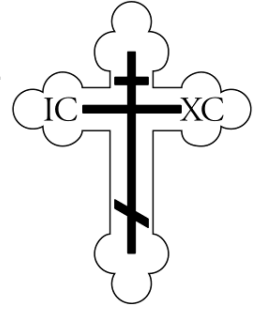
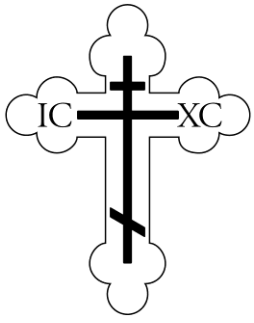


# Protection of the Virgin Mary

## Orthodox Church



Diocese of Chicago  
and the Midwest  
Orthodox Church  
in America

8600 Grand Blvd.  
Merrillville, IN  
(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  
hall after Divine  
Liturgy for coffee hour.

# March 9, 2025

## Sunday of Orthodoxy

### Holy 40 Martyrs of Sebaste

*During Lent, we celebrate the Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great*

### 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 God is risen,//  
granting the world great mercy!”

## **Tone 2 – Troparion for the Sunday of Orthodoxy**

We venerate Your most pure image, O Good One;

and ask forgiveness of our transgressions, O Christ God.

Of Your own will You were pleased to ascend the Cross in the flesh to deliver Your creatures from bondage to the enemy.

Therefore with thanksgiving we cry aloud to You:

“You have filled all with joy, O our Savior,//

by coming to save the world.”

## **Tone 1 – Troparion for the 40 Martyrs of Sebaste**

Through the sufferings which Your holy Forty Martyrs endured for

Your sake, O Lord,

we beseech You, O Lover of ^mankind://

“Heal all of our infirmities!”

## **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 6 – Kontakion to the 40 Martyrs of Sebaste**

You have abandoned all earthly armies,

cleaving to the heavenly Master, O Forty Martyrs of the Lord.

Having passed through fire and water, O blessed ones,//

you have fittingly received heavenly glory and many crowns.

## **Tone 8 – Kontakion for the Sunday of Orthodoxy**

No one could describe the Word of the Father;

but when He took flesh from you, O Theotokos, He accepted to be described,

and restored the fallen image to its former state by uniting it to divine beauty.//

We confess and proclaim our salvation in words and images.

## **SCRIPTURE READINGS**

### **Tone 4 – Prokeimenon for the Sunday of Orthodoxy (Daniel 3)**

Blessed are You, O Lord God of our fathers,

and praised and glorified is Your Name forever!

### **Tone 5 – Prokeimenon for the Holy Martyrs (Psalm 11)**

You, O Lord, shall protect us

and preserve us from this generation forever!

## **Epistle: Hebrews 11.24-26; 32 – 12.10**

Brethren: By faith Moses, when he came of age, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter. He chose to suffer affliction with the people of God rather than enjoy the passing pleasures of sin, considering the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt; for he looked to the reward.

And what more shall I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon and Barak and Samson and Jephthah, also of David and Samuel and the prophets—who through faith subdued kingdoms, worked righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, became valiant in battle, turned to flight the armies of the aliens.

Women received their dead raised to life again. Others were tortured, not accepting release, that they might obtain a better resurrection. Still others had trial of mocking and scourging, yes, and of chains and imprisonment. They were stoned; they were sawn in two, were tempted, were slain with the sword. They wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins, being destitute, afflicted, tormented – of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, in dens and caves of the earth.

And all these, having obtained a good testimony through faith, did not receive the promise, since God had provided something better for us, that they should not be made perfect apart from us. Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus—the author and finisher of our faith—who, for the joy that was set before Him, endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

For consider Him who endured such hostility from sinners against Himself, lest you become weary and discouraged in your souls. You have not yet resisted to bloodshed, striving against sin. And you have forgotten the exhortation which speaks to you as to sons: “My son, do not despise the chastening of the Lord, nor be discouraged when you are rebuked by Him; for whom the Lord loves He chastens, and scourges every son whom He receives.”

