

16TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST (1ST of Luke) — Tone 7

The New Martyrs of Alaska: Hieromonk Juvenaly and Peter the Aleut.

Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom

Resurrectional Troparion, 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, Tone 1 (St. Mark)

O blessed Mark, O voice of God. As an apostle of Christ you were taught by the chief apostle Peter – like the sun you brought light to the nations, enrichment of Alexandria. Liberator of Egypt from pagan delusions, as a pillar of light to the church you enlightened all by your evangelical teachings. Therefore we honor your memory with great festivity, pray to God the giver of the gospel that He will grant the forgiveness of sins.

Troparion, Tone 4 (New Martyrs of Alaska)

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.

Resurrectional Kontakion, 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, Tone 2 (St. Mark)

You received the grace of the Spirit from above most glorious Mark! And destroyed rhetorical snares, O Apostle. You captured all nations bringing them to your Master by the preaching of the Divine Gospel.

Kontakion, Tone 4 (New Martyrs of Alaska)

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.

Kontakion, Tone 6 (Theotokos)

Steadfast Protectress of Christians, Constant Advocate before the Creator; despise not the entreating cries of us sinners, but in your goodness come speedily to help us who call on you in faith. Hasten to hear our petition and to intercede for us, O Theotokos, for you always protect those who honor you.

THE EPISTLE READINGS

Deacon: Let us attend!

Priest: Peace be unto all!

Reader: And to your spirit!

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The Prokeimenon in the 7th Tone. The Lord shall give strength to His people! The Lord shall bless His people with peace!

Choir: The Lord shall give strength to His people! The Lord shall bless His people with peace!

Reader: Offer to the Lord, O you sons of God! Offer young rams to the Lord!

Choir: The Lord shall give strength to His people! The Lord shall bless His people with peace!

Reader: And in the 4th Tone. The Lord has shown all the wonders of His will to the Saints who are in His land.

Choir: The Lord has shown all the wonders of His will to the Saints who are in His land.

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The Reading from the Second Epistle of the Holy Apostle Paul to the Corinthians.

Deacon: Let us attend!

Reader: Brothers and sisters in Christ, ¹Working together with Him, then, we entreat you not to accept the grace of God in vain. ²For He says, “At the acceptable time I have listened to you, and helped you on the day of salvation.” Behold, now is the acceptable time; behold, now is the day of salvation. ³We put no obstacle in any one’s way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, ⁴but as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, ⁵beatings, imprisonments, tumults, labors, watching, hunger; ⁶by purity, knowledge, forbearance, kindness, the Holy Spirit, genuine love, ⁷truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; ⁸in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as imposters, and yet are true; ⁹as unknown and yet well known; as dying, and behold we live; as punished, and yet not killed; ¹⁰as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything. [(181) 2 Corinthians 6:1-10 (RSV)]

²⁸We know that in everything God works for good with those who love Him, who are called according to His purpose. ²⁹For those whom He foreknew He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, in order that He might be the first-born among many brethren. ³⁰And those whom He predestined He also called; and those whom He called He also justified; and those whom He justified He also glorified. ³¹What then shall we say to this? If God is for us, who is against us? ³²He Who did not spare His own Son but gave Him

up for us all, will He not also give us all things with Him?
³³Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God
Who justifies; ³⁴who is to condemn? Is it Christ Jesus, Who
died, yes, Who was raised from the dead, Who is at the right
hand of God, Who indeed intercedes for us? ³⁵Who shall
separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or
distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or
sword? ³⁶As it is written, "For thy sake we are being killed all
the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered."
³⁷No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through
Him who loved us. ³⁸For I am sure that neither death, nor life,
nor angels, nor principalities, ³⁹nor things present, nor things
to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else
in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God
in Christ Jesus our Lord. [(99) Romans 8: 28-39 (RSV)]

Priest: Peace be unto you, reader.

**Reader: And to your spirit. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, in
the 7th Tone. It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to
sing praises to Thy Name, O Most High!**

Choir: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

**Reader: To declare Thy mercy in the morning and Thy
truth by night.**

Choir: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

**Reader: And in the 4th Tone. The righteous cried and the
Lord heard them, and delivered them out of all
their troubles.**

