



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:

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

Social Center Hall #: 219-980-9074

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES: OCTOBER 5th – OCTOBER 11th, 2026

<u>Mon.</u> 10/5	The Holy Martyr Charitina	6.00 pm	Great Vespers
<u>Tue.</u> 10/6	The Holy and Glorious Apostle Thomas	9.00 am	Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom
<u>Wed.</u> 10/7	The Holy Martyrs Sergius and Bacchus	9.00 am	Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom (+ Sharon Benjamin)
<u>Thu.</u> 10/8	Our Venerable Mother Pelagia	6.00 pm	Great Vespers
<u>Fri.</u> 10/9	The Holy Apostle James Alpheus Our Venerable Father Andronicus and his Wife Athanasia	6.00 pm	Vespers
<u>Sat.</u> 10/10	The Holy Martyrs Eulampius and Eulampia	5.00 pm	Vigil Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom (+ Marian Cicenias)
<u>Sun.</u> 10/11	SUNDAY OF THE FATHERS AT THE SEVENTH ECUMENICAL COUNCIL The Holy Apostle Philip, one of the Seven Deacons Our Venerable Father Theophane, the Artist and Hymnographer, Bishop of Nicaea	9.45 am 10.00 am	Third Hour Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom (+ Nancy Hlebasko – by Jeanne & Gary Lazor)

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 Luczkowski, 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 Pelagia the Penitent

Commemorated on October 8

Saint Pelagia the Penitent was converted to Christianity by Saint Nonnus, Bishop of Edessa (Saturday of Cheesefare Week). Before her acceptance of Christianity through Baptism, Pelagia was head of a dance troupe in Palestinian Antioch, living a life of frivolity and prostitution.

One day Pelagia, elegantly dressed, was making her way past a church where Saint Nonnus was preaching a sermon. Believers turned their faces away from the sinner, but the bishop glanced after her. Struck by the outer beauty of Pelagia and having foreseen the spiritual greatness within her, the saint prayed in his cell for a long time to the Lord for the sinner. He told his fellow bishops that the prostitute put them all to shame. He explained that she took great care to adorn her body in order to appear beautiful in the eyes of men. "We... take no thought for the adornment of our wretched souls," he said.

On the following day, when Saint Nonnus was teaching in the church about the dread Last Judgment and its consequences, Pelagia came. The teaching made a tremendous impression upon her. With the fear of God and weeping tears of repentance, she asked the saint for Baptism. Seeing her sincere and full repentance, Bishop Nonnus baptized her.

By night the devil appeared to Pelagia, urging her to return to her former life. The saint prayed, signed herself with the Sign of the Cross, and the devil vanished.

Three days after her baptism, Saint Pelagia gathered up her valuables and took them to Bishop Nonnus. The bishop ordered that they be distributed among the poor saying, "Let this be wisely dispersed, so that these riches gained by sin may become a wealth of righteousness." After this Saint Pelagia journeyed to Jerusalem to the Mount of Olives. She lived there in a cell, disguised as the monk Pelagius, living in ascetic seclusion, and attaining great spiritual gifts. When she died, she was buried in her cell.

<https://www.oca.org/saints/lives/1982/10/08/102899-venerable-pelagia-the-penitent>



Parish Support September 26 & 27

Weekly.....2,488.00
Candles.....54.00
Special Donation.....500.00
Total.....\$3,042.00



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

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

**St. Michael
Byzantine Catholic Church**
557 W 57th Avenue, Merrillville

Fall Fest

October 25 11:30 to 2:30

John Pruzin & His
Tamburitizans
band

Menu
Stuffed Cabbage • Halushky • Green Beans
Mashed Potatoes • Bratwurst • Bread & Butter
Desserts: Nut roll & Pumpkin Pie

\$15
for ticket

\$5
for kids menu
Pretzel, Cheese & Pop

Kids
under 5
for free

Rosary Society

BAKE SALE

Friday, October 9
during Fish Fry



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Advice for Christian Living

Let everything you do be done for God, both deeds and words. Refer all that is yours to Christ. Constantly turn your soul to God; and put your thought on the power of Christ, as if in some harbor by the divine light of the Savior it were resting from all talk and action. And often by day speak your thoughts to men, but most of all to God at night as well as by day. Don't let too much sleep keep you from your prayers and hymns to God, since long sleep is a rival of death. Show yourself always a partner of Christ, who makes the divine ray shine from heaven. Let Christ be to you continual and unceasing joy.

