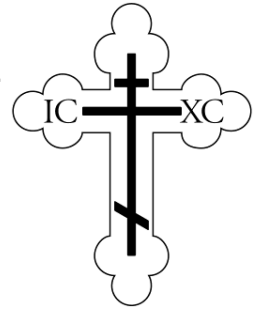
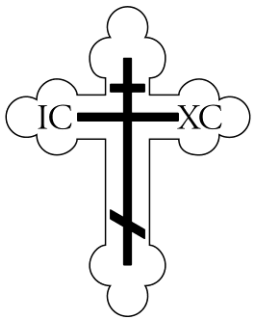


Protection of the Virgin Mary

Orthodox Church



Diocese of Chicago
and the Midwest
Orthodox Church
in America

8600 Grand Blvd.
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.

November 27, 2022

Holy Greatmartyr James of Persia

The Holy Great Martyr James the Persian (the Sawn-Asunder) was born in the fourth century into a pious Christian family, both wealthy and illustrious. His wife was also a Christian, and the couple raised their children in piety, inspiring in them a love for prayer and the Holy Scriptures. James occupied a high position at the court of the Persian emperor Izdegerd (399-420) and his successor Barakhranes (420-438). But on one of the military campaigns James, seduced by the emperor's beneficence, was afraid to acknowledge himself a Christian, and so he offered sacrifice to idols with the emperor.

Learning of this, James' mother and wife wrote him a letter, in which they rebuked him and urged him to repent. Receiving the letter, James realized the gravity of his sin. Faced with the horror of

being cut off not only from his family, but also from God Himself, he began to weep loudly, imploring the Lord for forgiveness.

His fellow-soldiers, hearing him pray to the Lord Jesus Christ, reported this to the emperor. Under interrogation, St James bravely confessed his faith in the one True God. No amount of urging by the emperor could make him renounce Christ. The emperor then ordered the saint to be put to death.

They began to cut off his fingers and his toes one by one, then his hands and his feet, and then his arms and legs. During the prolonged torture St James offered prayers of thanksgiving to the Lord, Who had granted him the possibility of redemption from his sins by enduring these terrible torments. Finally, the martyr was beheaded. Christians gathered up the pieces of his body and buried them with great reverence.

HYMNS OF THE DAY

Tone 7 – Resurrectional Troparion

By Your Cross You destroyed death.

To the thief You opened Paradise.

For the Myrrhbearers You changed weeping into joy.

And You commanded Your disciples, O Christ God,

to proclaim that You are risen,//

granting 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 4 – Troparion of St James

Long-suffering James, you astounded all

by enduring horrible tortures with great patience.

As the evil assembly performed the slaughter,

you uttered prayers of thanksgiving to the Lord.

Through your sufferings you received your crown,

and came to the throne of the heavenly King, Christ God.//

Entreat Him to save our souls!

Tone 7 – Resurrectional Kontakion

The dominion of death

can no longer hold men captive,

for Christ descended, shattering and destroying its powers.

Hell is bound, while the Prophets rejoice and cry:

“The Savior has come to those in faith; //

enter, you faithful, into the Resurrection!”

Tone 2 – Kontakion for St James

You listened to your faithful wife

and contemplated the judgment of God, holy James;

you despised the threats and commands of the Persians,

accepting the cutting of your body as though you were a vine. //

Therefore, you were revealed as a martyr worthy of honor.

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 7 – Sunday Prokeimenon (Psalm 28)

The Lord shall give strength to His people.

The Lord shall bless His people with peace!

Epistle: Ephesians 2.14-22

Brethren: Jesus Christ Himself is our peace, who has made both one, and has broken down the middle wall of separation, having abolished in His flesh the enmity, that is, the law of commandments contained in ordinances, so as to create in Himself one new man from the two, thus making peace, and that He might reconcile them both to God in one body through the cross, thereby putting to death the enmity.

And He came and preached peace to you who were afar off and to those who were near. For through Him we both have access by one Spirit to the Father. Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief

cornerstone, in whom the whole building, being fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord, in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.

Gospel: Luke 13.10-17

At that time, Jesus was teaching in one of the synagogues on the Sabbath. And behold, there was a woman who had a spirit of infirmity eighteen years, and was bent over and could in no way raise herself up. But when Jesus saw her, He called her to Him and said to her, "Woman, you are loosed from your infirmity." And He laid His hands on her, and immediately she was made straight, and glorified God.

But the ruler of the synagogue answered with indignation, because Jesus had healed on the Sabbath; and he said to the crowd, "There are six days on which men ought to work; therefore, come and be healed on them, and not on the Sabbath day."

The Lord then answered him and said, "Hypocrite! Does not each one of you on the Sabbath loose his ox or donkey from the stall, and lead it away to water it? So, ought not this woman, being a daughter of Abraham, whom Satan has bound – think of it – for eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the Sabbath?" And when He said these things, all His adversaries were put to shame; and all the multitude rejoiced for all the glorious things that were done by Him.

