



## St. Vladimir Orthodox Church

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### Synaxis of the Saints of North America

July 4, 2021

#### **Troparion – Tone 1**

When the stone had been sealed by the Jews, while the soldiers were guarding Thy most pure body, Thou didst rise on the third day, O Savior, granting life to the world. The powers of heaven therefore cried to Thee, O Giver of Life: “Glory to Thy Resurrection, O Christ! Glory to Thy Kingdom!// Glory to Thy dispensation, O Thou Who lovest mankind!”

#### **Troparion – Tone 8**

As the bountiful harvest of Thy sowing of salvation, the lands of North America offer to Thee, O Lord, all the saints who have shone in them. By their prayers keep the Church and our land in abiding peace// through the Theotokos, O most Merciful One!

#### **Kontakion – Tone 1**

As God, Thou didst rise from the tomb in glory, raising the world with Thyself. Human nature praises Thee as God, for death has vanished. Adam exults, O Master! Eve rejoices, for she is freed from bondage and cries to Thee:// “Thou art the Giver of Resurrection to all, O Christ!”

#### **Kontakion – Tone 3**

Today the choir of saints who were pleasing to God in the lands of North America now stands before us in the Church and invisibly prays to God for us. With them the Angels glorify Him, and all the Saints of the Church of Christ keep festival with them;// and together they all pray for us to the Pre-eternal God.

#### **Prokeimenon – Tone 1**

Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us / as we have set our hope on Thee!

*V. Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous! Praise befits the just!*

#### **Prokeimenon – Tone 7**

Precious in the sight of the Lord / is the death of His saints.

#### **Synaxis of the Saints of North America**

On the second Sunday after Pentecost, each local Orthodox Church commemorates all the saints, known and unknown, who have shone forth in its territory. Accordingly, the Orthodox Church in America remembers the saints of North America on this day.

Saints of all times, and in every country are seen as the fulfillment of God's promise to redeem fallen humanity. Their example encourages us to "lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily besets us" and to "run with patience the race that is set before us" (Hebrews 12:1). The saints of North America also teach us how we should live, and what we must expect to endure as Christians

Although it is a relatively young church, the Orthodox Church in America has produced saints in nearly all of the six major categories of saints: Apostles (and Equals of the Apostles); Martyrs (and Confessors); Prophets; Hierarchs; Monastic Saints; and the Righteous. Prophets, of course, lived in Old Testament times and predicted the coming of Christ.

The first Divine Liturgy in what is now American territory (northern latitude 58 degrees, 14 minutes, western longitude 141 degrees) was celebrated on July 20, 1741, the Feast of the Prophet Elias, aboard the ship Peter under the command of Vitus Bering. Hieromonk Hilarion Trusov and the priest Ignatius Kozirevsky served together on that occasion. Several years later, the Russian merchant Gregory I. Shelikov visited Valaam monastery, suggesting to the abbot that it would be desirable to send missionaries to Russian America.

On September 24, 1794, after a journey of 7,327 miles (the longest missionary journey in Orthodox history) and 293 days, a group of monks from Valaam arrived on Kodiak Island in Alaska. The mission was headed by Archimandrite Joasaph, and included Hieromonks Juvenal, Macarius, and Athanasius, the Hierodeacons Nectarius and Stephen, and the monks Herman and Joasaph. Saint Herman of Alaska (December 13, August 9), the last surviving member of the mission, fell asleep in the Lord in 1837.

Throughout the Church's history, the seeds of faith have always been watered by the blood of the martyrs. The Protomartyr Juvenal was killed near Lake Iliamna by natives in 1799, thus becoming the first Orthodox Christian to shed his blood for Christ in the New World. In 1816, Saint Peter the Aleut was put to death by Spanish missionaries in California when he refused to convert to Roman Catholicism.

Missionary efforts continued in the nineteenth century, with outreach to the native peoples of Alaska. Two of the most prominent laborers in Christ's Vineyard were Saint Innocent Veniaminov (March 31 and October 6) and Saint Jacob Netsvetov (July 26), who translated Orthodox services and books into the native languages. Father Jacob Netsvetev died in Sitka in 1864 after a life of devoted service to the Church. Father John Veniaminov, after his wife's death, received monastic tonsure with the name Innocent. He died in 1879 as the Metropolitan of Moscow.