If you endure chastening, God deals with you as with sons; for what son is there whom a father does not chasten? But if you are without chastening, of which all have become partakers, then you are illegitimate and not sons. Furthermore, we have had human

fathers who corrected us, and we paid them respect. Shall we not much more readily be in subjection to the Father of spirits and live? For they indeed for a few days chastened us as seemed best to them, but He for our profit, that we may be partakers of His holiness.

### **Gospel: John 1.43-51 (1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent)**

At that time, Jesus wanted to go to Galilee, and He found Philip and said to him, "Follow Me."

Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found the One Moses in the law, and also the prophets, wrote about – Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph."

And Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?"

Philip said to him, "Come and see."

Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward Him and said of him, "Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom is no deceit!"

Nathanael said to Him, "How do You know me?"

Jesus answered and said to him, "Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you."

Nathanael answered and said to Him, "Rabbi, You are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!"

Jesus answered and said to him, "Because I said to you, 'I saw you under the fig tree,' do you believe? You will see greater things than these." And He said to him, "Most assuredly, I say to you, hereafter you shall see heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man."

### **Matthew 20.1-16 (Holy Martyrs)**

The Lord spoke this parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. Now when he had agreed with the laborers for a denarius a day, he sent them into his vineyard. And he went out about the third hour and saw others standing idle in the marketplace and said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and whatever is right I will give you.' So they went.

"Again he went out about the sixth and the ninth hour, and did likewise. And about the eleventh hour he went out and found others standing idle, and said to them, 'Why have you been standing here idle all day?' They said to him, 'Because no one hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and whatever is right you will receive.'

“So when evening had come, the owner of the vineyard said to his steward, ‘Call the laborers and give them their wages, beginning with the last to the first.’ And when those came who were hired about the eleventh hour, they each received a denarius. But when the first came, they supposed that they would receive more; and they likewise received each a denarius.

“And when they had received it, they complained against the landowner, saying, ‘These last men have worked only one hour, and you made them equal to us who have borne the burden and the heat of the day.’ But he answered one of them and said, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong. Did you not agree with me for a denarius? Take what is yours and go your way. I wish to give to this last man the same as to you. Is it not lawful for me to do what I wish with my own things? Or is your eye evil because I am good?’ So the last will be first, and the first last. For many are called, but few chosen.”

## WE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

<p><b>N.Dep.</b> Joyce Krochta Tiana West Valentina Metulynsky <b>Ev.Mem.</b> Lazar Krestan ('12) May Yankovich ('33) Kozma Matuzik</p>	<p>Anastasia Christakis ('45) Michael Magdos ('48) Paul Herback ('70) Xenia Klikow ('70) Sophie Fileff ('75) David May (2023)</p>
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<p><b>Health &amp; Salv.</b> Archpr. Peter Mat. Cynthia Hierom. John Archpr. Jonathan Mat. Vera Pr. Patrick Pr. Gregory Mat. Beverly Mat. Anne Nun Theodora Brendan Rollie Claudia Mary Ann Raymond Edward</p>	<p>Charlotte Joseph Janice Klaudia Maja Raymond Anne Desiree Robb Gerald Janet Gerald Rebecca Christopher Brianna Logan Olga</p>	<p>Janie Sharon Tanya Renee Ashton Michael Chris Nina Carissa Carol Snezana Ryan Nathan Kara Karen Alisa Michael</p>	<p>Moses Helena James Elijah Lydia Nina George Linda Kimberly Steven Jamie Kyleigh Lauren Kyle Linda Denise John</p>
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Cindy	Renee	Zoë	Pauline
Ron	Dominik	Brenda	Meagan
Matthew	Monica	Lisa	Minnie
John	Charles	Mazzy	Richard
Erin	Kimberly	John	Rosie
Aaron	Abigail	Terry	Sarah
Marcietta	Charles	Angie	Milton
Maria	Rosemary	Irina	Andrew
Alla	Nicholas	Elizabeth	Carol
Elizabeth	Natalie	Vitaliy	Lidia
Samuel	Jovan	Maria	Daisy
Joseph	Michael	Viktoria	Julie
Dwight	Abram	Rebecca	

*To add the name of a loved one recently departed or on the anniversary of their repose, or someone living and in particular need of prayer, please speak 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 the victims in Ukraine, Russia, Israel, and Palestine. 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, hearken and have mercy.

