



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

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SCHEDULE OF SERVICES: SEPTEMBER 21st – SEPTEMBER 27th, 2026

<u>Mon.</u> 9/21	Leave-taking of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross; The Holy Apostle Quadratus of Magnesia	6.00 pm	Akathist to St. Michael
<u>Tue.</u> 9/22	The Holy Martyr Phocas, Bishop of Sinope; The Holy Prophet Jonah; Our Venerable Father Jonah the Priest, Father of Theophane the Hymnographer and Theodore the Artist	6.00 pm	Vespers
<u>Wed.</u> 9/23	The Conception of the Holy Prophet, Forerunner, and Baptist John	9.00 am	Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom
<u>Thu.</u> 9/24	The Holy Martyr, First Among Women, and Equal to the Apostle, Thecla	6.00 pm	Vespers
<u>Fri.</u> 9/25	Our Venerable Mother Euphrosyna	6.00 pm	Great Vespers
<u>Sat.</u> 9/26	The Passing of the Holy Apostle and Evangelist John the Theologian	5.00 pm	Vigil Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom (+ Diane Hlebasko Estep – by Susan Hlebasko)
<u>Sun.</u> 9/27	THE 18TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST The Holy Martyr Callistratus and his Companions	9.45 am 10.00 am	Third Hour Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom (+ Mildred Mayersky – by the Bernstein Family)

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



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, Victoria Berch, 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, Gary Lazor, and Roger Libke.

Prophet Jonah

Commemorated on September 22

The Holy Prophet Jonah lived in the eighth century before the birth of Christ and was a successor of the Prophet Elisha. The Book of the Prophet Jonah contains prophecies about the judgments on the Israelite nation, the sufferings of the Savior, the downfall of Jerusalem, and the end of the world. Besides the prophecies, the Book of Jonah relates how he was sent to the Ninevites to preach repentance (Jon. 3: 3-10).

Our Lord Jesus Christ, addressing the Scribes and the Pharisees who demanded a sign from Him, said that no sign would be given except for the sign of the Prophet Jonah, "As Jonah was in the belly of the whale three days and three nights, so also shall the Son of Man be in the heart of the earth three days and three nights" (Mt. 12: 40). From these words the Lord shows clearly the symbolic meaning of the Book of the Prophet Jonah in relation to Christ's death on the Cross, descent into Hell, and the Resurrection.

Reproaching the lack of penitence and recalcitrance of the Jews, the Lord said, "The Ninevites shall rise in the judgment with this generation and will condemn it, because they repented at the preaching of Jonah; and one greater than Jonah is here" (Mt. 12: 41).

Saint Jonah the Presbyter, father of Saint Theophanes the Hymnographer and Theodore Graptus

Commemorated on September 22

Saint Jonah the Presbyter, Father of Saints Theophanes the Hymnographer (October 11) and Theodore the Branded (December 27), lived in Palestine in the late eighth to early ninth centuries.

Saint Jonah lived a virtuous and holy life. He had two sons who were glorified afterwards for their confession of Orthodoxy during the time of the Iconoclast heresy. After the death of his wife, Saint Jonah withdrew to the Lavra of Saint Savva the Sanctified (December 5), where both his sons earlier had been tonsured as monks. Saint Jonah dwelt at the Lavra until his death in the ninth century. The Lord bestowed upon His saint the gift of healing.

<https://www.oca.org/saints/lives>



Parish Support September 12 & 13

Weekly.....1,781.00
Candles.....49.00
Total.....\$1,830.00



**FISH FRY
PIROHI
EVERY
FRIDAY
4 – 7 PM**

Volunteers are needed on Friday morning and evening.

Please contact Fr. Michal for more information.

Altar and Rosary Society Meeting
will be held on **Sunday,**
September 27, after Divine Liturgy.
All members are invited to attend!



ANNUNCIATION CHURCH RAFFLE

Annunciation is having a raffle of **\$15,000** worth of prizes! Tickets are **\$100**; each ticket has multiple chances of winning! Share the cost of a ticket with family or a friend. Purchas by **Sept. 27**. Drawings will be 10/11, 11/15, 12/12, & 12/13.





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Exalting the Cross

For each of us, salvation means no more and no less than taking up daily the same cross of Christ, accepting each day what it brings as the will of God, offering back to God each morning all the joys, works, and sufferings of that day. But those are abstract words. What it means, in practice, is spelled out as always by the poor old body. It means getting up each morning and going to bed exhausted. It means the routine, not the spectacular. It can mean drudgery, pain, putting aside pleasures, happiness, or the love the human heart craves until another time, so that what is necessary at the moment can be done.

It means working for others, touching the lives of others, through the medium of the body. How many times, tired and worn

out and near collapse from the slave labor conditions of the camps, did I think I could not ask another step of the body, did I think in pain and irony of those words "The spirit indeed is willing but the flesh is weak"? Truly, man is a creature composed of body and soul, and we work out our salvation in this vale of tears through the medium of the flesh.

It is the first gift God and our parents fashion for us; it sustains and supports us through a long life and makes possible both joys and sorrows; and when at last we are parted from it in death, it surely deserves whatever rest it can get before it rises to be glorified at the last judgment.

Father Walter J. Ciszek, S.J.

SUNDAY AFTER THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS



Icon of the Holy Martyr Eustace and his Companions -- September 20th