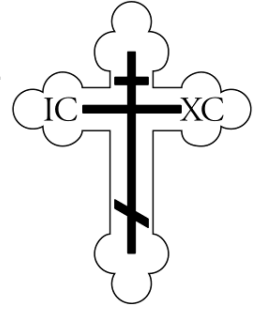
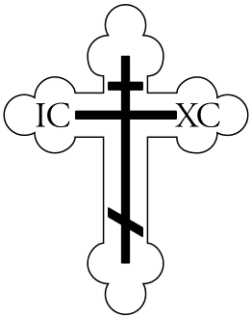


Protection of the Virgin Mary

Orthodox Church



Diocese of Chicago
and the Midwest
Orthodox Church
in America

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Merrillville, IN 46410
(219)947-4748
www.ptvm.com

Rev. Dr. Jacob Van Sickle
(219)384-6826 • 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 4, 2022

Holy Prophet Moses the God-Seer Holy Hieromartyr Babylas

The Holy Prophet and God-Seer Moses was of the tribe of Levi, the son of Abram and Jochabed (Ex 6:20). His life is described in the Bible (Ex 2 through Deut 34:12).

Moses was born in Egypt around 1689 B.C. When Pharaoh ordered all male children of the Hebrew slaves to be killed, Moses' mother placed him in a basket of papyrus coated with pitch, and set him adrift on the Nile. Pharaoh's daughter found him and raised him as her own son.

At the age of eighty, Moses fled to Midian, where he spoke to God in the Burning Bush on Mt. Horeb. God chose Moses to lead His people from the slavery of Egypt. They crossed the Red Sea as if it were dry land, and for forty years they wandered in the desert.

Arriving in the land of Moab, Moses went to the top of Mt. Nabau, or Nebo, which is called Phasga. There, according to the will of God, he died in 1569 B.C. at the age of 120 without entering the Promised Land.

The first two Biblical Odes are attributed to Moses: “Let us sing to the Lord...” (Ex 15:1-9), which was sung on the shores of the Red Sea after the Hebrews had crossed it. “Attend, O heaven...” (Deut 32:1-43) was sung in the land of Moab, a few days before Moses’ death. He is also regarded as the author of the Pentateuch (the first five books of the Old Testament).

The holy Prophet Moses performed many miracles during his lifetime, and also after his death. He appeared on Tabor with the Prophet Elias at the Transfiguration of the Lord (August 6).

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,

illumined 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 for St. Moses

You ascended to the heights of the virtues, O Prophet Moses;

therefore, you were deemed worthy to see the glory of God.

Having received the grace-filled tablets of the Law,

and bearing the grace of the writing within yourself,

You were the honorable praise of prophets//

and a great mystery of piety.

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 4 – Kontakion for St. Babylas

You guarded the mighty works of faith in your heart,
therefore, you did not fear the tyrant;./.

preserve us as well, Hieromartyr Babýlas, good servant of Christ!

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!

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 15.1-11

Brethren, I declare to you the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received and in which you stand, by which also you are saved, if you hold fast that word which I preached to you – unless you believed in vain. For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures, and that He was seen by Cephas, then by the twelve. After that He was seen by over five hundred brethren at once, of whom the greater part remain to the present, but some have fallen asleep. After that He was seen by James, then by all the apostles.

Then last of all He was seen by me also, as by one born out of due time. For I am the least of the apostles, who am not worthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and His grace toward me was not in vain; but I labored more abundantly than they all, yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me. Therefore, whether it was I or they, so we preach and so you believed.

Gospel: Matthew 19.16-2

At that time, someone came and said to Jesus, “Good Teacher, what good thing shall I do that I may have eternal life?”

So, He said to him, “Why do you call Me good? No one is good but One, that is, God. But if you want to enter into life, keep the commandments.”

He said to Him, “Which ones?”

Jesus said, “‘You shall not murder,’ ‘You shall not commit adultery,’ ‘You shall not steal,’ ‘You shall not bear false witness,’ ‘Honor your father and your mother,’ and, ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ “

The young man said to Him, “All these things I have kept from my youth. What do I still lack?”