*At the end of Divine Liturgy, we hold a **Triumph of Orthodoxy procession** with the children in the nave:*

### **Tone 2 – Troparion of Orthodoxy Sunday**

We venerate Your most pure image, O Good One;

and ask forgiveness of our transgressions, O Christ God.

Of Your own will You were pleased to ascend the Cross in the flesh to deliver Your creatures from bondage to the enemy.

Therefore with thanksgiving we cry aloud to You:

“You have filled all with joy, O our Savior,//

by coming to save the world.”

**Priest:** The Church of God has established that on this day we give yearly thanksgiving to God and reaffirm the dogmas of piety. Therefore, following the sayings of the prophets, honoring the exhortations of the apostles, and being instructed by the histories of the Gospels, we celebrate this day of consecration. For Isaiah says: "Be

consecrated to God, you islands," by which he means the churches of the many nations, which are not the structures and embellishments of the temples, but rather the gathering of the faithful who serve God with hymns and praise. The Apostle also exhorts us "to walk in newness of life" and that the "new creation in Christ" be renewed. For He has delivered us who are unworthy from adversity, redeeming us from those who afflicted us. And He has established the free proclamation of piety, the veneration of icons, and this Festival which brings all of us salvation. For in the icons we see what our Master bore for us: the Cross, the grave, hell slain and pillaged; we see the trials of His witnesses and their crowns of salvation, which our First Prize-giver and Contest-master and Crown-bearer wrought in the midst of the earth. Today we celebrate this festival; we rejoice together with prayers and processions, and we cry out with psalms and hymns:

**Choir: Who is so great a God as our God?  
You are the God, who alone does wonders!**

**Priest:** For You overthrew those who slighted Your glory and showed them to be cowards and fugitives who were disrespectful and impudent against the icons. Therefore, as the prophets have seen, as the apostles have taught, as the Church has received, as the teachers have set forth in dogmas, as has been made known to the whole world, as Grace has shone forth, as the truth was demonstrated, as falsehood has been banished, as wisdom emboldened, as Christ has awarded: thus we believe, thus we speak, thus we preach Christ our true God and His saints, honoring them in words, in writings, in thoughts, in sacrifices, in temples, and in icons, worshipping and respecting Christ as God and Master and honoring the Saints with relative adoration, because of our common Master, for they are His genuine servants.

**People: This is the Faith of the apostles! This is the Faith of the fathers! This is the Faith of the Orthodox! This is the Faith that has established the world!**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

After venerating the cross we will serve the **2-year memorial for David May.**

There will be **no Presanctified on Friday** this week.

During Great Lent, Orthodox Christians **make more time for prayer, fast from rich and satisfying foods** (meat, dairy, fish), and find opportunities to **help those in need** (almsgiving). They also examine their consciences and repent of their sins before the Lord in the **Sacrament of Confession**. Confession is available before or after evening services. You can also make an appointment with Fr Jacob, including before Sunday Liturgies, if necessary.

Thank you to everyone who donated baby supplies for the **Women's Care Center in Hammond**. Items will be delivered this week!

The **Chicago Deanery Lenten Vespers** return at 6pm on Sundays:

March 16 at Christ the Savior in Chicago, IL

March 23 at PTVM... that's us!

March 30 at St Makarios in Hyde Park, IL

April 6 at Holy Theophany in Lake Geneva, WI

### **Mark your calendars:**

Mar 9: **Sunday of Orthodoxy Vespers** at Sts Peter and Paul Macedonian Orthodox Church in Crown Point @ 6pm, followed by a meal.

Mar 12: **Presanctified Liturgy @ 6pm, w/Lenten Potluck**

Mar 15: **Pysanki making: Decorating Pascha Eggs @ 2pm**

**Catechism @ 4:30pm**

**Choir rehearsal @ 5pm**

Mar 23: **PTVM hosts the Chicago Deanery Lenten Vespers @ 6pm** followed by a meal.

Mar 28: **Blood Drive 12 – 6pm**

**Last Week's Gifts to the Lord: \$6,136**

# **Glory to God for all things!**