



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 28th – OCTOBER 4th, 2026

<u>Mon.</u> 9/28	Our Venerable Father and Confessor Chariton ; Wenceslaus, Prince of the Czechs; The Holy Prophet Baruch; The Synaxis of the Venerable Fathers of the Monastery of the Caves who repose near the Venerable Anthony	9.00 am	Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom
<u>Tue.</u> 9/29	Our Venerable Father Cyriacus the Anchorite	6.00 pm	Vespers
<u>Wed.</u> 9/30	The Holy Martyr Gregory, Bishop of Armenia	9.00 am 6.00 pm	Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom Great Vespers with Litia
<u>Thu.</u> 10/1	THE PROTECTION OF THE THEOTOKOS AND EVER-VIRGIN MARY; The Holy Apostle Ananias Our Venerable Father, Romanus the Melodist	9.00 am	Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom (*Sr. Elizabeth Jane Tepley, OSBM – by Marlene Thomas)
<u>Fri.</u> 10/2	The Holy Bishop-Martyr Cyprian The Holy Martyr Justina The Holy Andrew, Fool for Christ	6.00 pm	Vespers
<u>Sat.</u> 10/3	The Holy Bishop and Martyr Dionisius the Areopagite	5.00 pm	Vigil Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom (+ Michael Ivanyo Jr.)
<u>Sun.</u> 10/4	THE 19 TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST The Holy Martyr Hierotheus, Bishop of Athens	9.45 am 10.00 am	Third Hour Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom (+ Jeffrey Blair – by Rose Kupponger)

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 Laczowski, 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.

Venerable Chariton the Confessor,
Abbot of Palestine

Commemorated on September 28

Saint Chariton the Confessor was born at Iconium in the province of Lycaonia and suffered there during a persecution against Christians in the reign of Emperor Aurelian. The example of the holy Protomartyr Thekla, who was also a native of his city, encouraged him to confess Christ, since he had a great devotion to her. Saint Chariton bravely denounced the pagan gods and staunchly confessed faith in the one True God, Christ the Savior. The holy Confessor underwent fierce tortures but, by God's Providence, he survived. The persecution ended after Aurelian's death in 275. Saint Chariton was among the many Christians who were released from prison, and he resolved to dedicate his entire life to the service of the Lord. Although he escaped death, he grieved because he had not received the crown of martyrdom. After arriving in Jerusalem on a pilgrimage to the holy places, he fell into the hands of thieves. They tied him up and threw him in a cave, intending to kill him later. After they left to find people to rob, the saint prayed fervently to God expecting to be put to death. He did not ask God to deliver him, but instead he entreated Him to do with him as He wished. At this time a snake crawled into the cave and began to drink wine from a vessel setting there. Later it vomited forth its deadly venom, poisoning the wine. When they returned to the cave, the evil men drank the poisoned wine and they all perished. Thus, their wicked lives came to a fitting end. Saint Chariton gave thanks to God, and then he gave away the gold which the malefactors had stolen, distributing it to the poor, to churches, and to monasteries. He began his ascetic struggles in the place of his miraculous rescue, and there he built a church. In time a monastery was established: the renowned Pharan Lavra in Palestine. Saint Chariton's fame drew many disciples to him. He governed them with paternal affection, and he elevated them to the highest degrees of virtue. Saint Chariton compiled a strict Rule for his monastery. Yearning for solitude, the monk withdrew farther into the desert in order to avoid the praise of men, but he never rejected anyone who sought his spiritual guidance. He founded two more monasteries: the Jericho (called the Monastery of Saint Chariton) and the Souka, which was called "the old Lavra." He also brought many Jews and pagans to the Faith. At the end of his life, Saint Chariton struggled in a cave atop a hill near the Souka monastery, but he did not cease to provide guidance for all three of the monasteries which he founded. He fell asleep in the Lord peacefully and at an advanced age on September 28, 350.

<https://www.oca.org/saints/lives/1951/09/28/102742-venerable-chariton-the-confessor-abbot-of-palestine>



Parish Support
September 19 & 20

Weekly.....1,474.00
Candles.....46.00
Total.....\$1,520.00



FISH FRY
PIROHI
EVERY
FRIDAY
4 – 7 PM

Volunteers are needed on Friday
morning and evening.
Please contact Fr. Michal for
more information.