Choir: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

THE GOSPEL READINGS

¹While the people pressed upon Jesus [Him] to hear the word of
God, He was standing by the lake of Gennesaret. ²And He saw two
boats by the lake; but the fishermen had gone out of them and were
washing their nets. ³Getting into one of the boats, which was
Simon's, He asked him to put out a little from the land. And He sat
down and taught the people from the boat. ⁴And when He had
ceased speaking, He said to Simon, "*Put out into the deep and let*

down your nets for a catch.”⁵ And Simon answered, “Master, we toiled all night and took nothing! But at Your word I will let down the nets.”⁶ And when they had done this, they enclosed a great shoal of fish; and as their nets were breaking,⁷ they beckoned to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both the boats, so that they began to sink.⁸ But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus’ knees, saying, “Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord.”⁹ For he was astonished, and all that were with him, at the catch of fish which they had taken;¹⁰ and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. And Jesus said to Simon, *“Do not be afraid; henceforth you will be catching men.”*¹¹ And when they had brought their boats to land, they left everything and followed Him. [(17) Luke 5:1-11 (RSV)]

“But before all this they will lay their hands on you and persecute you, delivering you up to the synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors for my name’s sake. ¹³This will be a time for you to bear testimony. ¹⁴Settle it therefore in your minds, not to meditate beforehand how to answer; ¹⁵for I will give you a mouth and wisdom, which none of your adversaries will be able to withstand or contradict. ¹⁶You will be delivered up even by parents and brothers and kinsmen and friends, and some of you they will put to death; ¹⁷you will be hated by all for My Name’s sake. ¹⁸But not a hair of your head will perish. ¹⁹By your endurance you will gain your lives.” [(106) Luke 21:12-19 (RSV)]

Communion Hymn

Praise the Lord from the heavens. Praise Him in the highest!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!



The saints we commemorate today: The New Martyrs of Alaska. Saint Juvenal, the Protomartyr of America, was born in 1761 in Nerchinsk, Siberia. His secular name was John Feodorovich Hovorukhin, and he was trained as a mining engineer. In a letter to Abbot Nazarius of Valaam (December 13, 1819), Saint Herman says that Saint Juvenal “had been an assistant at our monastery and was a former officer.”

After his wife died in 1791, John entered a monastery at Saint Petersburg (Saint Herman's Letter of December 13, 1819) and was tonsured with the name Juvenal. Three years later, he went to Alaska as a missionary.

During 1794, the hieromonks Juvenal and Macarius spent two months in the area around Kodiak teaching the inhabitants about Christ and baptizing them. They traveled in small boats of hide in all sorts of weather, dividing up the territory among themselves. Saint Herman tells of a conversation he heard one day as he walked with the hieromonks to a small hill on the south side of the harbor. They sat down facing the sea, and spoke of various things. Soon they began to discuss where each of them should go to preach. Aflame with zeal and eager to set out on their journey, a friendly argument ensued between Father Macarius and Father Juvenal. Father Macarius said he intended to go north to the Aleutian Islands, and then make his way to the Alaskan mainland, where the inhabitants had invited him to visit. The monks had a map of Captain Cook's which indicated that some Russians were living near a certain river in that particular area, and Father Macarius hoped to find them.

Father Juvenal interrupted, saying that he believed that the Alaskan mainland was his territory. "I beg you to yield to me and not offend me in this," he told Father Macarius, "since the ship is leaving for Yakutan. I shall begin preaching in the south, proceeding north along the ocean, cross the Kenai peninsula, then from the port there I shall cross to Alaska."

Father Macarius became sorrowful and said, "No, Father. Do not restrict me in this way. You know the Aleutian chain of islands is joined to Alaska, therefore it belongs to me, and also the whole northern shore. As for you, the southern part of America is sufficient for your whole lifetime, if you please."

As he listened to their apostolic fervor, Saint Herman says he "went from joy to rapture" (Letter to Abbot Nazarius, May 19, 1795).

In 1795, Father Juvenal baptized over 700 Chugatchi at Nushek, then he crossed Kenai Bay and baptized the local people there. In 1796, according to native oral tradition, Saint Juvenal came to the

mouth of the Kuskokwim near the present village of Quinahgak, where he was killed by a hunting party (There is a forged diary attributed to Ivan Petroff which gives a slanderous version of Father Juvenal's death, and alleges that he was martyred at Lake Iliamna).

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, possibly a Tanaina Indian convert, was also martyred at the same time.

It is said that a local shaman removed Saint Juvenal's brass pectoral cross from his body and attempted to cast a spell. Unexpectedly, the shaman was lifted up off the ground. He made three more tries with the same result, then concluded that there was a greater power than his own at work here. Years later, a man showed up at the Nushagak Trading Post wearing a brass pectoral cross exactly like the one worn by Saint Juvenal.

A column of light arose from his holy relics and reached up to Heaven. It is not known how long this phenomenon continued.

Saint Juvenal, in his tireless evangelization of the native peoples of Alaska, served the Church more than all the other missionaries combined.

