

16th Sunday after Pentecost

New Martyrs of Alaska: Hieromonk Juvenaly and Peter the Aleut

September 24th, 2023

Assigned Readings

2 Corinthians 6:1-10, Romans 8:28-39

Luke 5:1-11, Luke 21:12-19

Saints of the Day:

We know very little about Saint Peter, except that he was from Kodiak, and was arrested and put to death by the Spaniards in California because he refused to convert to Catholicism. The Aleuts were placed in prisons two to a cell and persuaded to accept the Catholic Faith. 'We are Christians,' the Aleuts replied, 'and we will not change our Faith.' The Franciscans began to torture them, at first the one while his companion was a witness. They cut the first joint on the fingers of his hands, and then cut off his feet, and his hands. The blood flowed, but the martyr endured all and firmly repeated one thing: 'I am a Christian.' He died in such suffering, due to a loss of blood. Then they promised to torture his comrade to death the next day. That night an order was received stating that the imprisoned Aleuts were to be released immediately. This was related to me by a witness, the same Aleut who had escaped torture. When this was reported to Father Herman, he asked, 'What was the name of the martyred Aleut?' I answered, 'Peter. I do not remember his family name.' The Elder stood reverently before an icon, made the Sign of the Cross and said, 'Holy New Martyr Peter, pray to God for us!'

After his wife died in 1791, John entered a monastery at Saint Petersburg and was tonsured with the name Juvenal. Three years later, he went to Alaska as a missionary. The precise reason for Saint Juvenal's murder by the natives is not known. However, they later told Saint Innocent something about his death. They said that Saint Juvenal did not try to defend himself when attacked, nor did he make any attempt to escape. After being struck from behind, he turned to face his attackers and begged them to spare the natives he had baptized. The natives told Saint Innocent that after they had killed Saint Juvenal, he got up and followed them, urging them to repent. They fell upon him again and gave him a savage beating. Once more, he got to his feet and called them to repentance. This happened several times, then finally the natives hacked him to pieces. Thus, the zealous Hieromonk Juvenal became the first Orthodox Christian in America to receive the crown of martyrdom. His unnamed guide was also martyred at the same time.

Announcements

September/October Charity is dedicated to the Shipley family, of St. Cyril and Methodius Orthodox Church in Chico CA. Matushka Priscilla recently passed away, and there are many expenses related to medical bills, funeral arrangements etc. The OCA and the Diocese have both made requests for care and support to be rendered at this time. Please keep the family in your prayers. May the Lord make Matushka Priscilla's memory to be eternal.

Our fall pierogi making and sale is planned for October 5th, 7th and 9th. With the plan to make pierogi on Thursday and Saturday morning. Then sell them deep fried on Monday starting at 3pm.

Thank you to all who organized and worked so hard on Father Vladimir's retirement celebration last week. It was a beautiful event, may God grant all who assisted many years. And of course, Many Years to our Rector Emeritus Fr. Vladimir and Matushka Marianne

Upcoming Services:

September 30th – Great Vespers – 5 pm.

October 1st – Divine Liturgy – 930 am.

Contact Information:

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Troparion and Kontakion of the Day

Troparion: Resurrection Tone 7

By Thy Cross Thou didst destroy death.
To the thief Thou didst open Paradise.
For the Myrrhbearers Thou didst change weeping into joy,
and Thou didst command Thy disciples, O Christ God,
to proclaim that Thou art risen,// granting the world great mercy.

Troparion: New Martyrs Tone 7

Today Alaska rejoices and America celebrates,
for the New World has been sanctified by martyrdom.
Kodiak echoes with songs of thanksgiving,
Iliamna and Kenai observe the festival of faith.
The apostle and martyr Juvenaly is glorified,
and Peter the Aleut is exalted by his voluntary sacrifice.
In their devotion and love for the Lord
they willingly endured persecution and death for the truth.//
Now in the kingdom of heaven they intercede for our souls.

Kontakion: Resurrection Tone 7

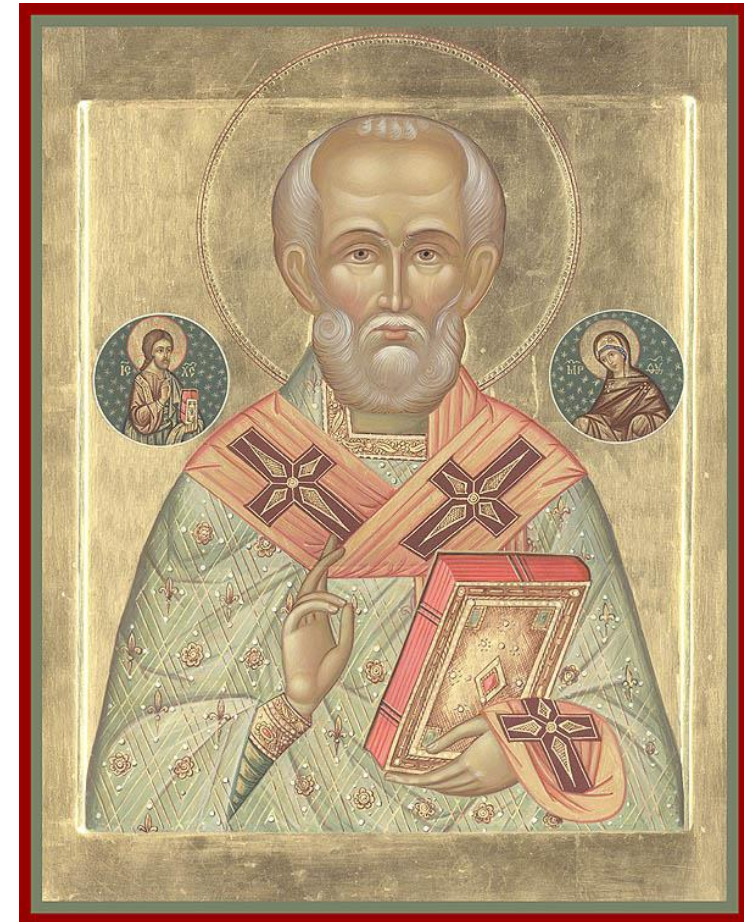
The dominion of death can no longer hold men captive,
for Christ descended, shattering and destroying its powers.
Hell is bound, while the Prophets rejoice and cry:
“The Savior has come to those in faith://
enter, you faithful, into the Resurrection!”

Kontakion: New Martyrs Tone 4

Today Valaam joins Alaska in celebrating this joyous feast,
as her spiritual son Juvenaly embraces the New-Martyr Peter with love.
Together they suffered for the Lord in America
and united the Old World with the New by their voluntary sacrifice.//
Now forever they stand before the King of glory and intercede for our souls.

Prayers for the Sick:

Archpriest Vladimir	Thom
Priest John	Julie
Priest James	Joan
Matushka Gloria	Vera
Matushka Myra	Marie
Matushka Nancy	



St. Nicholas Orthodox Church

OCA Diocese of Eastern Pennsylvania
Archbishop Mark – Hierarch

Fr. Nathan Clausson – Acting Rector
Mark Howanetz – Choir Director
Rick Cesari – Parish President