As the nineteenth century was drawing to a close, an event of enormous significance for the North American Church took place. On March 25, 1891, Bishop Vladimir went to Minneapolis to receive Saint Alexis Toth (May 7) and 361 of his parishioners into the Orthodox Church. This was the beginning of the return of many Uniates to Orthodoxy.

Saint Tikhon (Belavin), the future Patriarch of Moscow (April 7, October 9), came to America as bishop of the diocese of the Aleutians and Alaska in September 1898. As the only Orthodox bishop on the continent, Saint Tikhon traveled extensively throughout North America in order to minister to his widely scattered and diverse flock. He realized that the local church here could not be a permanent extension of the Russian Church. Therefore, he focused his efforts on giving the American Church a diocesan and parish structure which would help it mature and grow.

Saint Tikhon returned to Russia in 1907, and was elected as Patriarch of Moscow ten years later. He died in 1925, and for many years his exact burial place remained unknown. Saint Tikhon's grave was discovered on February 22, 1992 in the smaller cathedral of Our Lady of the Don in the Don Monastery when a fire made renovation of the church necessary.

Saint Raphael of Brooklyn (February 27) was the first Orthodox bishop to be consecrated in North America. Archimandrite Raphael Hawaweeny was consecrated by Bishop Tikhon and Bishop Innocent (Pustynsky) at Saint Nicholas Cathedral in New York on March 13, 1904. As Bishop of Brooklyn, Saint Raphael was a trusted and capable assistant to Saint Tikhon in his archpastoral ministry. Saint Raphael reposed on February 27, 1915.

The first All American Council took place March 5-7, 1907 at Mayfield, PA, and the main topic was "How to expand the mission." Guidelines and directions for missionary activity, and statutes for the administrative structure of parishes were also set forth.

In the twentieth century, in the aftermath of the Russian Revolution, countless men, women, and children received the crown of martyrdom rather than renounce Christ. Saints John Kochurov (October 31) and Alexander Hotovitzky (December 4

and August 7) both served the Church in North America before going back to Russia. Saint John became the first clergyman to be martyred in Russia on October 31, 1917 in Saint Petersburg. Saint Alexander Hotovitzky, who served in America until 1914, was killed in 1937.

In addition to the saints listed above, we also honor those saints who are known only to God, and have not been recognized officially by the Church. As we contemplate the lives of these saints, let us remember that we are also called by God to a life of holiness.

### **Epistle: Romans 2:10-16**

But glory, honor, and peace to everyone who works what is good, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. For there is no partiality with God. For as many as have sinned without law will also perish without law, and as many as have sinned in the law will be judged by the law (for not the hearers of the law are just in the sight of God, but the doers of the law will be justified; for when Gentiles, who do not have the law, by nature do the things in the law, these, although not having the law, are a law to themselves, who show the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and between themselves their thoughts accusing or else excusing them) in the day when God will judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ, according to my gospel.

### **Epistle: Hebrews 11:33-12:2**

Who through faith subdued kingdoms, worked righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, became valiant in battle, turned to flight the armies of the aliens. Women received their dead raised to life again. Others were tortured, not accepting deliverance, that they might obtain a better resurrection. Still others had trial of mockings and scourgings, yes, and of chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn in two, were tempted, were slain with the sword. They wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins, being destitute, afflicted, tormented – of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, in dens and caves of the earth. And all these, having obtained a good testimony through faith, did not receive the promise, God having provided something better for us, that they should not be made perfect apart from us. Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

### **Gospel: Matthew 4:18-23**

And Jesus, walking by the Sea of Galilee, saw two brothers, Simon called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea; for they were fishermen. Then He said to them, “Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men.” They immediately left their nets and followed Him. Going on from there, He saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets. He called them, and immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed Him. And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all kinds of sickness and all kinds of disease among the people.

### **Gospel: Matthew 4:25-5:12**

Great multitudes followed Him – from Galilee, and from Decapolis, Jerusalem, Judea, and beyond the Jordan. And seeing the multitudes, He went up on a mountain, and when He was seated His disciples came to Him. Then He opened His mouth and taught them, saying: “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be filled. Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God. Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when they revile and persecute you, and say all kinds of evil against you falsely for My sake. Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great is your reward in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

### **Service Schedule for the week of July 4**

**Today** – 9:45 AM Hours, 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy followed by a Panikhida for Paul Kavchok, then Coffee Hour in Daria Hall

**Saturday July 10** – 5:00 PM Vespers followed by Confession

**Sunday July 11** – 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy followed by Coffee Hour and the Ladies Altar Society sale of stuffed cabbage

## **Weekly Giving**

June 27 – 57 adults, 10 youth, \$2,574

## **Parish Announcements**

The Ladies Altar Society will be selling the ordered stuffed cabbages next Sunday, July 11 during Coffee Hour.