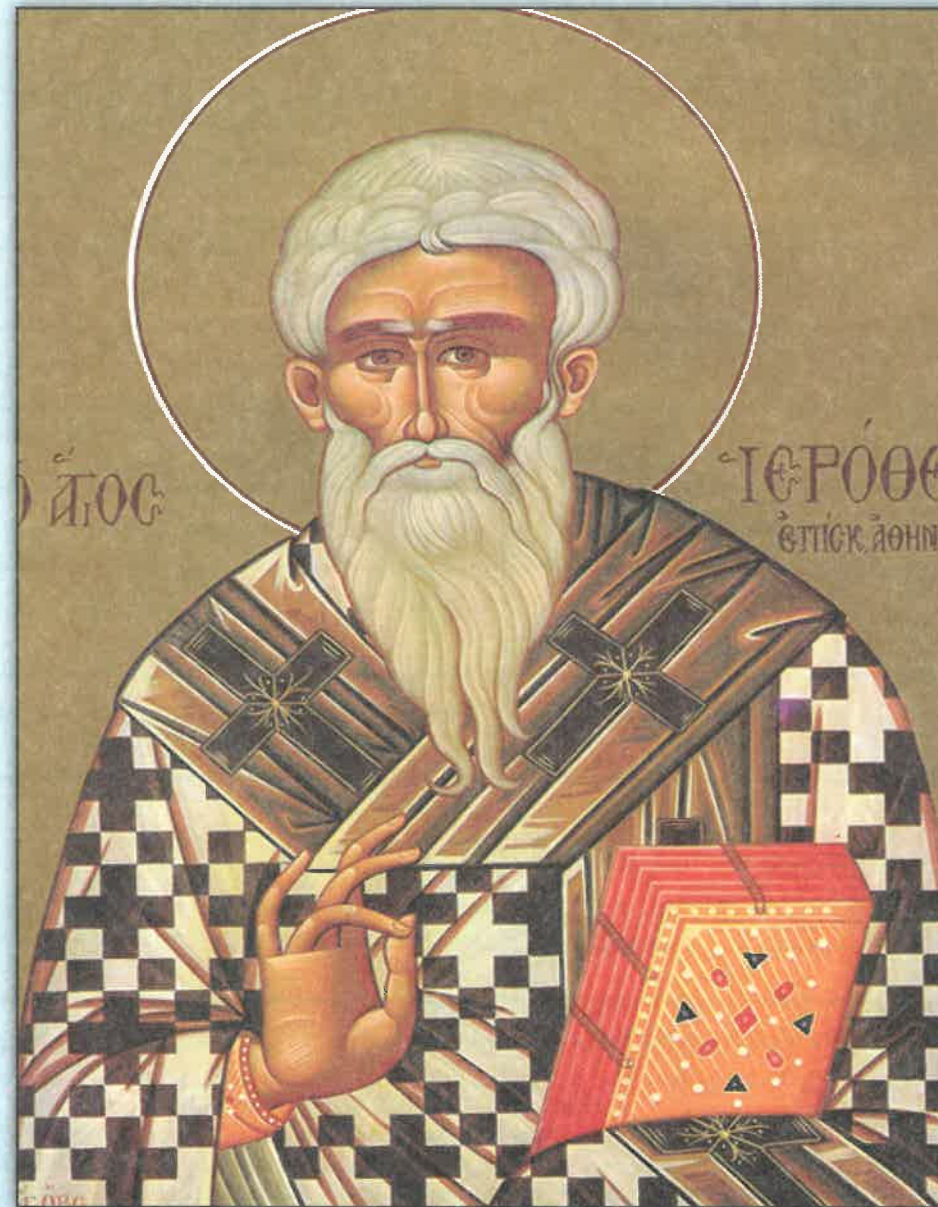
Do not relax the tension of your soul with feasting and drunkenness, but consider what is needful to be enough for the body. And do not rush early to meals, before the time for dinner comes; but let your dinner be bread, and let earth's grasses and the ripe fruits of trees be set before you; and go to your meal with composure, showing no sign of raging gluttony. In place of such

pleasures, choose the joys that are in divine words and hymns, joys supplied to you by wisdom from God; and let heavenly meditation ever lead you upward to heaven.

And give up the many anxious cares about the body by taking comfort in hopes toward God; because for you He will provide enough of all the necessary things: food to support life, covering for the body, and protection against winter cold. For to your King belongs the whole earth and all that is produced from it; and God treats the bodily parts of His servants with exceeding care, as if they were His, like His own shrines and temples. On this account do not dread severe diseases, nor the approach of old age, which must be expected in time; for even disease will come to an end, when with wholehearted purpose we do His commandments.

St. Clement of Alexandria

NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



Icon of Saint Hierotheus, Bishop of Athens -- October 4th