WE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

New. Dep. Donna Chabre

Jimmy Grosdanis

Hanna Kostyuk

Ev.Mem. Sergie Nestor ('51)

Archpr. Benjamin Kedrovsky ('68)

Lillian Fedorinko ('81)

Archpr. Peter Rozdelsky ('86)

Mat. Ann Rozdelsky (2002)

Health & Salv.

Archpr. Peter

Mat. Cynthia

Archpr. John

Mat. Anne

Dn. Nicholas

Kevin

Jon

Tanya

Jovan

Tom

Jennifer

Larry

Rollie

Joseph

Nadia

Mark

Jerry

Joseph

Linda

Claudia

Carol

Snezana

Ryan

Nathan

Kara

Djuro

Dominic

Declan

Hudson

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

*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

After venerating the cross, we will celebrate the **36-year memorial for Fr Peter Rozdelsky**.

For **Bible Study** tomorrow night, read **Wisdom of Solomon 5-8**.

The **Advent** season of preparation for our Lord's birth began on **Tuesday November 15**. During this time, we rededicate ourselves to **prayer**, especially by making a **confession**, we keep the **fast**, and we find opportunities to **give to those in need**. This Sunday and next there will be a special collection to purchase Christmas presents for two local families in need, which the parish children will buy and wrap as part of our **St. Nicholas celebration** on December 10.

Last week we collected \$182 for the work of **International Orthodox Christian Charities**.

Thank you to everyone who took an angel from our angel tree this year. All of the cards have been taken and many gifts are already appearing under the tree. A reminder that all **gifts are due to the Church by next Sunday**, so that they can be delivered to the Salvation Army the next day.

Next Sunday after coffee hour, all are invited to help us put up **Christmas decorations** in the Church and Hall.

Some parishioners have expressed a desire to **visit Fr. Peter and Mat. Cynthia** to show them support in the aftermath of Fr Peter's diagnosis with Sundowners Dementia. They have said they would love to see old friends from PTVM. To this end, **we are planning a 3-day/2-night trip to Marshfield, MO** from December 7th to the 9th. The Church will provide transportation. We will stay in a local hotel. Please let Fr Jacob know if you are interested in coming.

The **Women's Book Club** will start its next book in January of 2023. Sign-up begins now, however, to give plenty of time to order copies of the book. A Sign-up sheet is in Narthex, which includes more information including dates, time, and the title of the book.

For holiday shopping, you can help support our parish by **ordering gift cards** through the **Scrip** program (find Lara Richards' table during coffee hour). And if you do any shopping through Amazon, if you begin at www.smile.amazon.com and select "Protection of the

Virgin Mary Church” as your charity of choice, a small percentage of every purchase also comes back to PTVM.

Mark your calendars:

Dec 1: **Faith Enrichment @ 10am**

Dec 3: **Choir Masterclass** with Diocesan instructors 2-5pm

Dec 4: **Church Decorating** after Coffee Hour

Dec 5: **Festal Vespers for the feast of St. Nicholas @ 6pm**

Dec 6: **Divine Liturgy for the feast of St. Nicholas @ 10am**

Dec 10: **Church School St. Nicholas Celebration @ 9am**

Dec 13: **Divine Liturgy for the feast of St. Herman of Alaska** at St. Elizabeth’s in Chesterton (time TBD)

Dec 23: **Royal Hours of Nativity @ 10am**

Dec 24: **Vigil for the Nativity of our Lord @ 6pm**

Last week’s gifts to the Lord: \$948

Archpastoral Message for Thanksgiving 2022

From His Beatitude, our Metropolitan Tikhon

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

My Beloved Children in the Lord,

To my flock in the United States of America, I wish you all a happy Thanksgiving Day! In a world that is often overwhelmed by fear, by details and complexity, by dissatisfaction and conflict and blame, how blessed it is to set aside a day devoted solely to giving thanks for God’s bounties.

Of course, for Orthodox Christians, stepping back from the dark roads of discontent, anxiety, and accusation should not be reserved for a single day out of the year. Rather, turning away from the tumult of the world should be a daily effort, one that we make

through prayer, divine services, fasting, almsgiving, and spiritual study. Every day should be lived simply and filled with thanksgiving. Every morning should begin with glory offered to God; each evening should close with a doxology to his holy Name.

And so, on the occasion of this Thanksgiving Day, I invite all of the faithful of the OCA, in the United States and elsewhere, to join me in renewing our efforts to make the act of thanksgiving central to our daily lives and the lives of our communities, that we might better realize our calling as the eucharistic – that is to say, ‘thanksgiving’—Assembly of the Lord.

With the blessing of the present feast of the Entrance of Theotokos into the Temple, I remain sincerely yours in Christ,

+TIKHON

Archbishop of Washington
Metropolitan of All America and Canada



Glory to God for all things!