Jesus said to him, “If you want to be perfect, go, sell what you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me.” But when the young man heard that saying, he went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions.

Then Jesus said to His disciples, “Assuredly, I say to you that it is hard for a rich man to enter the kingdom of heaven. And again, I say to you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God.

When His disciples heard it, they were greatly astonished, saying, “Who then can be saved?”

But Jesus looked at them and said to them, “With men this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.”

WE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

New Dep. Met. Kallistos Ware

Doris Corcoran

Myra Schafer

Gity Karamouz

Katheryn Sofranoff

Brandon Mosak

Ev.Mem. Martha Terlick ('32)

Anastas Damoff ('48)

Natalia Warona ('58)

Michael Sawochka ('70)

Joseph Chestovich ('82)

Archpr. Anastasy Richter (2021)

Health & Salv.

Met. Herman

Archpr. Peter

Mat. Anne

Kevin

Jon

Tanya

Jovan

Tom

Jennifer

Larry

Rollie

Joseph

Nadia

Mark

Jerry

Joseph

Linda

Claudia

Carol

Snezana

Ryan	Irene	Carissa
Nathan	Michelle	Ashton
Kara	Erika	Doris
Djuro	Luke	Laura
Dominic	Jo	Duane
Declan	Stephanie	Elizabeth
Hudson	Mary Ann	Karen
Ayden	Robb	Alexa
Hyland	Desiree	Miriana
Jason	Hanna	Olga
Ted	Jaroslava	Richard
James	Andrew	Klaudia
Pamela	Andrew	Nicodemus
Alexander	Vadim	Nada
Ronald	Hanna	Mark
William	Alex	Catherine
Wanda	Carl	Aaron
Ivanka	Laura	Ebony
Aaron	Chrisan	Peggy
Karen	Janice	Sue
Sandra	Gerald	Victoria
Linda	Olga	Janet
Jim	Janie	Tom
John	David	Wilma
Martha	Sharon	Luba
Mark	Tanya	
Michelle	Renee	

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

Special Petitions at the Augmented Litany:

We pray, O Lord our God, for all those who suffer from acts of war, especially for the victims in Ukraine. We pray for Your peace and Your mercy in the midst of the great suffering of Your people. Vouchsafe to accept the prayers of the Church, so that by Your goodness, peace may return to all peoples; O Lord, hear us and have mercy.

We also pray You, O Lord our God, to remember and have mercy on our Orthodox brothers and sisters in Russia and Ukraine, who are involved in violent conflict. Remove from their midst all hostility, confusion and hatred. Lead everyone along the path of reconciliation and peace, we pray You, hear us and have mercy.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Because of scheduling conflicts, **Faith Enrichment will meet on the first and third Tuesdays of the month of September** at the same time of 10am. This is instead of it's usual day of Thursday. This change is reflected on the parish calendar.

For Bible Study this week read Job 9-12.

Church School resumes next Sunday! There will be a back to Church School party during coffee hour.

His Beatitude Metropolitan Tikhon has set the date for the enthronement of His Grace Daniel as Bishop of Chicago and the Midwest for Saturday, October 1, 2022, the Feast of the Protection of the Virgin Mary. **All are encouraged to come and participate in the Liturgy and enthronement at Holy Trinity Cathedral beginning at 9am.** For this reason, there will be no Divine Liturgy at our parish for the feast. More details about the celebration of our parish feast day/anniversary weekend are forthcoming.

Mark your calendars:

Sept 7: **Festal Vespers for the Nativity of the Virgin Mary @ 6pm**
Bible Study @ 7pm

Sept 8: **Divine Liturgy for the Nativity of the Virgin Mary @ 10am**

Sept 11: **Beginning of the Church School Year**

Sept 13: **Festal Vespers for the Exaltation of the Cross @ 6pm**

Sept 14: **Divine Liturgy for the Exaltation of the Cross @ 10am**

Sept 17: **No Great Vespers**

Sept 18: Fr Jacob out of town; Fr Howard Sloan will serve.