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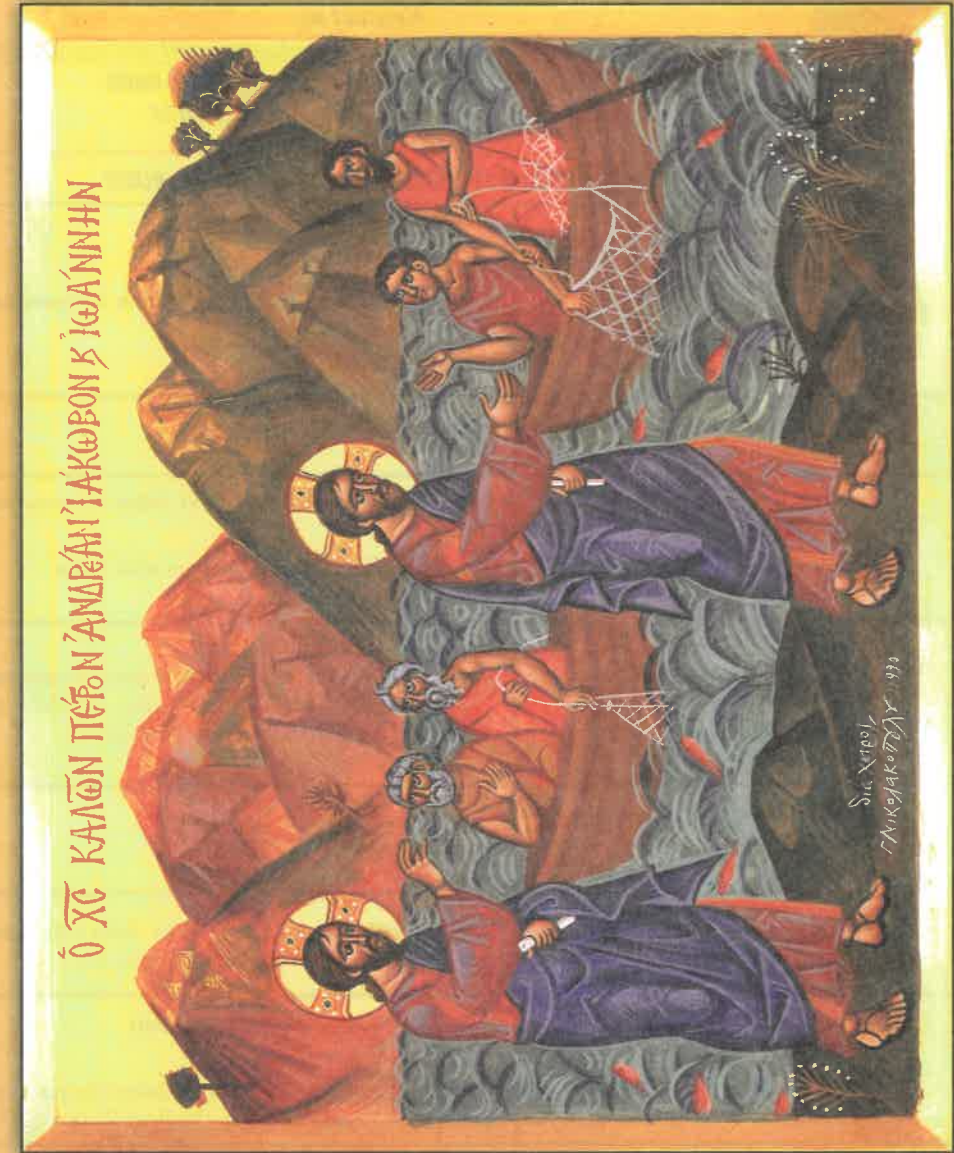
To Be a Disciple

But you, dearly beloved, who are involved in secular matters, since you are familiar with our affairs, call before your mind's eye your own. Do everything for each other freely. Do not seek recompense for your work in this world, which you now see to have declined with such great rapidity, lest you do evil in any way, and do good for the sake of temporal recompense. Seek as witness of your work Him whom you await as judge. Let Him now see your good deeds in secret, that He may show them to all on the day when He grants you your reward. As you daily provide food for your bodies to keep them from failing, so let your good works be the daily nourishment of your hearts. The body is fed with food, the spirit sustained by good works. You should not deny to your soul, which will live forever, what you grant to your body which is going to die. If ever a sudden fire destroys a dwelling,

and its owner seizes what he values and flees, he counts as gain whatever he takes with him out of the flames. You can see that a fire of calamities is burning up the world, and the end, which is now near, is like a fire, laying waste everything in it that appeared delightful. Therefore, my friend, believe it the greatest gain if you carry off anything from it, if you take anything with you as you flee, if, by bestowing it as an everlasting recompense on yourselves, you save what could have perished had it remained. In truth we lose all our earthly possessions if we save them, but we save them by yielding them well. Time is quickly running out. Let us prepare with haste for seeing our Judge soon. Our good deeds are impelling us towards Him with great urgency.

St. Gregory the Great

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



Icon of the Call of the Disciples -- Luke 5:1-11