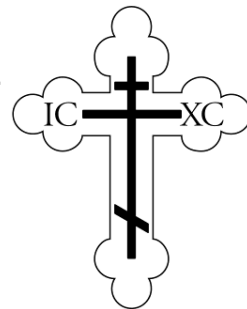
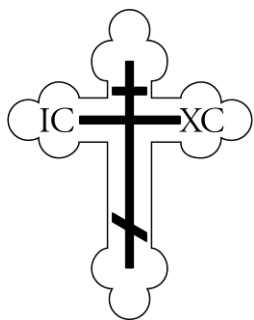


Protection of the Virgin Mary

Orthodox Church



Diocese of Chicago
and the Midwest
Orthodox Church
in America

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Merrillville, IN 46410
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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 6, 2022

St. Paul the Confessor, Archbishop of Constantinople († 350 A.D.)

Saint Paul the Confessor, Archbishop of Constantinople, was chosen to the patriarchal throne after the death of Patriarch Alexander († 340), when the Arian heresy had again flared up. Many of the Arians were present at the Council which selected the new Archbishop of Constantinople. They revolted in opposition to the choice of Saint Paul, but the Orthodox at the Council were in the majority.

The emperor Constantius, ruling over the Eastern half of the Roman Empire, was an Arian. He was not in Constantinople for the election of the Archbishop, and so it took place without his consent. Upon his return, he convened a council which illegally deposed Saint Paul, and the emperor banished him from the capital. In place of the

saint they elevated Eusebius of Nicomedia, an impious heretic. Archbishop Paul withdrew to Rome, where other Orthodox bishops were also banished by Eusebius.

Eusebius did not rule the Church of Constantinople for long. When he died, Saint Paul returned to Constantinople, and was greeted by his flock with love. But Constantius exiled the saint a second time, and so he returned to Rome. The Western emperor Constans wrote a harsh letter to his Eastern co-ruler, which he sent to Constantinople along with the holy exiled archpastor. The threats worked, and Saint Paul was reinstated upon the archepiscopal throne.

But soon the pious emperor Constans, a defender of the Orthodox, was treacherously murdered during a palace coup. They again banished Saint Paul from Constantinople and this time sent him off in exile to Armenia, to the city of Cucusus, where he endured a martyr's death. When the Archbishop was celebrating the Divine Liturgy, Arians rushed upon him by force and strangled him with his own omophorion. This occurred in the year 350.

In 381, the holy Emperor Theodosius the Great solemnly transferred the relics of Saint Paul the Confessor from Cucusus to Constantinople. In 1326, the relics of Saint Paul were transferred to Venice.

HYMNS OF THE DAY

Tone 4 – Resurrectional Troparion

When the women disciples of the Lord
learned from the angel the joyous message of Your resurrection,
they cast away the ancestral curse
and elatedly told the apostles:

“Death is overthrown!

Christ our God is risen,//

granting 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 3 – Troparion for St Paul

For confessing the divine faith,
among her priests the Church has shown you to be another Paul.
Abel cries out to the Lord together with you,
as does the righteous blood of Zachariah.//
Venerable Father, entreat Christ God to grant us His great mercy.

Tone 4 – Resurrectional Kontakion

My Savior and Redeemer, as God,
rose from the tomb and delivered the earth-born from their chains.
He has shattered the gates of hell,
and as Master,//
He has risen on the third day!

Tone 2 – Kontakion for St. Paul

Paul, you shone on the earth like a star of heavenly splendor;
now you enlighten the universal Church for which you suffered,
for you laid down your life,//
and your blood cries out to the Lord like that of Zachariah and Abel.

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 4 – Sunday Prokeimenon (Psalm 103)

O Lord, how manifold are Your works;
in wisdom have You made them all!

Epistle: Galatians 2.16-20

Brethren: Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law but by faith in Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, that we might be justified by faith in Christ and not by the works of the law; for by the works of the law no flesh shall be justified. But if, while we seek to be justified by Christ, we ourselves also are found sinners, is Christ therefore a minister of sin? Certainly not! For if I build again those things which I destroyed, I make myself a transgressor. For I through the law died to the law that I might live to God. I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.

Gospel: Luke 8.41-56

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 His 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.

WE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Ev.Mem. Michael Frentzko ('27)

Joseph Botish ('48)

Stella Mironick ('57)

Fedora Tarnowsky ('67)

Dimitry Denlow ('68)

Mike Chapko ('72)

