



ST. MICHAEL BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

557 W. 57th Ave., Merrillville, IN 46410

Parish Administrator: Fr. Michal Bučko

Pastor Emeritus: Fr. Michael Evanick

Parish Cantor: Edward Petyo

Contact us:

Online: stmichaelbyz.org; e-mail: stmichaelmerrillville@parma.org

St. Michael's Office phone #: 219-980-0600

Social Center Hall #: 219-980-9074

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES: JUNE 29th – JULY 5th, 2026

<u>Mon.</u> 6/29	THE HOLY PRE-EMINENT APOSTLES PETER AND PAUL	9.00 am	Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom (+ Nancy Hlebasko – by Bridget Bowman)
<u>Tue.</u> 6/30	The Synaxis of the Twelve Apostles	6.00 pm	Vespers
<u>Wed.</u> 7/1	The Holy Unmercenary Healers and Wonder-workers Cosmas and Damian	9.00 am 6.00 pm	Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom Vespers
<u>Thu.</u> 7/2	The Deposition of the Venerable Robes of the Theotokos at Blachernae	9.00 am	Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom
<u>Fri.</u> 7/3	The Holy Martyr Hyacinth	6.00 pm	Vespers
<u>Sat.</u> 7/4	Our Holy Father Andrew of Jerusalem, Archbishop of Crete Our Venerable Mother Martha, Mother of our Venerable Father Simeon	5.00 pm	Vigil Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom (+ Michael Ivanyo Jr.)
<u>Sun.</u> 7/5	THE 6 TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST Our Venerable Father Athanasius of Athos	9.30 am 10.00 am	Matins Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom (+ Mildred Mayersky – by the Laczkowski Fam)

HOLY CONFESSION is available on Saturday from 4 pm to 4:45 pm or by appointment.

"Come, wretched soul, with your flesh, confess to the Creator of all. In the future, refrain from your former brutishness and offer to God tears in repentance." St. Andrew of Crete

PRAY FOR THE SICK OF ST. MICHAEL'S:



Fr. Michael Evanick, Ann Libak, George Batcha, Edward Ivanyo, Casimir Laczkowski, Barbara Fedorchak, Susan Hlebasko, George Primich, John Olenik, Steve Zikmund, Anthony Slinker, Jackie Petyo, Jacob Soderlund, Veronica Bodak, Elisabeth Babich, Rosemarie Stith, Nora Bloch, Nicholas Cuban, Nicholas Cuban

Sr., Jennifer Adamo, Carol Zakutansky, Austin Gaydos, Todd Wert, Ed Moncada, Bridget Bowman, Matthew Malyj, and Gary Lazor.



Peter's Pence

JUNE 27-28, 2026

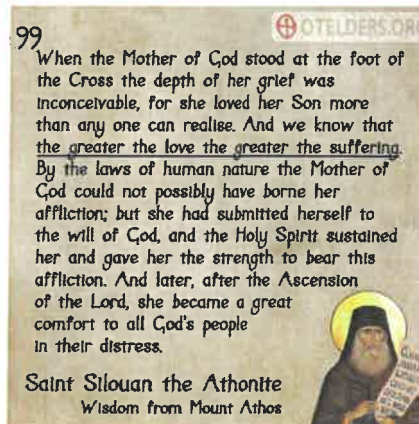
Peter's Pence Collection, is a significant way to support the Universal Church. This collection, supported by Catholics around the globe, funds the ongoing activities of the Holy See and enables the Holy Father to respond with emergency financial assistance to requests to aid the neediest throughout the world – those who suffer as a result of war, oppression, and natural disasters. For more information on Peter's Pence, please visit the Vatican's Peter's Pence website.



They are the two swords that, in the words of Our Lord, are "enough." We should neither exaggerate nor downplay the Petrine or Pauline aspect of Christianity; we should exalt both and hold them in balance and harmony.

<https://www.oca.org/reflections/metropolitan-tikhon/reflection-feast-saints-peter-paul>

	Parish Support June 20 & 21
Weekly.....	2,606.00
Candles.....	70.00
Total.....	\$2,676.00



Reflection on the feast of Saints Peter and Paul

The two chief apostles of the Church are, to paraphrase one of the hymns of the day, the two wings upon which the Gospel of Christ is carried throughout the world. The complementarity of the chief apostles' ministry is apparent in the very structure of the Book of Acts. The earliest part of the book is centered on St. Peter and the disciples who knew Christ in the days of his flesh. Then, St. Paul, after making his first appearance in the first verse of chapter 8, becomes the sole focus of the narrative from chapter 11 onward. There is no Church without Peter; there is also no Church without Paul.