Last week's gifts to the Lord: \$3,850

Message on the Ecclesiastical New Year 2022 **From His Beatitude, our Metropolitan Tikhon**

To the clergy, monastics, and faithful of the Orthodox Church in America: Dear beloved children in the Lord,

Today (September 1) marks the beginning of the new ecclesiastical year and is a day we have, in recent times, set aside to

pray for God's creation, remember our place within it, and look towards its care.

As the scientific community vocally sounds the alarm on the human impact on worldwide ecology, we are increasingly aware of the climate crisis facing us. We are now, in the last few decades, coming to fully understand the power humanity has to harm the natural world.

We know from the Scriptures that God has given mankind dominion "over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth" (Gen. 1:28). Now it seems that this dominion, misdirected, has been extended so that we also have a measure of control to shape even the climate on God's earth on which we live. The worldwide consensus grows day by day that mankind has misused its stewardship of the earth and that the consequences of such mismanagement are increasingly more serious.

We must take these alarms seriously. The climate crisis is predicted to drastically harm the lives of future generations, especially in the third world, where many regions are expected to become inhospitable, leading to famine. Our Lord tells us that all the Law and the Prophets depend on the two great commandments: the love of God and the love of our neighbor (cf. Matt. 22:38-40). Thus, care for our climate and ecosystem is not merely a material problem, it is also a spiritual problem. It is of critical concern to face this spiritual challenge presented by the climate crisis.

Likewise, it is spiritually harmful to thoughtlessly consume the natural world around us; it is an abuse of God's gift. As the Psalmist declares, "the earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof, the world and those who dwell therein" (Ps 23:1). This world is God's creation declared to be good (cf. Gen. 1). We are merely stewards, never owners, and we have a responsibility to exercise moderation, to care for the earth, and to do what is in our power to stop its exploitation and destruction.

This means that, even if there were no environmental alarms being sounded, our calling to care for the environment remains. We remember that at the creation of the world, "the Lord God planted a garden in Eden, in the east; and there He put the man whom He had formed ... and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it" (Gen. 2:8, 15). It was in this garden that Adam and Eve, the first human beings, received their vocations as caretakers of paradise.

Thus, care for the natural world, the climate, and ecosystem is for us a quiet echo of the first calling of man given by our Lord, God,

and Savior Jesus Christ before we wore “garments of skin” (Gen. 3:21) and the pollution of sin spread. It is a reminder of our pilgrimage towards our true home in the Kingdom of God, the heavenly Eden, where there is “the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb through the middle of the street of the city; also, on either side of the river, the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit... and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations” (Rev. 22:1-2).

I encourage all to take up this ancient vocation of man and begin by individually finding practical ways to become good stewards of the world in which we find ourselves. Aspire to “live quietly” as the Apostle Paul instructs (cf. 1 Thess. 4:11) and reject the ravenous consumerism which devours our hearts as it devours everything else. Reduce your carbon footprint and avoid waste whenever possible. Plant trees and gardens, to not only help the environment but to remind you that during our time on earth we are “aliens and exiles” (1 Pet. 2:11) traveling towards paradise and the gardens of the age to come.

I urge our institutions, dioceses, monasteries, and parishes: take the lead in your respective areas, whether organizing large efforts to become more ecologically responsible, reducing carbon footprints, or taking climate concerns into account when planning. From diocesan initiatives to beautifying parish properties and gardens to the prayer of individuals at home, we all have our vocations in caring for the world which God has given us.

It is my sincere hope that in coming years and decades the Orthodox Church in America will become a leader in North America of good ecological stewardship; and that, for the outside world, we will be held up as examples of responsible, humble living, as befits followers of the gospel.

Let us always give thanks to Him Who “bestow upon us earthly good things” and “Who have given us a pledge of the promised kingdom through the good things already bestowed upon us” (Sixth Prayer of Vespers). May God bless our efforts as we strive to become ever better stewards of His many gifts.

I remain sincerely yours in Christ,

+Tikhon

Archbishop of Washington

Metropolitan of All America and Canada

Glory to God for all things!