Health & Salv.	Pamela	Gerald
Archpr. Peter	Alexander	Olga
Mat. Cynthia	Ronald	Janie
Archpr. John	William	David
Mat. Anne	Wanda	Sharon
Dn. Nicholas	Ivanka	Tanya
Kevin	Aaron	Renee
Jon	Karen	Carissa
Tanya	Sandra	Ashton
Jovan	Linda	Doris
Tom	Jim	Laura
Jennifer	John	Duane
Larry	Martha	Elizabeth
Rollie	Mark	Karen
Joseph	Michelle	Alexa
Nadia	Irene	Miriana
Mark	Michelle	Olga
Jerry	Erika	Richard
Joseph	Luke	Klaudia
Linda	Jo	Nicodemus
Claudia	Stephanie	Nada
Carol	Mary Ann	Mark
Snezana	Robb	Catherine
Ryan	Desiree	Aaron
Nathan	Hanna	Ebony
Kara	Jaroslava	Peggy
Djuro	Andrew	Sue
Dominic	Andrew	Victoria
Declan	Vadim	Janet
Hudson	Hanna	Tom
Ayden	Alex	Wilma
Hyland	Carl	Jerry
Jason	Laura	Penelope
Ted	Chrisan	Cora
James	Janice	Brandi

*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

Bible Study is moving to Mondays at 7pm. This Monday we are reading **Ecclesiastes 5-8**.

The parish **Lending Library**, located in the first room on the right on your way to the hall, is up and running! If anyone would like to donate Orthodox books to the library, please see Tiffany O'Day.

Christmas/Nativity cards, ornaments, books and more are now in stock in the bookstore.

Our parish will host **Feed the Flock this Saturday, November 12**. If you are interested in helping, please see Nick Revak, who will lead our team this time.

Our **Thanksgiving Bake Sale** is coming up. **Order forms are available in the Narthex and are due by Nov 16**, with pick-up during coffee hour on Sunday, Nov 20. Consider donating supplies (flour, butter, eggs, sugar...) or helping out on bake days Nov 17-19. See Elizabeth Pederson for more details.

The **Advent** season of preparation for our Lord's birth begins on **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**. Over the next several weeks, a number of opportunities will be made available at our parish. By next Sunday, our annual **Angel Tree** should be loaded with cards representing local families in need. The Church School will buy and wrap presents for two such families as part of its St. Nicholas celebration on December 10. We will take a special collection at Liturgy the two Sundays prior (Nov 27 & Dec 4) to cover the cost of those gifts. Finally, we take a special collection every year on the Sunday before Thanksgiving to support the work of **International Orthodox Christian Charities**. That will be on November 20.

For Angel Tree and other 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.

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.

After coffee hour today, we will need to **put up all of the tables and chairs** so that the hall can be cleaned.

Mark your calendars:

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

Nov 8: **Ladies' Sodality meeting @ 10am**

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

Nov 12: **Feed the Flock** at First Presbyterian Church in Merrillville

Nov 15: **Beginning of Advent**

Nov 20: **Festal Vespers for the Entrance of the Theotokos into the Temple @ 1pm**

Nov 21: **Divine Liturgy for the Entrance of the Theotokos into the Temple @ 10am**

Nov 24: **Thanksgiving Day Divine Liturgy @ 9am**

Last week's gifts to the Lord: \$1,813

Encyclical for IOCC Sunday, 2022

For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many. —Mark 10:45

To the Most Reverend Clergy, Venerable Monastics, and Devout Faithful of the Holy Orthodox Churches in the United States:

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

On the Sunday before Thanksgiving, Orthodox faithful in the United States come together to give thanks to God for His blessings

and for the privilege of serving Christ by serving our neighbors in need. The Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops of the United States of America dedicates this day to the ministry of International Orthodox Christian Charities, or IOCC—the Orthodox agency that serves people in need worldwide.

For more than 30 years, IOCC has provided Orthodox Christians with a concrete way to serve people in need, near and far, as they face conflict, drought, famine, natural disasters, and economic hardship. As needs change across time, IOCC remains a reliable, effective channel for our offerings of Christian service.

Because of the faithful generosity of people like you, IOCC responds amid crisis, offering practical assistance that meets both immediate and longer-term needs. IOCC has given emergency supplies, shelter, and groceries to Ukrainians displaced by conflict: this is especially meaningful for me because in my homeland of Romania, countless families as well as the Federation Filantropia—an IOCC partner organization managed by the Romanian Orthodox Church—have opened their doors to their neighbors who are fleeing Ukraine.

Consider, as well, IOCC's offerings of emotional care, cleanup, and rebuilding after US disasters; of food for schoolchildren in Lebanon amid deep economic crisis; of groceries, animal feed, and equipment for farmers and small businesses in Greece recovering from wildfires; and of emergency food for those affected by drought and conflict in Ethiopia—in these and many more ways, IOCC fulfills human needs in the spirit of Christ's love.

Mark's Gospel reminds us that Christ, the King of all, came to serve—and that we are to follow His example. By supporting IOCC, you and I may follow the example of Christ the Servant-King. Through IOCC, we can feed, clothe, and minister to one another for His sake. This Thanksgiving, let us thank God for His blessings, and let us continue to answer the call to serve our brethren in need.

May the Lord shine His mercy upon you and your loved ones throughout the Nativity season, and may your hearts and homes be filled with His peace!

With paternal blessings and love in Christ,

+Metropolitan Nicolae
Episcopal Liaison to IOCC

Glory to God for all things!