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Asking Jesus to Leave

Of all the miracle stories of Jesus, the one recorded in today's Gospel reading stands out as unique. In most other occasions when Jesus healed or cured, the result was that more people came and asked to be cured. However, in the case of Jesus expelling demons from the man in the Gadarene territory, the result was that the whole village came out and asked Jesus to leave that area! (Matthew 8:34)

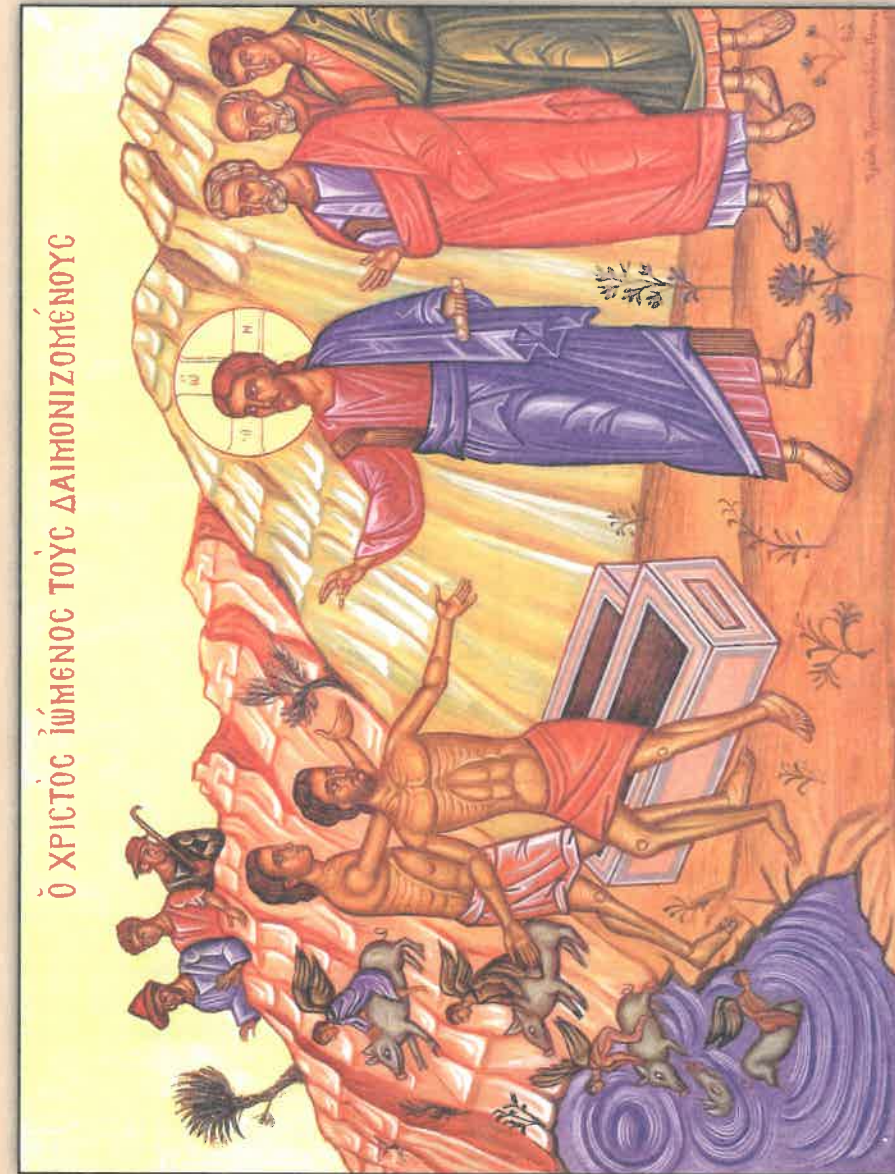
Ingratitude is certainly not the reaction we would expect the townsfolk to have since a member of their community restored to his right mind by the command of Jesus. Previously, he was prone to fits of madness and the source of his madness was understood to be demonic possession. Jesus commanded the demons to leave the man and restored the man to his right mind. Had this been the end

of the story, perhaps the people would have been filled with gratitude. However, Jesus sent the demons into a herd of swine, which then jumped over a cliff and drowned.

Why did Jesus send the demons into the swine? According to Jewish law, pork is considered to be an unclean product. Jews were to have no contact with pork. Because of this, the Jews of that town were breaking their own religious law.

By expelling the demons into the swine, Jesus not only healed a man, but also reestablished a forgotten value system in a town. Unfortunately, the inhabitants were not ready to receive this lesson. It is no surprise, then, why they met Jesus with such ingratitude and asked Him to leave their district.

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



Icon of the Healing Gadarene Demoniacs