

ST. NICHOLAS NEWS

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ST. NICHOLAS ORTHODOX CHURCH

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October 5, 2014

17TH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST

PARISH CALENDAR

Sun., Oct. 5 17th Sunday of Pentecost. 1st Sunday of Luke. Prophet Jonah.

9:30 AM Divine Liturgy – Tone 8 pp. 102–104
2nd Collection to support the OCF (College Fellowship organization)

Wed., Oct. 8 Nun Euphrosyna

7:30 AM *Pirohi Prep*

Thu., Oct. 9 Apostle and Evangelist John

8:00 AM *Pirohi Pinching*

Fri., Oct. 10 Martyrs Callistratus et al.

10 AM – 4 PM *Pirohi Sale*

Sun., Oct. 12 18th Sunday of Pentecost. 2nd Sunday of Luke. Monk Kyriakos.

9:30 AM Divine Liturgy – Tone 1, pp. 81–83.
Men's Club regular monthly meeting

FEASTS . . . & FASTS

Next feast coming up will be the Protection of Holy Mary Theotokos on Oct. 14.

PEOPLE STUFF

Please remember in your prayers:

Deceased: Mary Ann Weber.

Living: Matt & Lori Algar. Stephanie Bonk. Gloria Bracey. Mary Chupron. Susan Danchak. Ricky, Rick & Sarah. Michael Danchak. Fr. George Dursa. Jada Eiden. Heather Harris. Robert & Eddie Hawley.

Lorraine Kacaba. Anna Mae Kuklis. Dee Lositski. Dan & Teri Ludwig. Peggy Majcher. Theresa Niester. John Polanichka. Emma Sacco. Amy Shimo. Connie Lou Slater. Faye Snell. Marion Sosnowski. Russell Spilka. Jeff Thomas. Ann Marie Tigue. Fr. Donald Valasek. Gary Wassel. Julia Worobey.

At Home: Michael Andreosky. Elizabeth Basalyga. George & Anna Senich. Kathryn Stocoski.

Assisted Living Homes: Michael Besket. Julie Kovacs. Julie Roberts.

Eternal Light: Memory of Ernest Bentler, Jr by Bentler family.

PARISH STUFF

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING: This is the first official announcement that the Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Sunday, October 26, after the Divine Liturgy.

Men's Club will hold its regular monthly meeting next Sunday, Oct. 12, after Divine Liturgy.

Parish Board will meet for its regular monthly meeting Sunday, Oct. 19, after Divine Liturgy.

OCF Collection: 2nd Collection today! The OCF, the Orthodox Christian Fellowship, is a nation-wide official function of all of the Orthodox Churches in America. It sets up official student organizations in *colleges and universities* so that Orthodox students can get together regularly to maintain and grow in their faith.

We have been asked by the diocese to take up a collection to help this important effort by the Church

to keep our kids in the faith. So, Sunday, Oct. 5, we will take a 2nd collection to contribute to this effort. Please be generous.

FOOD BANK COLLECTION UNTIL OCT. 31: As you know, we have taken up collections of non-perishable food to support the local Food Bank, which is known as the Bread Basket of NEPA. All food goes to help out local folks in need.

While we have been doing this at holiday times, most other churches and organizations do their collections at the same time. So, the odd times, like now, are when the Food Bank is running desperately low on stock. We are now accepting donations of non-perishable food items to help support our local Food Bank. This collection ends on October 31. Please be generous to your neighbors in the valley.

Note: Please do not donate items which are out of date. Whether or not they may be still edible does not matter. Any item out of date is automatically thrown away because of the possible issues with the item.

PIROHI SALE UPDATE: This week the pirohi sale is the usual time and place. Please see calendar for details. Once again, I just remind all that the more folks that can help, the easier and faster it goes. Thanks for your time and effort for the parish!

Study Group: Next gathering is scheduled for Wed., Oct. 15. We will meet from 6 PM – 7:30 PM in the hall. Everyone is welcome. Like last year, I am not planning a series of talks, so anyone is welcome to come any time and should be able to fit right in, even if you missed a session or two.

Church School: We will be getting back to you about specific dates.

DDD Dinner Info as promised! This year's DDD Dinner is scheduled for Sunday, November 9, at St. George's Center, Taylor. Cocktails will begin at 1:30 p.m. with dinner beginning at 2:30 p.m. Thank you for your support of the DDD!

FROM THE DIOCESE & OTHER STUFF

OCTOBERFEST at St. Mary's Byzantine Catholic Church Center International Dinner! 220 Mifflin Ave. Scranton, Pa., Thurs. Oct. 9, 2014. There are 2 seatings: 5:30 and 6:30 pm and only \$20.00 per

person. The menu will start with a Baby Spinach Salad with Bacon Dressing, the Entrée will be Sauerbraten Beef served with Red Cabbage and Hot German Potato Salad and Fresh Baked Pumpnickel Bread. Dessert will be a Fresh Baked Apple Streudel. Please call with your reservations at 570-344-8980 on or before October 6.

