liturgy with Archbishop Paul @ 9am**

**Oct 3: 110<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration following Divine Liturgy**

**Last week's gifts to the Lord: \$1,995**

## **In Memoriam: Fr. Sergei Glagolev**

On Wednesday morning, September 1, 2021, the Mitred Archpriest Sergei Glagolev peacefully fell asleep in the Lord at the age of 93. Fr Sergei was widely known as a church musician and composer and as the first Director of the Fellowship of Orthodox Stewards (FOS) in the early 1980s.

Sergei Glagolev was born in Gary, Indiana on August 13, 1928, to Andrew, the choir director at St. Mary's Russian Orthodox Church, and Magdalena Glagolev. Both in Gary and Cleveland, where the family soon moved, young Sergei was immersed in a musical environment from an early age. In 1941, Andrew was ordained a priest and assigned to St Michael's Cathedral in Pittsburgh. When the parish choir director left his position, thirteen-year-old Sergei took over these duties under the stern mentorship of his father.

Fr Andrew was reassigned to Lorain, Ohio, where Sergei continued his musical education in high school and then at Oberlin College beginning in 1946. Two years later, in order to focus on church music, he moved to New York to enroll at St Vladimir's Orthodox Theological Seminary and also completed a Bachelor in Music Education at New York University. After his studies in New York, he was sent to Detroit in 1949 to be the choir director at Sts Peter and Paul Cathedral. Here, he soon met an attractive choir member, Genevieve (Gerry) Brunarsky. They were married on January 23, 1951 and would remain together for over seven decades. On November 17, 1951, Sergei was ordained a deacon. His ordination to the priesthood followed on July 20, 1952.

In the 1940s, slow movement began in the North American Metropolia (which is now the OCA) toward the use of English as a



liturgical language. To advance the use of English in services, the Federated Russian Orthodox Clubs commissioned Fr Andrew Glagolev to compile a music book for the Liturgy in English, which he produced in 1948 with the assistance of his son Sergei, as English was not Fr Andrew's first language. Fr Sergei continued to promote and write about the liturgical use of English, and became the founding pastor of the first parish community to be established as an English language mission in North America: St Innocent Church in Encino, CA. While tirelessly ministering to the pastoral needs of his parishioners and seeking to expand the community through evangelization, Fr Sergei would also often compose or arrange music for the liturgical hymns, as little Orthodox music existed in English at the time. In 1974 Fr Sergei was appointed Chancellor of the Diocese of the West and, the following year, he was transferred from St Innocent's Church to become Dean of Holy Trinity Cathedral in San Francisco, which was then a predominantly Russian-speaking parish using Church Slavonic. In 1976 he received an invitation to teach music at St Vladimir's Seminary in New York, which he accepted, simultaneously becoming Rector of Holy Trinity Church in East Meadow, NY.

In 1980 His Beatitude Metropolitan Theodosius asked Fr Sergei, known as a charismatic speaker, to direct the newly-created Fellowship of Orthodox Stewards (FOS), an organization dedicated to providing funding for OCA Departments and raising consciousness of the need for stewardship in church life. He would hold this position for five years (1981-86). He traveled extensively to visit parishes where he would solicit support for the OCA Departments, speak about the importance of good stewardship and conduct music workshops. After five years of strenuous labors in this demanding position, Father Sergei entered retirement. For the last three decades of his life, Father Sergei would occasionally, as his health permitted, travel to conduct retreats, music workshops or to speak at other events.

Father Sergei exuded joy, peace, kindness and love. For decades, faithful from throughout the Church flocked to hear him speak, to see his joyful smile, to partake of his deep knowledge of church music or to seek his wise spiritual counsel in the Sacrament of Confession.

# Glory to God for all things!