A huge thank you to Melody Stavisky for a successful rummage sale! A lot of work went into the sale – unpacking items, pricing items, putting everything out for sale, advertising, etc. And then repacking the unsold items to be given to local charities. We appreciate all the time you dedicate to the church!

Archbishop Michael will visit the parish for our St. Vladimir Feast Day on

Saturday July 17 – Vespers followed by Potluck Supper

Sunday July 18 – Divine Liturgy followed by a Social (not a formal dinner) in Daria Hall

Sign-up sheets are in the back of the church for the Potluck Supper on July 17 and the Social on July 18. There is no charge for the Social, however, a donation basket will be available. The Social will be an enhanced Coffee Hour with appetizers and various foods to choose from, along with beverages, wine, and desserts. Vladika will gladly accept contributions from the various church organizations for the Distinguished Diocesan Benefactor Fund.

The FOCA Club is selling bundt cakes as a summer fundraiser! The cakes are freshly baked at the “Nothing Bundt Cake” bakery in Newtown. Free samples will be available at the July 18 Social. Order forms are in the back of the church and also will be with the cake samples in Daria Hall on July 18. The last day to order is August 1, and the cakes will be available for pick-up on August 15 in Daria Hall during Coffee Hour. All cakes are made with dairy products and are drizzle iced. The large cake will serve 8-10 people and is priced at \$25; the small bundtlet mini-bundt cake will serve 1-2 people and is priced at \$5. Flavor choices are chocolate chocolate chip, lemon, red velvet, and vanilla. Thank you for your support!

MOSAIC ICON: Donation envelopes are available at the candle desk. Please write “Mosaic Icon” in the memo portion of your check and turn in your donation envelope at the candle desk. If you have any questions please see Father Volodymyr or a member of the Parish Council. Thank you!

Please see a member of the FOCA Club if you are interested in purchasing a mural block (Daria Hall); funds will be used for Daria Hall improvements. Donors will have a brass nameplate added to the commemoration boards on the sides of the mural – either “Donated By” or “In Memory Of”, with the names inscribed as designated by the donor.

Attached are St. Andrews Summer Camp flyers from the Diocese. If any child is interested in attending camp, please see Father Volodymyr.



# TEEN WEEK 2021 NOW OPEN!

Make memories that last a lifetime with really fun activities, building friendships and enjoying nature, all while growing your faith!



## SPECIAL INVITATION

Be part of the Ground-Breaking Event, with Archbishop Michael, for the camp's new Dining and Recreation Center! Come make camp history! Put one of the first shovels in the ground to begin the new building!

**August 1 - 7, 2021**

**Ages 13-17**

For more information or to register online, visit

<https://www.saintandrewscamp.org/>

Program Leaders: Fr. Martin and Mat. Dennise Kraus,  
with Kristina Anastasiades, Activities Coordinator



## Announcing 2021 Season!

It's time to beat the quarantine blues this summer at Camp! We are *very excited* to be reunited with our beloved campers for our 64th Camp Season of 5 glorious weeks in the beautiful outdoors on Lake Oneida, New York!

**FAMILY WEEK**  
July 5-10

**HORSE WEEK 1**  
July 11-17

**MISH MASH WEEK**  
July 18-24

**HORSE WEEK 2**  
July 25-31

**TEEN WEEK**  
August 1-7



Click [here](#) to REGISTER your child for a summer of fun!

### WAIT! WE WANT YOU TOO!

Are you ready to get out and interact with people? Want to make a difference in the lives of youth, while growing your faith and enjoying nature? Then helping out at Saint Andrew's Camp is for you!

We have a need for counselors, cooks & kitchen assistants, nurses, and weekend work crews. Join us for a weekend, a week or more!

Take your summer to the next level and join the fun and important ministry at Saint Andrew's Camp!

For more information about the camp program or helping out, contact the Camp Office at (315) 675-9771 or [saintandrewscamp@aol.com](mailto:saintandrewscamp@aol.com)

[www.saintandrewscamp.org](http://www.saintandrewscamp.org)

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