YOUR GIFTS TO GOD AND HIS CHURCH Sunday, September 28, 2014

\$ 290.63	General Collection
\$ 74.00	7-day Candles
\$ 25.00	Holy Days
\$ 180.00	Church dues
\$ 8.00	Maintenance & Repairs
\$ 16.00	Tapers
\$ 7.00	Eternal Light
\$ 1079.00	Pirohi
\$ 157.00	Heat Offering
\$ 1836.63	Total Collection
<i>DDD Donors 2014 to date:</i> Edward Bonk, Jr. \$100. Stephanie Bonk \$100. John Polanichka \$100.	

Annual Fall Rummage Sale sponsored by St. Thomas More Parish, at 1625 N. Main Ave. North Scranton. Gently used clothing, books, household items, children's toys and games, and other goods will be accepted for donation on Sundays or office hours during the week. Sale will be held on Saturday, October 18, from 8 a. m. to 2 p.m. A bake sale will be included. For more information please call 570-343-0634, Parking is available.

JR. ACRY WEEKEND ENCOUNTER AT CAMP NAZARETH! The National Jr. ACRY will once again be hosting its Weekend Encounter at Camp Nazareth over Veteran's Day Weekend. The event will be held from November 7 - 9, 2014, and is open to youth ages 8 - 18. *You do not have to be a member of the Jr. ACRY to attend.*

The weekend's activities will include time for prayer, recreating, spiritual learning, sports, and more. Each year, the National Jr. ACRY plans a weekend that will condense the highlights of a week of camp down into one weekend, and we hope that you will consider

spending your Veteran's Day Weekend with us at Camp Nazareth.

Due to the Jr. ACRY offsetting the cost of the weekend, each camper will only have to pay \$70 for the weekend. Any adult who is bringing campers to the event may stay for the weekend at a cost of \$80.

During the weekend, you can catch up with old friends, make new friends, and have fun while living the Faith

If your child has never been to camp before, this is a wonderful opportunity for them to try it out! Although they won't be able to swim in the pool, they will be introduced to our beautiful diocesan camp, and will hopefully want to come back for a full week next summer!

All campers must have signed parental consent forms to attend the event. (The "chaperone" portion does not need filled out as we will have counselors in each cabin). Mail the completed forms as well as a check made out to the National Jr. ACRY to:

Rachel Pribish, 668 S. Broad St., Elizabeth, NJ 07202

For further information or questions, please contact Rachel at rprib89@yahoo.com (with Jr. ACRY Encounter in the subject line) or by phone at 908.247.2269. The deadline to register for the event is October 29th.

There are forms in the hall for your convenience.

SYNAXIS OF ALL SAINTS OF ALASKA

Commemorated on September 24/Oct. 7

On the anniversary of the arrival of the Russian missionaries in Alaska (1794), we remember the New Martyrs St Peter the Aleut, Protomartyr of America, and St Juvenal.

MARTYR PETER THE ALEUT

Saint Peter the Aleut is mentioned in the Life of St Herman of Alaska (December 13). Simeon Yanovsky (who ended his life as the schemamonk Sergius in the St Tikhon of Kaluga Monastery), has left the following account:

“On another occasion I was relating to him how the Spanish in California had imprisoned fourteen Aleuts, and how the Jesuits (actually Franciscans)

were forcing all of them to accept the Catholic Faith. But the Aleuts would not agree under any circumstances, saying, ‘We are Christians.’ The Jesuits argued, ‘That’s not true, you are heretics and schismatics. If you do not agree to accept our faith then we will torture all of you to death.’ Then the Aleuts were placed in prisons two to a cell. That evening, the Jesuits came to the prison with lanterns and lighted candles. Again they tried to persuade two Aleuts in the cell to accept the Catholic Faith. ‘We are Christians,’ the Aleuts replied, ‘and we will not change our Faith.’ Then the Jesuits began to torture them, at first the one while his companion was a witness. They cut off one of the joints of his feet, and then the other joint. Then they cut the first joint on the fingers of his hands, and then the other joint. Then they 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. The Jesuit also promised to torture his comrade to death the next day.

But that night an order was received from Monterey stating that the imprisoned Aleuts were to be released immediately, and sent there under escort. Therefore, in the morning all were sent to Monterey with the exception of the dead Aleut. This was related to me by a witness, the same Aleut who had escaped torture, and who was the friend of the martyred Aleut. I reported this incident to the authorities in St Petersburg. When I finished my story, Father Herman 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!”

We know very little about St 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 circumstances of his martyrdom recall the torture of St James the Persian (November 27).

Both in his sufferings and in his steadfast confession of the Faith, St Peter is the equal of the martyrs of old, and also of the New Martyrs who have shone forth in more recent times. Now he rejoices with them in the heavenly Kingdom, glorifying God, the

Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, throughout all ages.

MARTYR JUVENAL 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), St Herman says that St Juvenal “had been an assistant at our monastery and was a former officer.”

After his wife died in 1791, John entered a monastery at St Petersburg (St 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. St 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 Fr Macarius and Fr Juvenal. Fr 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 Fr Macarius hoped to find them.

Fr 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 Fr 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.”

Fr 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, St 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, St 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 Fr Juvenal’s death, and alleges that he was martyred at Lake Iliamna).

The precise reason for St Juvenal’s murder by the natives is not known. However, they later told St Innocent something about his death. They said that St 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 St Innocent that after they had killed St 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 St 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 St Juvenal.

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

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