The Sunday Messenger

+ Holy Trinity, Wilkes-Barre + June 14th, 2026 + The Sunday of All Saints of North America + 2nd Sunday after Pentecost +

Hymns & Readings

For Today's Divine Liturgy

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!"

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!

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!"

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.

Please Sing Along!

Singing throughout the Divine Liturgy is encouraged!

Epistle Reading - Romans 2:10-16

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

Dear Guests and Friends: A most sincere and heartfelt welcome to you from our community. According to the ancient traditions of the Orthodox Church, the Sacrament of Holy Communion is to be administered only to Orthodox Christians who have prepared to receive the Holy Sacrament through prayer and fasting. If you have questions please let us know!

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.

"Love every man in spite of his falling into sin. Never mind the sins, but remember that the foundation of the man is the same--the image of God."

— St. John of Kronstadt

THIS WEEKEND
SAT, June 13th
Great Vespers @ 5 PM, Confessions
SUN, June 14th - Sunday of All Saints of North America
Resurrectional Matins @ 8 AM, Hours @ 8:40 AM
Divine Liturgy @ 9 AM,
Coffee Hour, Parish Council Meeting

Today - Parastas in memory of Leanne Kuehnle
Offered by Doreen (Elena) Cherkis & Family

THIS WEEK
Bible Study is on Summer Break - Stay tuned!
WED @ 11 AM - 1 PM - Church Open for Prayer
WED @ 6 PM - Akathist - All Saints of N. America
WED @ 6:30 PM - Orthodoxy 101

NEXT WEEKEND
SAT, June 20th
Great Vespers @ 5 PM, Confessions
SUN, June 21st
Resurrectional Matins @ 8 AM, Hours @ 8:40 AM
Divine Liturgy @ 9 AM,
Coffee Hour, Orthodoxy 101 @ noon

Bible Study is currently on summer break
ORTHODOXY 101 Alternating between Sundays @ noon following the coffee hour & Wednesday following the Akathist service. Orthodoxy 101 is for visitors, inquirers, catechumens or anyone interested in learning more about our faith.
Parish Potlucks are usually the last Sunday of each month. Our next potluck is Sun, June 28th.
Friends of the Poor is usually the second Saturday of each month. The next FOP is Saturday, July 11th.
Holy Trinity Parish Council is usually the second Sunday of each month. The next Parish Council is Sunday, June 14th.

Appalachia Service Project Mission Trip: Ephraim and Andrew Neal will be joining other Orthodox youth to serve at the Appalachia Service Project. The ASP provides opportunities for youth and adults from around the country to repair and replace homes for low-income families in rural central Appalachia. To volunteer, each participant is required to raise funds to cover expenses for the service project, PLUS travel to and from Appalachia. This year, Ephraim and Andrew will conduct fundraisers to help fund the cost, approx $800 each. For the first fundraiser they will offer Fresh Roasted Coffee - roasted

with love in the rectory roastery (yes, we have one). This coffee will be a custom "Mission Blend" - roasted, prepared, and packaged by Fr. Innocent and the Neal boys. The cost will be $20 for a 12oz bag / ground or whole bean. *You can support Ephraim and Andrew by preordering yours today on the order sheet in the vestibule. Pickup Date will be Sunday, July 5th after Divine Liturgy.*

HTOC Town Hall:, June 21st: There will be a Town Hall during coffee hour on June 21st to discuss our various parish projects. Topics will include: Bell Tower @ Community Space, HVAC, Glide Chair Replacement and Constructive Feedback for the Harvest Dinner. The Town Hall will be an informal discussion and everyone is encouraged to provide questions / comments on these or any other topics during the meeting.

Orthodox Family Day at Knoebels: A FREE Picnic Dinner at Knoebel's Amusement Park on Sunday July 19th. Everyone is invited. The Harrisburg "O" Club of the FOCA will be sponsoring an Orthodox Picnic outing. Arrive after your Liturgy and stop by Pavilion B (new pavilion this year) to check in and spend the afternoon at the Park. At 6pm there will be a Picnic Dinner in the Pavilion. Hamburgers, hotdogs, sodas and side dishes will be served.

June Birthdays: June Willis (6/1), Anna Cardoni (6/2), Rose Kennedy (6/2), Marlene Latzman (6/3), Noelle Flis (6/6), Patrick Ciak-Linton (6/6), Fr. Innocent Neal (6/7), Julia Stankiewicz (6/7), Doreen Cherkis (6/10), Rebecca Willis (6/12), Christopher Polk (6/12), Melanie Flis (6/13), Symeon Clark (6/17), Noah Nealon (6/17), Eric Zbegner (6/18), Stephen Serafin (6/19), Barbara King (6/19), Constantine Rosencrans (6/19), Jen Hanson (6/19), Dom Astolfi (6/19), Zoryana Duda (6/20), Aimee Austin (6/20), Amy Rubino Welgus (6/23), Laura Polk (6/28), Kyra Zoranski (6/28), Gregory Stankiewicz (6/30), Emily Willis (6/30), Marlene Latzman (6/31) **Anniversaries:** Tom & Joan Austin (6/5), Donna & Jerry Stankiewicz (6/6), Matthew & April Redfeld (6/7), Pdn Sergei & Mat Vicki (6/15), David & Deborah Mills (6/16), Leigh & Jodie Storey (6/18)

This Week's Birthdays & Anniversaries: Symeon Clark (6/17), Noah Nealon (6/17), Eric Zbegner (6/18), Stephen Serafin (6/19), Barbara King (6/19), Constantine Rosencrans (6/19), Jen Hanson (6/19), Dom Astolfi (6/19), Zoryana Duda (6/20), Aimee Austin (6/20), Amy Rubino Welgus // Pdn Sergei & Mat Vicki (6/15), David & Deborah Mills (6/16), Leigh & Jodie Storey (6/18)

... of the Saints, Fathers & Teachers

The Sunday of All 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

PARISH PRAYER LIST // Homebound: Evelyn, Vladimir, Marie, Pearl, Jeri, David, Paul, Archpriest Theodore, Mat. Elizabeth, Mary, Patricia, Barbara, Jeri, Joan, Irene, Alice, Sylvia, Paul **// Sick & Suffering:** Cynthia Dulsky, Nadine Breisch, Elizabeth Hutz, Mary Hutz, David Lezinsky, Tom Vaskalis, Tom O'Brian, David, Delores Tressa, Elaine & Forrest Hanson, Alexandra, Jody, Michael Noice, Paul Loftus, Santo, Susan Shiposki, Dn Jerimiah, William, Alan, Tim, Ann, Paul, Bill, Linda, Betty, Jim, George, Ali, Athansios, Hanna **// Recently Departed:** James, Mark, Ruth **// Pray for our Catechumens:** Tom, Gail, Jaqueline, John, Adrienne, Michelle, Jesse, Katie, Lisa, Aaric, Tyler, Dom, David, Ashley, Audrey, Jessica, Nicholas, Nicholas // **Inquirers:** Steve, Nicholas

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 Spaniards 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 (Bellavin), 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.

"... but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. + Jesus Christ

Monthly Cost to Keep the Church Open: $12,305
Weekly Cost to Keep the Church Open: $2,840
Last Week's Collection (6/7/26) : $2,499

Today's Coffee Hour

Thank you to **Pdn Sergei & Mat. Vicki Kapral, & Dave & Diane Welgus** for providing this week's Coffee Hour. We are also thankful to those who help clean up, including our parish catechumens who help after each Sunday's meal. Would you consider sponsoring a coffee hour with a friend? See Fr. Innocent, Mat. Melanie or Joanne Dutko.